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***The Festal Menaion: The Service Books of the Orthodox Church.* Translated by Mother Mary and Archimandrite Kallistos Ware. Faber and Faber, 1969. Pp. 564. 84s.**

John B. Logan

Scottish Journal of Theology / Volume 23 / Issue 02 / May 1970, pp 251 - 252
DOI: 10.1017/S0036930600021530, Published online: 02 February 2009

Link to this article: http://journals.cambridge.org/abstract_S0036930600021530

How to cite this article:

John B. Logan (1970). Scottish Journal of Theology, 23, pp 251-252
doi:10.1017/S0036930600021530

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The Lord's Supper. By JEAN-JACQUES VON ALLMEN. (Ecumenical Studies in Worship, No. 19.) Lutterworth Press, 1969. Pp. 117. 18s.

THIS is another very welcome contribution from the pen of Professor von Allmen. It is a translation of *Essai sur le Repas du Seigneur* (Cahiers Théologiques, No. 55, Éditions Delachaux et Niestlé, Neuchâtel). Those who studied with appreciation and delight his recent book on *Worship: Theology and Practice* will be glad to see this volume, smaller but as full of deep thought and helpful exposition. An introduction deals with some points relating to the origin of the Supper, and then discusses briefly three historical aspects—the liturgical diversity, the eucharistic vocabulary and the significance of the Reformation in the history. Six chapters follow—on Anamnesis and Epiklesis; on the Eucharist as revelation of the limitations and of the plenitude of the Church; on communion with Christ and with the Brethren; on living Bread and Sacrifice; on Prayer and Fulfilment; and on Mass and Eucharist. A short concluding section speaks of the Eucharist as sacrament of unity and sacrament of faith. Throughout there are many notes which refer to much of the abundant literature on the Lord's Supper. Great emphasis is laid on the importance and superlative value of the Supper—the final phrase being almost a text for the whole study—‘We cannot live without the Lord's meal.’ To consider the Eucharist, we are told, is to be ‘at the very heart of the Gospel and of the life which it creates in the Church’. This is certainly a very important and valuable contribution to the discussion at present so widely conducted.

JOHN A. LAMB

The Festal Menaion: The Service Books of the Orthodox Church. Translated by Mother Mary and Archimandrite Kallistos Ware. Faber and Faber, 1969. Pp. 564. 84s.

THIS fine translation from the original Greek of the complete texts of Orthodox Services for the Twelve Great Feasts, carefully compared with the Slavonic and sometimes the Romanian texts, is the first of what is planned to be a full English version of all the Orthodox services. Such a series has become essential in view of the younger Orthodox English-speaking diaspora, the Orthodox parishes where English is now being used, and the swiftly-increasing number of Christians in other denominations who realise that Orthodox worship is the main avenue by which to approach the rich household of Orthodox faith and life.

Much more than just another Service Book, this is an important contribution to the literature of worship. The Introduction on ‘The Worshipping Church’ by that great scholar Emeritus Professor

Georges Florovsky is one of the best short statements on the subject. There are clear descriptions and detailed plans of the Orthodox services and their structure.

Beginning with The Common of the Vigil, including Vespers and Mattins, the book provides services for The Annunciation, The Nativity, The Transfiguration etc. The publication of this work is timely in days when, sometimes with little real liturgical understanding or with mistaken principles, so many take advantage of freedom of worship to introduce personal predilections into the Church's worship of Almighty God. In the Orthodox Church, worship, according to the central Christian practice, is based upon the Incarnation of God in Jesus Christ, the real life of man, and the Bible. It is noteworthy that the general style of the translation and Bible readings (given in full) follow the language of the Authorised Version (King James Bible). The overall result is most impressive. All who care for the ordering of worship will find nourishment in this volume.

JOHN B. LOGAN

Understanding the Adolescent. By MICHAEL HARE DUKE. S.P.C.K. (Library of Pastoral Care), 1969. Pp. 118. 15s.

THIS is a very useful addition to the Library of Pastoral Care. While making no attempt to explore in depth the complex psychodynamics of adolescent patterns of reaction, the author is remarkably successful in achieving his expressed aim—to promote a sympathetic understanding of the problems and stresses of adolescence. He says little that is new, but a great deal that is thought-provoking and challenging to parents and to pastors. It would be difficult to read this book and still remain the sort of person described in the preface as 'that typically uninformed adult without whose violence it might never have found its way into the publisher's hands'. The reader is rescued from the common mistake of thinking that all adolescent problems are evidence that 'something has gone wrong'. As the author says—'it is right and necessary that there should be problems in adolescence, precisely because this transitional period is a problem-solving time'. The troubled youngster does not want a psychiatrist; he wants and needs 'a friendly-faced person to whom one can go and say "Life is hell!", and who will bother to ask you why'.

There is a clear portrayal of the tension between the adolescent search for approval and the weakening of accepted authority, with a useful discussion of what this entails in terms of personality needs. This involves a search for one's own inner authority, not in abandoning moral standards, but in 'acting not by given standards but by the inner authority of the choice to do what is loving'.

The author alleges that the young person has the right to ask three