

influence on the world and in the personal life of man of the Spirit of God. Our Lord promised and duly sent the Holy Spirit to the apostles, to abide with the Church and in the souls of its members until the end of time. The Spirit of God is the giver of life—*spiritus vivificans*—and through his indwelling in the souls of the just he establishes order and gives meaning to creation. Imbued with that Spirit, conscious of and docile to his promptings, only thus can we hope to renew the face of the earth.

TERENCE NETHERWAY, O.P.

THE SPIRITUAL TESTAMENT OF SISTER MARY OF THE TRINITY. (Mercier Press; 12s.6d.)

The book, written by a Poor Clare, contains a short autobiography and a large number of notes of what she believed to be our Lord's own words to her. These are mostly concerned with advice on her conduct in the monastery, on the 'victim vow' and on his desire for souls. The book is a translation from the French.

JESUS AND I. By Jean Plaquevent. Translated by Emma Crauford. (Sheed & Ward; 6s.)

Here is an author who realises that the small child has his small problems just as adults have their larger ones, and sets about to help him in a simple, straightforward and unsentimental way. Showing our Lord to be an alive human being—someone to be loved and talked to at any time, not just someone to be remembered in Church and at bedtime. Parents should welcome this little book. The illustrations by Mary Taylor are delightful

S.M.F.

WERDE LICHT. By Benedict Baur, O.S.B. Vols. I & II. (Herder: Freiburg.)

This is the seventh edition of these liturgical meditations, and the first two volumes take us from Advent to Easter. There are some useful additions to this latest revision, in particular the interpretation of the 'O' Antiphons as a preparation for Christmas.

R.O.

PETRUS DAMIANI: DAS BUCHLEIN 'DOMINUS VOBISCUM'. By Adolf Kolping. (Patmos-verlag: Dusseldorf.)

This is a good translation of St Peter Damian's opusculum, giving an answer to the problem of the use of the 'Dominus Vobiscum' in the private recitation of the Divine Office. It would seem that this and the 'Jube Domne Benedicere' are superfluous in private. St Peter is writing for hermits and he points out how all are bound together in the unity of the Church, in faith and charity. Besides providing a background for understanding the choral recitation of the Office in the middle ages this little book is instructive for those religious and priests of today who have to recite their Breviaries in solitude.

R.O.