

NOTICES

AWAITING THE RESURRECTION is the latest in the *Pastoral Publications* series which is being produced at St Edmund's College, Ware, under the editorship of Fr Charles Davis. Its predecessors were guides to the ceremonies of baptism and the reconciliation of a convert to the Church; in this booklet we are taken through the Church's funeral rites. It would be hard to praise it too highly; beautifully produced and printed in two colours, illustrated with a few genuinely *significant* photographs, it gives us a well-chosen and well-written summary of the prayers of the Requiem mass and the funeral, and a commentary, simple and lucid but solidly theological, which places death in its proper Christian setting. The note of resurrection, struck by the title, could perhaps have been even more emphatically stressed. It should prove invaluable, not only in helping the faithful and non-Catholic relatives attending Catholic funerals to follow the ceremonies with profit, but also in reminding the clergy of the meaning of the rites they perform. Copies can be obtained from *Pastoral Publications*, St Edmund's College, Ware, Herts., price 9d. (£2. 15s. per 100).

Those who wish to be well-informed about everything to do with the impending General Council could not do better than read *VERS L'UNITÉ CHRÉTIENNE*, a bi-monthly bulletin published by the *Centre d'Études 'Istina'*. Its March-April number is full of information on the reactions of Orthodox and Protestant Churches to the Pope's announcement of his intention to tackle the problem of Christian unity.

DOCUMENTATION CATHOLIQUE, in its issue of 10th May, published the Pope's radio appeal for prayers for the Council during Mary's month of May, and especially during the ten days preceding Pentecost. The appeal was broadcast on 28th April. It may seem a little tardy to mention it now, but we feel that the truly paltry publicity which it received in this country should not go without remark.

The same organ, for 24th May, covers very thoroughly the fifth national meeting of the *Action Catholique Ouvrière*. In a long report read to it by M. Chirat, the secretary of the *Mission Ouvrière*, it is stated *inter alia* that 'priests working full time in large and small industries would answer to an urgent missionary requirement'.

The May number of *LA VIE SPIRITUELLE* was devoted to the Curé d'Ars, whose centenary was celebrated that month.

The *SUPPLÉMENT DE LA VIE SPIRITUELLE* for the second quarter of 1959 deals thoroughly with the discernment of vocations.