

Book Review.

"The Friendships of Jesus," by the Rev M. J. Ollivier, O.P. Translated from the French by M. C. Keogh. (B. Herder, St. Louis, price \$1.50.)

Our religion is principally a matter of the heart. "Thou shalt love the Lord, thy God, with thy whole heart," is the highest law. Our hearts are human hearts. The Incarnate God, by uniting His Divine love with His Sacred Heart, taught us the true nature of human love and friendship in His own life and example. There can be no stronger appeal to all that is best and noblest in human nature than this human side of the Savior's heart. For that reason sermons on the Passion are so powerful in moving the hearts of men, for in the Passion everything is human as God cannot suffer. An appeal even more powerful is made by this beautiful work of the gifted French Dominican, whose polished style has not lost too much of its charm in the good translation before us. He reverentially opens up to us some of the tenderest feelings of the heart of Jesus for His family, His chosen personal friends, and the friends of His mission.

He dwells rather too much on the history of the family of Bethany, drawing upon legends for his materials, but he succeeds in showing Jesus to be the loftiest model of human love and friendship. A very able preface, by Rev. M. O'Kane, O.P., places the subject of the work on its theological foundation, and proves conclusively the reasons for its opportune publication.

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 "Back to Rome," by Scrutator. (B. Herder, St. Louis, price \$1.00.)

This controversial work appears in the form of private letters to an Anglican clergyman. The author goes over the old ground, but not as a theologian.

There is no fact emphasized so much in the whole book as this one. In spite of its evident truth, the writer delights in repeating it over and over again. He says he is convinced that in the present conflict between the creeds, and between belief and misbelief, or disbelief, it is not, as many seem to suppose, a question of rheology, but a question of philosophy

and accurate thinking. From this point of view, he develops the Catholic truths for the benefit of his inquiring friend, and succeeds in opening his friend's eyes to the necessity of coming "Back to Rome." There are many interesting pages in this layman's production, especially those on the consciousness of sin, and the necessity of confession; but his style is redundant and he fills about thirty pages in the beginning, before he enters into the subject at all. He quotes a great deal, but very much to the purpose.

To those who are interested in the struggle between truth and error, now being waged with ever increasing success for the Church in England, will find this work, although by an Englishman, and evidently for English readers, very useful in the similar campaign for Catholic truths in our own battleground.

Petitions Asked For.

The following petitions are recommended to the prayers of our readers:

Three conversions; restoration of sight; health for three persons; work for one; that a person may get well without an operation; two special favors.

 ONE FAULT.

The Monitor.

There is but one crack in the lantern, and the wind had found it out and blown out the candle. How great a mischief one unguarded point of character may cause us! One spark blew up the magazine and shook the whole country for miles around. One leak sank the vessel and all on board. One wound may kill the body. One sin destroys the soul. It little matters how carefully the rest of the lantern is protected, the one point which is damaged is quite sufficient to admit the wind; and so it little matters how zealous the man may be in a thousand things, if he tolerates one darling sin, Satan will find out the flaw and destroy all of his hopes. The strength of a chain is measured, not by the strongest, but by the weakest link, for if the weakest snaps, what is the use of the rest?