

Fr Delp hoped to do much if he had not been condemned, but he wrote after his trial 'This is seed time, not harvest. God sows the seed and some time or other he will do the reaping.' This book in itself is proof that his death was not a waste but a creative act.

FAITH TOLKIEN

THE GOD WHO LOVES US, by J. Kilgallon and G. Weber; Sheed and Ward, 12s. 6d.

THOUGHTS AT MASS, by Edward Quinn; Darton, Longman and Todd, 15s.

LA VIE SACRAMENTELLE, by A-M Roguet; Les Editions du Cerf, 4.50NF.

SEASONS OF GRACE, by Pius Parsch; Challoner Publications, 42s.

In a world of fission, disintegration and political and social strife mankind's deeply felt need is for unity and for the realisation of the brotherhood of man at something more satisfying than the merely humanitarian level. The Church is opening her heart and renewing her life at the source of life to show where that unity may be found.

These four books are a not inconsiderable drop in the ocean of literature which increases almost daily to enlighten Catholics and to assist them to realise this unity first among themselves: to achieve a greater sense of Christian brotherhood with fellow-Catholics, regardless of class, race, colour, and what is often overlooked in the Western Church—difference of rite.

In *The God Who Loves Us*, the writers of that highly successful new look in catechisms, *Christ In Us* have compiled a year's course of outlines for sermons which will be invaluable to the layman seeking a deeper perception of the Church's role in the world and his own part in it. (Needless to say this book will be immensely helpful to priests and religious, not excluding contemplatives who will possibly benefit by the touch of extroversion which the enclosed life needs to preserve its equilibrium.)

The sermons show the unity of the Old and New Testaments and the necessity for some study of both to arrive at a mature conception of the Christian faith. The reader is taken on an exciting and stimulating journey through the Church's year and introduced afresh to each gospel and epistle.

Earnestly recommended to every Catholic who wishes to deepen his spiritual life and expand its horizons, the latter being perhaps particularly necessary in Britain where we tend to cling so tenaciously to what was 'good enough for the English martyrs.'

It is not too much to say that an open-minded non-Christian reading this book and following its suggestions for further study could not fail to acquire a

comprehensive knowledge of the Catholic faith which would go far to bring conviction.

*Thoughts At Mass* is the second part of Fr Edward Quinn's reflections for each Sunday and Holy Day. A pocket sized book containing outsize thoughts based on a verse or two taken from the introit, epistle and gospel of the mass. It is not a 'devotional manual' to be read during mass but the three reflections are short enough to suit a few minutes before mass begins, though the ideal would be a thoughtful reading during the week.

*La Vie Sacramentelle* is a very systematic course of short concise meditations on the sacraments, related to appropriate groups of Sundays. The author has a flair for highlighting the obvious and giving the reader a salutary come-uppance when he thinks he is sailing along comfortably enough in well-charted waters. Well worth the trouble of translating even by the semi-proficient linguist.

In *Seasons of Grace* Fr Parsch gives us a collection of a year's sermons preached on the theme of sanctifying grace. They are as easy to read as they must have been heart-warming to hear, as we move Sunday by Sunday round the liturgical cycle with the preacher bringing forth new things and old from the vast storehouse of his liturgical knowledge, love of scripture and intense pastoral zeal.

The lay-reader in this country may be a little surprised to read such a sentence as, 'We are the brides of God,' applied to all the faithful, when he thought perhaps that such a prerogative belonged only to nuns. And since Mr Evelyn Waugh referred to the 'priesthood of the laity' as a cant phrase, Fr Parsch's insistence that grace is a sharing in Christ's high-priesthood may be another stumbling block. Even so there are in these sermons such hosts of fresh ideas and new angles of thought that these small embarrassments to British inhibition will be crowded out. Throughout the sixty-four sermons the note struck is the same as that in the books already mentioned, one of hope, of sustained confidence in God and in Jesus Christ the source of grace, who became man to draw us all into the transcendent principle of all unity—the life of the Trinity.

SR FELICITY, P. C. C.

THE PASTORAL EPISTLES, by C. K. Barrett; Clarendon Press, 12s. 6d.

Here is the first of a new non-Catholic series of concise Bible commentaries—the *New Clarendon Bible*, based on the text of the New English Bible—which is intended gradually to replace the older *Clarendon Bible* series based on the Revised Version. It is aimed at candidates taking G.C.E. 'A' level, and other serious students as well as the general public. The present volume is a competent commentary on the Pastoral Epistles (i.e. those to Timothy and Titus), which should prove useful to all apart from advanced scholars. Though based on the New English Bible text, it offers sound textual criticism, but without going into what for most people would be wearisome detail. The main emphasis, however, lies on interpretation, as the blurb justifiably points out. In addition to the