

have even though we don't know it. 'Thou hast made us for thyself and our hearts are restless till they rest in thee.' I suppose the saints used to wonder how it is that anyone could not realise it.

Prayer is not a luxury. Prayer is not a pious practice. Prayer is not just one of the tools on our bench, so to speak. It is the expression of a right relationship with God. And the fact that very few are conscious of it is our fault. There is in our power this tremendous force of prayer.

The Holy Spirit prays within us. The Patron of prayer is the Holy Spirit. You can't say that prayer is out of your reach, not your line of country, because you've got the Holy Ghost within you.

Therefore, when our Lord said, '*Our Father who are in Heaven*', it was that we should raise our minds to him, upwards from the material world in which we are immersed.



POINTS OF VIEW

THERE is one mildly disquieting note in Fr Oswin Magrath's excellent 'Hermits' in the April LIFE OF THE SPIRIT, as in the October, 1952, *La Vie Spirituelle*. That is the idea that the lack of mention of hermits in the Code of Canon Law is somehow a deplorable omission. May it not be, on the contrary, a Providential disposition? For priests and religious, status and a social milieu are part of their vocation: the Code provides for them. For hermits, as Fr Magrath admirably shows, status and any special human milieu are excluded by their vocation: by its very silence, the Code provides for that. Let us keep it so.

SOLITARIUS