

HOLY WEEK READING

PREPARING FOR EASTER (Burns and Oates; 6s.) is an introduction to the Lenten liturgy by Clifford Howell, s.j. It is in effect a preparation for participating in the restored Paschal Vigil and Fr Howell's experience as a preacher enables him to bring out its real implications. SANCTA SANCTORUM (Dent; 12s. 6d.) is a book of prayers ('for the Holy of Holies') by W. E. Orchard, a sequel to *The Temple*, published nearly forty years ago when Dr Orchard was still a Presbyterian minister. These are most moving, personal prayers and many will be glad to share in the matured spirituality they express. A RETREAT FOR LAY PEOPLE (Sheed and Ward; 12s. 6d.) is a companion volume to Ronald Knox's well-known *Retreat for Priests*, but this time it is, as Mgr Knox, explains, *à la carte*. This collection of meditations follows no close plan but it should provide an ideal source for occasional reading. Here are all Mgr Knox's usual gifts of insight, humour and sympathetic good sense. The 'Fleur de Lys' series of translations, published by Mowbray, has three useful new titles: THE MYSTICAL VINE by St Bonaventure (3s. 6d.), ON CONTEMPLATING GOD by William of St Thierry (2s. 6d.) and THE THREEFOLD GIFT OF CHRIST by Brother Bernard (2s. 6d.). From the Dacre Press comes THE PASTORAL PRAYER OF ST AELRED OF RIEVAULX (3s. 6d.) in the original text, with an excellently devised translation. THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS by Caryl Houselander (Sheed and Ward; 8s. 6d.) consists of meditations on the most familiar of Lenten devotions, illustrated by woodcuts. Miss Houselander relates the events of the Passion to our own experience and provides a fresh and deeply felt set of meditations on the essential Christian theme of man's redemption. THE SCREWTAPE LETTERS and MERE CHRISTIANITY, C. S. Lewis's famous essays in apologetic, now appear in the 'Fontana' series (Collins; 2s.). In this new and cheap form they should achieve even greater popularity, for they reveal a unique gift for clear and interesting exposition of traditional Christian dogma. THE CHRISTIAN DUTY OF HAPPINESS (Faber; 7s. 6d.) is a cheerful essay by Dr C. A. Alington largely illustrated by apt quotation. THE SALT OF THE EARTH (Harvill Press; 10s. 6d.) is an account of the varieties of religious life in the great religious orders by André Frossard (translated by Marjorie Villiers). Amusing drawings underline this light-hearted but perceptive commentary on what religious life means in practice. THE WORDS OF MARY (Mercier Press; 6s.) is a translation of meditations on the recorded words of our Lady by Salvatore Garofalo.