

a spiritual classic. Dom Aelred has the somewhat disconcerting habit of frequently raising problems he has no intention of solving (e.g. in the present work, pp. 708ff and 714).

Father Martindale toys a bit with the problem of the reviviscence of sacramental grace. He says on page 755 that among the sacramental graces which revive that of matrimony should be included. On page 762 he states that the character is the cause of reviviscence and, in a note on the same page, that some theologians hold that the grace of all the sacraments revives. However, Father Arendzen offers (pp. 1020-1021) conclusions similar to those of Martin-Sola (*Divus Thomas*, Jan. 1925) but without offering the all-important reasons.

The treatment of the Eucharist, while good, would have been helped by a consultation of Dom Vonier's 'Key to the Doctrine of the Eucharist'. The article on marriage is very good, the author rightly beginning by stressing the supernatural nature of the contract when sacramentally effected. Dom Justin McCann gives a good summary of the knotty question of the resurrection of the body.

'The Teaching of the Catholic Church', which is beautifully printed and bound, would be an excellent investment for any Catholic capable of reading anything more profound than the newspapers.

A. ROCK, O.P.

THE SACRED HEART AND THE PRIESTHOOD. By Mother Louise Margaret Claret de la Touche. (7s. 6d.)

THE BOOK OF INFINITE LOVE. The needs of our time: a little treatise of infinite love. By the same author. (5s.)

THE HANDBOOK OF THE ASSOCIATES OF THE PRIESTS' UNIVERSAL UNION OF THE SACRED HEART AND OF THE FAITHFUL FRIENDS OF BETHANY OF THE SACRED HEART. (1s.)

These three books are on sale at all Catholic booksellers in Dublin, Cork, Belfast and Galway. I hope they are also on sale in Catholic bookshops in England and in Scotland, in fact in all English-speaking countries. They are certainly on sale in the Catholic Truth Society depot in London, and in the Newnan Press in the United States.

Mother Louise Margaret Claret de la Touche was a Religious of the Visitation. It is her claim that as our Blessed Lord made known the riches of his sacred Heart to the faithful as a whole, through Saint Margaret Mary—so through herself he has made known the great love of his divine Heart for the priesthood. To quote from the handbook:

'The substance of that message (which she received during the Octave of Corpus Christi, 1902) was that our Saviour made a new donation of his sacred Heart to priests that they might become filled with the love which it contains and so communicate it to the world; and that he wished that a new world-wide organisation for

priests should be formed that would unite the Bishops and priests of the world to promote devotion to his sacred Heart'.

Mother Louise Margaret, who was born in France in 1868 and died in 1915, claimed that her books, the *Sacred Heart and the Priesthood* and the *Book of Infinite Love*, written under obedience, contain none of her own ideas, having as Author Jesus Christ himself.

The Church is rightly slow to make pronouncements upon such matters; but this can be said, her writings have been examined by competent theologians and found in conformity with the teaching of the Church in every detail. Furthermore the Holy See has sanctioned the organisation for priests, and its statutes which, by order of her Bishop, Mother Louise Margaret drew up under the name of 'the Priests' Universal Union of the Friends of the Sacred Heart'. She was also entrusted with the foundation of a new Sisterhood now called 'Bethany of the Sacred Heart'. After her death two auxiliary associations were formed, according to Mother Louise Margaret's wishes—one for men to co-operate with the Priests' Union, a similar one for women to co-operate with the Sisters of Bethany of the Sacred Heart. We have therefore now in existence four organisations:—

(1) The Priests' Universal Union of the Friends of the Sacred Heart; (2) Bethany of the Sacred Heart; (3) the Associates of the Priests' Universal Union; (4) the Faithful Friends of Bethany of the Sacred Heart.

I confess to a wish that shorter and easier names might have been found for these Associations. However that is a small matter compared with their intention and spirit. I am a priest and I have found *The Sacred Heart and the Priesthood* and *The Book of Infinite Love* books full of solace and consolation. I read them, not merely in order to write about them, but as spiritual reading and as matter for mental prayer. I have been comforted by the thought of our Lord's great love for those who share his priesthood. I have rejoiced to think of the priesthood as forming the heart of Christ's mystical Body, the Church, through which and from which grace goes forth to the rest of the Body.

GILES BLACK, O.P.

HOW CAME OUR FAITH? By the Rev. W. A. L. Elmslie. (Cambridge University Press; 21s.)

This book is the outcome of many years' teaching and lecturing on the Old Testament at Cambridge. It is an analysis and at the same time a synthesis of the religious teaching of the Old Testament upon the background of Semitic religion and Hebrew literature. But the book is rightly not entitled *The Religion of Israel*, for this title would have failed to represent the ultimate thesis of the book, which is that the Old Testament taken as a whole provided a 'Faith for Mankind', which received its completion in the New Testament, and