

the words that have gone before are taken into account. Our Lord's teaching is that the living bread of the Holy Eucharist is to make us as dependent on him for our life as he is on the Father. Again to identify the Kingdom of God over which Christ is sovereign, with the one true Church, is an inadequate account of the gospel of the kingdom, which was one of the main subjects of our Lord's preaching.

The book, however, may be recommended to those who require no more than an elementary exposition of their faith.

A. F.

DAS VERBORGENE ANTLITZ. Eine Studie ueber Therese von Lisieux. By Ida Friederike Goerres. (Herder, Wien, 1948. 525 pp.)

This is a rather unusual book which presents a picture of St Therese of Lisieux devoid of the sugary piety so often connected with her. The author gives a painstaking analysis of her life and character, emphasising her ordinariness and taking quite literally her own admission that she was only a 'little soul'. Her natural limitations are treated with great frankness, but only to hold up to our admiration the merciless struggle by which she overcame them. There is a certain rationalising tendency in the book, for example in the treatment of Therese's cure by the smile of our Lady; but it seems that this, as well as the copious citations from German literature, is really meant chiefly for the consumption of the German highbrow public. If these and certain lengthy psychological discussions were removed, the book might be well worth translating.

H. C. G.

GABRIEL WAS A TROUBADOUR. By Pdraig O'Horan. (Mowbrays; 5s.)

A book full of Christmas joy. More than forty poems, simple thoughts of the sublime theme, and ten attractively fresh illustrations make this neat volume a delightful present for anyone who can read, or be read to.

SISTER M. ANSGAR.

THE BOOK OF SAINTS. Compiled by the Benedictine Monks of St Augustine's Abbey, Ramsgate. (Black; 25s.)

The dictionary of saints produced by the Benedictines of Ramsgate was first published in 1921, under the general editorship of the late Abbot Thomas Bergh. It was the first thing of its kind in English, and it had a well-deserved success, running to second and third editions. For the fourth edition, now published, the book has been rewritten and revised entry by entry and considerably enlarged.

To review a work of this kind is not easy: there seems to be no middle term between generalities and going through it with a comb for errors and omissions. The editor's aim was of course to bring

the book right up to date, and this seems to have been successfully achieved, subject to a further passage of time. There are therefore a few canonisations and beatifications since the third edition in 1934 that do not appear: e.g. St Margaret of Hungary, Bd Mary Goretti, Bd Benildus. And the score of Russian saints whose feasts were recognised for Russian Catholics some years ago have been overlooked, including so outstanding a name as St Sergius of Radonezh. It seems a pity that Clement of Alexandria should be listed as a saint, since his name was deliberately removed from the Roman Martyrology.

The book is excellently and clearly arranged. Each entry is furnished with references to easily available works for further information, and some of these are annotated in a list, e.g. Baudot's *Dictionnaire d'Hagiographie* (1925), 'Too conservative'. But a warning should have been given about *Les Petits Bollandistes* (that misnamed work); and the numerous references to the Burns, Oates *Dictionary of the Saints* ('Att.') should rather have been to the Thurston-Attwater edition of Butler's *Lives*, from which that dictionary was compiled. A most useful feature is a daily calendar of the saints named, in chronological order.

These points are relatively unimportant, and the anonymous monks responsible for this *Book of Saints* must be warmly congratulated and thanked for a new edition of a valuable work of reference that is scholarly and critical without being 'wild'.

D. A.

CALENDAR IN RIME. By Ethel King. (Falcon Publishing Co.)

In this little book of verse Miss King reveals the common things of life with such significance that one feels, as she progresses in the spiritual life she will be able to interpret the beauty of those things of the spirit which are more real than anything which can be tested by the senses. Of such things Miss King shows her awareness in *The Curious Awakening*, *Nuns in the Subway*, *A Candle at the Shrine*, and, in a lesser degree, in one of the most charming of her poems, *An Old School Teacher*.

D. P. S.

EXTRACTS

PRIESTHOOD AND THE PASTORAL OFFICE is the subject of the latest Supplement of *La Vie Spirituelle* (Blackfriars Publications; 2s. 6d.). The principal article is a critical study by Père A.-M. Henry of Canon Masure's *Prêtres diocésains*, in which a novel approach to the theology of the priesthood is argued. For Canon Masure the priesthood of the *presbyter* is only a participation in the priesthood of the bishop. It is to be measured, not by an external rite (the power to offer