

always before our eyes, but we rarely see the tongues of flame at Pentecost—only the flames of destruction around the doomed cities. Twice we are told of the 'tyranny' of the Christian choice. Christ is said to be among young boys 'tyrannically present' demanding a choice (p. 62). We are told 'Christ remains just as we know him in the gospels with his *inordinate* demands, separating man from woman and woman from man' (p. 61). Here we are back over old ground; here is no peace, and here surely no anguish has been stilled. Yes, we are not meant to be lulled; the cross is not comfortable, but are we never to know that the burden can be light, and the yoke sweet?

All of us who are in the evening of life will follow Mauriac along the road to Emmaus, for on this road he can help us to regret more than anyone else that we never recognized our Saviour on the way. I would gratefully allow Mauriac to carry my humble request that the Lord should stay and eat with us. I know he would persuade him better than I could, but I think I would choose another emissary to carry my gift to the cave at Bethlehem.

G. T. GRISEWOOD

PRAYERS FROM THE PSALMS. Arranged by Hubert McEvoy, S.J. (Burns Oates; 6s.)

A little treasure of a book. It is like one of those lovely Chinese boxes holding innumerable tinier boxes, but in reverse. It is small and compact, but opens out wider and wider vistas of thought and spiritual enlightenment to the reader.

With the increasing emphasis on the significance of the liturgy, the popularity of manuals of devotion is on the wane. The psalms, we know, are a source of prayer as well as an ideal prayer in themselves. They cover all walks of life and every human need, but not everyone has the time or ability to search out suitable extracts, to fit the necessities and desperations, or the exhilarations and perplexities of the moment.

Father McEvoy has done this so invitingly that, instead of finding ourselves bogged down by our lack of receptivity to the inspired word, we are actually encouraged to study the psalms more deeply and make their praise, petition and intercession our own.

Specially to religious who wish to unite themselves more intimately with the *opus Dei*, but are perhaps hampered by inadequate knowledge of Latin or lack of time to ponder the true meaning of a translation, this little book will be valuable.

P.C.C.

THE BAPTISMAL SACRIFICE. By George Every, S.S.M. (S.C.M. 'Studies in Ministry and Worship' 14; 9s. 6d.)

This is an absorbing and informative book, but in the last resort rather disappointing. The theme is outlined in the preface: what light