

by coloured film-strips, as also by many photos to supplement maps as in Fr Grollenberg's *Atlas of the Bible*. Such helps are a *sine qua non* of those who would study the Palestinian stage and background seriously. In the present instance a few well-designed contour maps and a few coloured diagrams or illustrations, or again a few pages in the style of the *Westminster Historical Atlas*, would have far better served the purposes both of the book itself and of the *Bible de Jérusalem*.

ROLAND POTTER, O.P.

MY SUNDAY READING. By Kevin O'Sullivan, O.F.M. (Bruce; \$5.)

This book is sub-titled 'A Popular Explanation and Application of the Sunday Epistles and Gospels', and in the Preface Father O'Sullivan reminds us that the obligation to keep the Sabbath holy is an injunction not only to attend religious services, but to set the day apart as a time which can be spent peacefully restoring our awareness of God which is sure to have been blunted by the rush of life on other days. Despite opinions to the contrary this needs saying, and saying carefully, as Father O'Sullivan does. There is no suggestion that we should go to the lengths of reading nothing but the Bible, refusing to pick up even a duster, and wearing black. It is not what we turn from but what we turn to on Sundays that counts, and here we are offered something we can turn to without making the day penitential. Father O'Sullivan takes the Epistle and Gospel of the day and gives a homiletic exposition of it sentence by sentence. He gives us the context and historical background, unravels complications in the text and explains obscurities. That is the Explanation. It is followed by an Application rather in the fashion of the See-Judge-Act method of Y.C.W. Each Sunday of the year is allotted five or six pages, hardly enough reading matter to paralyse all other activity for the day, but enough to colour it and even to orientate the rest of the week. It is an admirable piece of work, pithy and strong. 'If you ever feel that your trust in God seems to need an uplift, read the story of Abraham in Genesis'—'It may be the sixth or the ninth or even the eleventh hour of my life, yet I can still earn heaven if I listen to the call today'. He can hit us between the eyes or slap us on the back equally vigorously. This is a first-rate book for meditation for layfolk and priests, and if any of the clergy think of using it for sermon-fodder they will probably find it of more use than other men's sermon notes. Besides this one hardly notices how learned it is.

GERARD MEATH, O.P.

ATLAS OF THE EARLY CHRISTIAN WORLD. By F. Van der Meer and Christine Mohrmann. (Nelson; 70s.)

This is the successor volume to Father Grollenberg's admirable *Atlas of the Bible* and in consequence has been eagerly expected. Both editors