

three volumes are directed towards the fourth which shows what is learned from the bible, the creed and the liturgy is relevant to the christian life. It is only when the bible and prayer book are brought to the bank, the workbench, the government office that they have any real value, and this little volume shows how this can be done. In striking contrast to papal encyclicals which are written to bishops, and many of the commentaries, which sound as though they are written to bishops, this work is simple and straightforward. It is more radical than all but a very few Englishmen will like, but those whom it does not convince will be at least provoked to start wondering whether their present social views are

consistent with true christianity, with even a decent regard for their fellow human beings.

These four volumes, in spite of their rather diffuse style, have an enormous amount of material packed in their total of six hundred pages, and I imagine that there is hardly a priest in the land who has to give instructions to converts or engaged couples, hardly a teacher responsible for religious instruction in the upper classes of grammar schools, and even secondary modern and technical schools, hardly a social worker or CEG speaker who will not be grateful to the community who produced them, or to the publishers who have given them to English readers.

CHRISTOPHER INGRAM, O.P.

ISIDORE CLARKE, O.P.

LITURGY IN DEVELOPMENT edited by L. Altting Von Geusau. *Sheed & Ward*, 12s 6d.

Many will already know, from the new theological monthly *Concilium*, about the Documentation Centre (DO-C) in Rome and of the kind of work it does: how it was founded to provide relevant information for the Dutch bishops at Vatican II and how it proved to be so useful that its papers were soon being translated for the other hierarchies. Now the best of these papers, which have played a key role behind the scenes in the Council's debates and decisions, have been collected together for publication in more permanent form. This group, nine in all, on liturgy in development is the first to appear.

Besides an important discussion of the theology of the liturgy (good), it comprises short histories of the liturgical movement (also good) and of the liturgy itself, together with

articles on the priesthood of the faithful, concelebration (somewhat mystifying), the 'lay chalice' (very informative), the problem of liturgical language (interesting, but based on a pre-Wittgensteinian notion of language), and the Greek Catholic liturgy.

However the few criticisms that can be made don't outweigh the obvious honesty and clarity of expression of most of the papers. I would think this book could be used very profitably in parish study groups, sixth forms or indeed by anyone who wanted to cease being merely a passive recipient of liturgy and wished to take an active part in its re-creation. For this reason its a great pity that for a small paperback of only 187 pages one has to pay 12s 6d.

JUSTIN ADAMI, O.P.

THE GOD OF OUR FATHERS by Leonard Johnston, 2s

FROM ADAM TO ABRAHAM by Joseph Blenkinsopp, 4s.

FROM ADVENT TO LENT by Edmund Flood, 4s.

THE WORLD MISSION OF THE CHURCH by Adrian Hastings, 2s.

THE CHRISTIAN FAMILY IN THE MID-TWENTIETH CENTURY by Noel Timms, 2s.

*Where we Stand Series.* Darton Longman & Todd.

There is little to do other than commend this group of *Where We Stand* booklets. They are intelligently and clearly written, with an evident communicative effort; the design is neat and the binding firm; and as paperbacks adopt various poses to avoid drawing attention to

their price, these remain remarkably cheap. The need for introductory and mediatory works of relevant theology in 'colleges and universities' will be partly met by this quality of writing.

A few minor points. While it may be true