

jhs



OUR LADY OF GETHSEMANI
TRAPPIST, KENTUCKY

March 27, 1958.

Dear Victor:

The Crucifix is very impressive in its hieratic simplicity. I find the quiet color scheme and the whole design very contemplative. I have shown the transparencies to Father Abbot and he is impressed with them. But when I spoke to him of getting Mrs Froedtert to pay for it, and mentioned the sum, he felt that this was too much for a small project like our novitiate and he would not allow me to have it. You see, even though someone else is paying for it, it comes to the same as if we paid for it ourselves in the sense that Mrs F. buys a lot of things for the Abbey and Father Abbot does not want to be continually imposing on her for more and more. Besides his feeling is that with my attempts to get one more statue I have already had more than my fair share. (I am still working on one statue project).

My own feeling is though that perhaps later on, when we actually get around to the novitiate chapel project, the matter might be reopened. This is the wrong moment for it as the project as a whole has been unceremoniously put on the shelf. Nonne in the monastery takes any interest in it except myself, they are all head over heels in other things and we are the last on the list of priorities. I feel the time is just wrong, and nothing can be done. I am so sorry.

I enjoyed the Italian piece and have translated it myself. There are only one or two words you might want to polish up and make more sharply accurate, I leave that to you. If you print this, then, I hope that as translator I may merit two copies? One for the novitiate and one to present to a friend.

How is Prometheus coming? I have already finished many of the books and am sending them gradually back. I will soon send another list. Many thanks to you both, and to Dr Thompson. I will remember you all in a

very special way in this holiest of seasons, and
on Good Friday and Easter day when we celebrate the
Victory of Love over hatred and Light over Darkness.
May the Lord of Light and Life reign in our hearts.
God bless you both, and a very holy, happy Easter to
you.

With all affection, in Christ

/m Louis