

NOTICES

CATHOLIC DOCUMENTS: VI (Pontifical Court Club, 2s. 6d.). The latest number of this valuable collection contains English translations of the Pope's address to Italian midwives last October, his remarkable address on the proofs for the existence of God in the light of modern natural science to the Pontifical Academy of Science, and his address to the 'Family Front'.

THE VIRGIN MARY THROUGH THE EYES OF THE PAINTERS (Pitman; 8s. 6d.) is a delightful collection of reproductions, with a useful introduction by Marcel Belvianes. Excellently reproduced in monochrome, the fifty-six plates range from Cimabue to Murillo, and include, in addition to expected masterpieces, less familiar pictures from the fourteenth and fifteenth century French and Flemish schools.

THE EVERYDAY CATHOLIC (Blackfriars Publications; 18s. 6d.) now appears in a second edition. The well-deserved success of Fr Martin Harrison's 'miniature and simple *summa*' (to quote the preface by the Provincial of the English Dominicans) has made a new edition urgently necessary, and it is to be hoped that many new readers will come to value its clear exposition of the basic truths of faith.

Maurice de Wulf's HISTORY OF MEDIEVAL PHILOSOPHY, translated by Ernest Messenger, now appears under the imprint of Nelson. The first volume of this new edition (21s.) includes a brief memoir of Professor de Wulf, who died in 1947, and the value of this standard work remains substantially unchallenged by later works, though some indication of their existence in a bibliography would be useful.

MORAL AND PASTORAL THEOLOGY: A SUMMARY (Sheed and Ward; 30s.), is a one-volume digest of the four volumes of the late Fr Henry Davis's well-known work. Fr Davis lived to complete this *Summary* himself, and it will certainly prove a useful and convenient work of reference. It is quite admirably arranged.

LA LITURGIE DE S. JEAN CHRYSOSTOME (Editions de Chevetogne, Belgium; 15 Belgian francs) is a new edition of a French translation of the Byzantine rite, with introduction and notes. The presence of increasing numbers of Catholics of Eastern rite in this country makes it possible for Latin Catholics to assist at the Byzantine Liturgy (e.g. in London and in Nottingham) and this handbook is an authoritative guide.

A very opportune book is the English translation of Cardinal Mindszenty's *THE MOTHER* (Clonmore and Reynolds; 9s. 6d.). The author in his preface says: 'The upheavals and changes of recent years and decades have made the problem of motherhood one of the most burning of all problems. There may be red ruin and revolution in every corner of the earth, but as long as mothers keep near to the heart of God, the morning of resurrection is sure to come, and new life will rise again, even from the most terrible ruin and devastation. Reverence for the dignity of motherhood is the foundation of the life of the race.' This prophecy of the great confessor of the faith is amplified in the pages that follow, in which he pictures the mother at every stage of her heroic life, for the life of a mother calls indeed for heroism, a heroism made possible by love.

Clonmore and Reynolds have also published at 18s. a reprint of Father Fitzsimons's translation of *THE LIFE OF THE LITTLE FLOWER*, by Mgr Laveille. This translation, first published in 1928, will be welcomed by all lovers of the story of St Thérèse of Lisieux, for Mgr Laveille's work is the most authoritative of the many lives of the saint.

BARABBAS, by Pär Lagerkvist, winner of the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1951, is the imaginary history of the robber who was preferred to Christ. (Chatto and Windus; 7s. 6d.). As with most novels having a biblical theme or merely inspired by a biblical character, the economy of the Bible itself remains as a constant challenge to the author's achievement. But it is a brilliantly written, enigmatic book and makes one eager to know more of the work of this Swedish master.

IRISH FOLK MUSIC AND SONG by Donald O'Sullivan is published for the Cultural Relations Committee of Ireland (Dublin; 2s.) and is an attractively-written introduction to its subject. It is wholly free from folkiness and frankly admits how little has as yet been done for the serious study of Irish music. It is to be hoped that this little book may do something to stimulate interest in one of the richest popular musical traditions of Europe.

THE CINEMA 1952 (Penguin Books; 3s. 6d.) is the third issue of what is becoming an invaluable guide. The latest volume includes extracts from six British film-scripts, including *Great Expectations* and *The Third Man*, a wide variety of articles and over a hundred stills from important films. It provides valuable material for intelligent critical appreciation of the current cinema. *MUSIC 1952* (2s. 6d.) does the same for the musical world, and its record of the many events of the Festival of Britain, as well as such articles as those on Hugo Wolf, the Bayreuth Festival and Vaughan Williams' *Pilgrim's Progress*, indicate the range of its interest.