

There would seem to be no end to the titles we might call Her, because the best we can say of Her falls so far short of Her unsurpassable dignity.

Fr Hubert has given us a little book of seventy-nine pages, having for title one of the loveliest of Her pet-names. 'The Mystical Rose' is the heading of the first chapter. Other chapter headings are 'Mother of God', 'Virgin of Virgins', 'Mother of Christ', 'Mother of Divine Grace'.

Readers will find this book a great inspiration. Not that there is anything here that is not in other books, but there is an obvious love and sincerity about the author which is very attractive.

I do not like the frontispiece, but then 'de gustibus non disputandum'. The book deserves to become popular, for many people will find it very moving.

P.C.

ST DOMINIC IN EARLY TUSCAN PAINTING. By George Kaftal, D.Phil. (Blackfriars Publications; 7s. 6d.)

The first volume in the new Blackfriars series of illustrated books is such remarkably good value for money that the reviewer—amazed by this elegant presentation of forty paintings of St Dominic—may take for granted the erudition and industry of Dr Kaftal in editing it. For the immediate appeal of the book is frankly the joyous assembly of these early portraits, bearded or unbearded, young or middle-aged, alone or in a triptych group: all, in their different accents, proclaiming the impact of St Dominic and his ideal on men who were young enough in heart to marvel and rejoice. The arrangement of the book is tactful, so that the pictures themselves appear in their own right. Later one can turn to Dr Kaftal's careful commentary, with its record of origin and date and dimensions. His preface, too, gives just what is necessary to appreciate St Dominic's achievement, so that the paintings are rescued from the art gallery and are restored to the times and places that give them their deepest meaning.

There are fifteen portraits and twenty-five 'scenes' from St Dominic's life, the latter accompanied by extracts from the biography of Theodoric of Appodia (1290). The reproductions (in black-and-white) are invariably excellent, and the triple achievement of editor, publisher and printer deserves—and will surely receive—the grateful acknowledgment of all who love St Dominic and his Order. The volumes to come, which will deal with St Catherine of Siena, St Peter Martyr and St Thomas Aquinas, will be awaited with impatience.

I.E.

THE LIFE OF NEWMAN. By Robert Sencourt. (Dacre Press; 21s.)

In attempting to write a comprehensive biography of Newman, one cannot help feeling that Mr Sencourt has rushed in where angels have feared to tread. For surely, there is some remarkable reason for the fact that, despite an enormous amount of literature on the different aspects of his life and work, no full biography of Newman has ever