

Ignatius to mark a turning point in a man's life, necessarily to be used afterwards in his daily prayer (pp. 257-262).

The book may be recommended to all those engaged in giving retreats or in any way interested in the theory and practice of the spiritual life.

RICHARD BLUNDELL, S.J.

LE CREUSET DE L'AMOUR, LE PURGATOIRE. By Mary Starkie-Greig. Translated by Marie René-Bazin. Preface by J. Lebreton, S.J. (Editions Spes, Paris; n.p.)

Two English editions of Mother Mary St Austin's *The Divine Crucible* have already been given an excellent press and received a wide welcome as a permanent and valuable addition to English spiritual writing. The French edition now before us is not a translation of the work as published in English, but of the third of a series of four manuscripts of which the English represents the last. The translator in a foreword gives an interesting short biography of the author, of the history of these writings and their publication. Mother Mary St Austin felt herself hampered by the considerable theological additions which were thought necessary for an English-speaking public and which resulted in the published English text. Mme René-Bazin has successfully caught the vigour and directness of the author's style at a fresher and less complicated period of the work's development.

I. T.

GOD'S LOVE SONGS: An Essay on the Spirituality of the Psalms. By Dom Rembert Sorg, O.S.B. (Pio Decimo Press, Saint Louis, Missouri; 60 cents.)

This essay is a reprint of an article by Dom Sorg which was first published in the American liturgical magazine *Orate Fratres*. The theme is of such paramount importance: indeed, as the author himself rightly says, the study of the psalms 'may well occupy everyone's lifetime': that we are grateful to whoever enlightens us further, or helps us to deepen our appreciation of these sacred lyrics. The Psalter has been the subject of so many dissertations that it is small wonder if fresh contributions to such an abundant literature fail sometimes to make any real addition to what is already known. What really matters is that they should stimulate us to make more and more our own the sentiments of the divinely inspired psalmist, and to model our prayer to God on that of Christ to his heavenly Father.

D. S.

THE LORD WE SERVE. By Ferdinand Valentine, O.P. (Blackfriars; 7s.6d.)

This is a most attractive book, which is to be pondered on rather than merely read. It takes the form of meditative commentaries on the Gospel of St Luke. They are obviously the product of painstaking research and prayerful consideration extended over a period. The four parts are: The Coming of the Saviour, The Early