

JOTTINGS

Recent issues of *The Record* have given evidence that ecclesiological matters have a significant place among the concerns of the Society and I am confident that at least one member of the Council will be diligent in ensuring that they do not disappear from the Editor's agenda. No article in that area appears in this issue, so it may be useful to point elsewhere. *Art and Christianity* is the quarterly publication of the Art and Christianity Enquiry Trust (ACE). Its begetter was an Anglican clergyman but it is not denominational in character.

Its most recent issue contains an article on a recently completed commission to redevelop the former Regent Square Presbyterian Church (its first building, though the fact is not mentioned here, was erected for Edward Irving, colourful and controversial Scottish preacher in the early 19th century), now the Lumen United Reformed Church. A post-war (1965) building has undergone what the director of ACE calls 'a very contemporary and thoughtful change' giving 'form to an architect's brief, interpreted with both humour and eloquence'. The article concludes, 'Whilst the Lumen Church and the wider URC upholds its traditional emphasis upon social mission and ecclesiastical restraint, this redevelopment and its art commissions demonstrate that that does not need to detract from a sophisticated aesthetic which resonates with a reformed theology'. Can this northern home of reformed theology provide anything which would elicit a similar comment?

There is also a review of *Liturgy and Architecture from the Early Church to the Middle Ages* by Allan Doig, described by the reviewer as a 'serious and well researched study of the development of the relationship between the development of the church's liturgy and its architectural setting'. The 16th century Reformation's endeavour to restore the primitive face of the Catholic Church was, in that matter, hampered by a universal ignorance. All the more reason for their Reforming and re-ordering heirs to inform themselves now.

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