

rubrical lore, and the clergy have almost all of it in the *Ordo*, though, it is true, there locked up in the obscurity of a foreign language. And although one did not look for the housewifely solicitude of an earlier sacristan's manual with its naive advertisements for proprietary brands of brass polish, one did expect a little more help in a practical way. How many of us have beautiful catafalques all ready for erection? A hint or two how to make a presentable one would have been welcome. No doubt there are churches where everything is 'laid on', but the present writer who served his apprenticeship as sacristan at the age of eleven, has never yet been fortunate enough to find one.

Then, the language. Since Fortescue delivered his frontal attack on the pidgin-English of Dale-Baldeschi, the standard of English in ceremonies books has steadily risen. Fr Murphy usually writes clearly and neatly but there are occasional lapses. Some things are supposed to 'incite' us to devotion, or perhaps to 'cult', and what we call a chapel-of-ease Fr Murphy thinks is a 'succursal'—a word more reminiscent of French banks than churches. And 'vimps for familiars' sounds like a stage-direction for a ballet.

The beautiful format of the book is spoilt by the unwarranted intrusion of advertisements.

We have no doubt the clergy will find this book useful, and as Fr Murphy grows gracefully old in wisdom and knowledge, bringing out successive editions, he will eventually produce a book that will silence the foolish chatter of book-reviewers.

J.D.C.

CATECHISM THROUGH THE LITURGY; Part III; By Dom Denys Ruttledge, O.S.B. (Douglas Organ; 5s.)

THE ABBREVIATED CATECHISM WITH EXPLANATION. By The Rev. F. H. Drinkwater. (Burns Oates; 2s. 6d.)

It seems unnecessary to add to our earlier praise of the general conception of *Catechism through the Liturgy*, of which the final volume has now appeared, nor to qualify our criticism of some confusion in its detailed arrangement. This time Dom Ruttledge deals with Faith, Hope and Charity, relating, as before, the catechetical method to the Missal and the Liturgical Year. There are useful indications of dramatic and musical illustrations of the doctrine dealt with.

Fr Drinkwater brings his unrivalled experience and brilliance of exposition to a 'pupil's book intended primarily for use in secondary-modern schools'. The scheme followed is that of the shortened catechism, approved for the diocese of Birmingham. Fr Drinkwater's 'explanations' bring the catechism to life, and an admirable arrangement and coloured line illustrations add to the value of this excellent book.

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