

## EXTRACTS

CLARE VAUGHAN, 'sister of bishops and Poor Clare', is the subject of a sympathetic study by Père Delpierre in *La Vie Spirituelle* for May. The article is written 'in honour of the fifth centenary of the foundation by Saint Colette of the Poor Clare convent of Amiens' in which Sister Clare Vaughan spent her brief life. Père Delpierre gives an interesting account of the old Catholic world so faithfully reflected at Courtfield, and one is glad to find a French periodical giving attention to an aspect of English Catholic life too little known abroad.

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THE REFORM OF THE BREVIARY, which has become a subject of much debate since the proposals of Cardinal Nasalli Rocca (cf. *LIFE OF THE SPIRIT* for September 1947) has recently been discussed by Pius Parsch in *Lebe mit der Kirche*. The principles of revision, according to Dom Parsch, should leave the general structure of the office and the psalter unchanged. His proposals deal with the calendar, the lessons at Matins, and the rubrics. 'We have too many feasts of saints. Our calendar resembles a museum or a place of pilgrimage covered with ex-voto tablets'. The simplification of the celebration of the offices for saints would restore the rhythm of the ferial office and the consecutive reading of Sacred Scripture. The lessons, and especially the lives of saints, should be revised in relation to the breviary as a whole. Finally, 'the science of rubrics has become an occult affair into which ordinary people cannot enter'. Dom Parsch suggests a radical simplification of the rank of feasts, the suppression of octaves (except those of Easter and Pentecost) commemorations and *preces*. Sundays should never be superseded by feasts of saints. 'If the feasts become less numerous, they will nevertheless be better celebrated'. Dom Parsch ends, as must every liturgist, with the assurance that he submits his proposals to the judgment of the Holy See.

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EFYRDIAU CATHOLIG, the annual volume of theological studies by Welsh Catholics (Llyfrau Sulien, Llanfarian, Aberystwyth; 2s. 6d.) has reached its third number. It is notable for an authoritative article on 'The orthodoxy of Welsh poetry' by the Archbishop of Cardiff, who has himself done so much to further the mission of the Church to the Welsh-speaking people of Wales.

ERRATUM: In the June issue of *LIFE OF THE SPIRIT* by an unfortunate oversight an error passed the readers which gave a contrary sense to the sentence—

On p. 538 line 7, *anti-pelagianism* should read *semi-pelagianism*.