

THE OUR FATHER. By R. H. J. Stuart, s.j. (Blackfriars Publications; 2s.)

A paragraph from Fr Stuart's conferences is often enough to keep us going for a week or two. Here we have thirty-six pages of quite irresistible spiritual teaching, practical, real, coming from the heart and going to the heart. But Fr Stuart was not just a devotional preacher. His thoughts were penetrating because they were, so largely, theology in other words: 'piquant' is a tempting adjective to add, if it were less undignified. These conferences, originally published in various issues of *THE LIFE OF THE SPIRIT*, give us Fr Stuart's thoughts on the greatest of prayers and show that our Lord, in teaching us to pray, was teaching us to know and to love God as our Father. The first brief conference, entitled 'Our Father', is indispensable for all who are not yet-convinced that 'Perfect love casteth out fear'.

Father Conrad Pepler's preface introduces us not only to the conferences but also to the mind and heart of Fr Stuart.

G.M.C.

A SAINT OF THE WEEK. By Desmond Murray, O.P. (Blackfriars Publications, 15s.)

Only a Dominican could have written this. Perhaps 'friendly learning' is the nearest phrase to describe the tone and atmosphere: the subject matter itself—lessons of true piety woven round forty-eight brief lives of saints—is presented in a way that ensures gentle effective enlivening of that deep, everyday, 'catechism' holiness to which every soul of man responds. There is nothing like doctrine for setting us off on the great trail, and after doctrine comes learning, and after learning comes emotional atmosphere. All three are best combined, for most people, in simple straightforward talks which give us something to chew on, informative and by preference factual. Father Murray has given us exactly this in these admirable sermon-sketches of forty-eight saints.

G.M.C.

NOTICES

THE FOLLOWING FEET, by 'Ancilla' (Longmans; 8s. 6d.), as may be guessed, is another tale of the Hound of Heaven chasing his prey. This time his prey is a 'good pagan' who received at the age of forty-three one of those strange mystical experiences of 'the timeless moment'—an experience which is always difficult to class as 'natural' or 'super-