

OTHER WORKS

LA VIE DU PETIT ST PLACIDE (Desclée de Brouwer; 60 belg. francs) is told in 104 delightful charcoal drawings, somewhat reminiscent of the work of Thomas Derrick, by a Benedictine nun, Soeur Geneviève Gallois, O.S.B. The saint is seen to enter the order as a child under St Benedict himself, but before he dies he visits an exhibition of abstract art. 'When God who is Master of Arts', he says, 'and the Father of good sense wishes to reveal to us something of the ineffable Abstract, he begins by putting on the Concrete, and that is the Incarnation.' There is much to please the eye and the mind in this concrete book, which Marcelle Auclair in the preface calls 'un traité d'oraison par l'image'.

Miss Elizabeth C. Fenn had the fruitful thought to translate selections from the *Meditations and Devotions* of Fénelon (Mowbrays; 3s. 6d.), and though the thought is clothed in different garments from those of St Bernard and St Albert the Great who are listed in the same *Fleur de Lys* series of the publishers, it retains the same essential simplicity of a saintly author. The majority of these selections is in the form of meditated prayers, but they can well be used also for brief spiritual reading.

THE NEWLY CANONIZED ST PIUS X had already found an English biographer as long ago as 1918. There must be a large number of people who know Pius X principally through that straightforward account by F. A. Forbes. It is now republished in a revised form to herald the Canonization: *Pope St Pius X* by F. A. Forbes. (Burns Oates; 5s.)

PÈRE LAURENTIN, Professor of Theology at Angers, has written a well documented and profound little book on our Lady and the Mass. This is not merely a work of devotion, for the author discusses Mary's part in the redemption with calm theological insight. Moreover, the book is written as a contribution to the Peace of the World—a refreshing book to come across, as there are so few of its kind in these days when aggression and war remain uppermost in our minds: *Notre Dame et La Messe au service de la Paix du Christ*, by René Laurentin. (Desclée; 36 belg. francs.)

EXTRACTS

AN International Theological Congress was held in Salamanca from the 29th of April to the 8th of May, to celebrate the seventh centenary of the University. To facilitate the working of the extensive programme the Congress was divided into four main sections: Scripture, Philosophy and Theology, Spirituality and Canon Law.

The section on spirituality had for its main theme the present state of spiritual studies in the world, and the conferences included discussions