

jhs



ABBAY OF GETHSEMANI  
TRAPPIST, KENTUCKY

May 4, 1960

Dear Victor

Please forgive the red ribbon, I am trying to use it up. I am just writing to say that I imagine that you must be getting along with the book and will pretty soon be ready to come down with some of it, no doubt. And with this very fine weather there could be no better time. Apart from May 17 and 22-23 any day except a Sunday would be all right with me as far as I can see, though I am getting more and more involved in little things that seem to take time. How is Saturday the 14th for you -- I just picked that because I think Carolyn likes Saturdays better, ~~if~~ if I am not mistaken.

Rome has intensified the training schedule for novices and students in all the Orders and that means I have more classes, but it does not affect our getting together since you usually arrive about 11 o'clock. By lunch time I am free.

I find I have been keeping a large number of library books for a long time, so I am sending some back, since I do not think I will be able to finish them now. With them Carolyn will find a book on the priesthood which is an extra we have here, so I am donating it to the library from the monastery. I don't know whether or not it is especially good, but it belongs to a reputable series.

A lady in Boston wrote me a most kind and enthusiastic letter about the Desert Fathers book, someone had just presented her with the last available copy. She is a friend of a friend of yours from Lexington who works in the Widener library.

Last Sunday no fewer than fifty seven presbyterian men from Lexington showed up here and I gave them a talk which they seem to have enjoyed. They were from the Second Presbyterian Church. It seems I will be a little more occupied with work like this in the future, but mostly with rather special groups. I still prefer the "retreat movement" that includes spiritual conversations-- and artistic ones-- with you and Carolyn.

I have unearthed a man called Isaac of Ninive, a Syrian hermit, of whom you might like to consider a few excerpts: again along the lines of the other two books. But I hesitate to suggest this because I really fear that you will be expending all your efforts on me alone and this would be really wrong.

In any case, I will be looking forward to hearing from you. Perhaps this letter may even cross with one of yours in the mail. God bless you both.

Very cordially in Christ

*J. M. Louis*