

have nothing excluded from the kingdom of Heaven, not even cats. Paradoxically enough one is edified by the strength she gave to others, but this is because we believe the grace of God may work outside ordinary channels.

GERARD MEATH, O.P.

AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF A SAINT: Thérèse of Lisieux. Translated by Ronald Knox. (The Harvill Press; 21s.)

The content of this volume has become a spiritual classic and hardly needs any comment, but it was written in French by a simple French girl. It is virtually impossible to catch the exact mood of the French in a translation, just as the language of Shakespeare cannot be translated into any other language. Mgr Knox has got as near as seems possible to the impossible. Nevertheless there are moments when inevitably he has failed. The mentality and mode of expression of this young but nevertheless great saint is so much her own and so French that it can only be captured in the original. We must, however, be very grateful to Mgr Knox for this excellent effort, especially as it gives us the full text of the original. All who are in any way interested should have this volume.

DOMINIC SIRE, O.P.

LE PÈRE JACQUES. By Michel Carrouges. (Editions du Seuil.)

The days are over when the biography of a holy person must of necessity be a chain of piously interpreted events. Here is the story of a very forceful character of our own times told with directness. Everybody did not like him—and why should they? Perhaps the characteristic of this man was his uncompromising nature and yet his essential charity in his dealings with other men. The latter part of his life was utterly selfless and surely brings home to us that sanctity is not a thing of the past and can be attained even in the most adverse circumstances: in fact was perhaps helped by the very adversity he met. As a straightforward narrative of an undoubtedly holy priest and religious it is interesting reading, especially when set in present-day or almost present-day conditions.

DOMINIC SIRE, O.P.

THE CONQUEST OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD. By John of the Angels, O.F.M., tr. by Cornelius J. Crowley. (Cross and Crown; \$3.95; Herders; 32s.)

This series of dialogues between a Franciscan religious and his spiritual director, written in the early sixteenth century, would form an excellent basis for retreat subjects, or it would be suitable for use as a meditation book for those who have put themselves in the path of