

jhs



ABBAY OF GETHSEMANI  
TRAPPIST, KENTUCKY

Dec. 4, 1964

Dear Victor:

Yesterday I asked Father Abbot if I could perhaps have an exceptional permission to get over to Lexington to see you. He said that someone is driving over to the doctor on Dec. 16th and that he would let me go with them and have lunch with you, if this were possible. So I am writing to ask if that would be a good day for me to come over for lunch? It is Wednesday. I think that if that day is impossible for you, if you can suggest another thereabouts I might be able to get a ride. But in any case I hope I can see you and Carolyn and have lunch in your fine studio, as monastic as any monastery, and in fact more.

For my part things are going quite well. There is every likelihood now that I will be able to live at the hermitage continuously. In fact I am already sleeping there and coming down for some of the offices and for my work in the novitiate, which still takes up quite a bit of time, but anyway in the night hours and in the afternoon at least I am in the woods and it certainly agrees with me. It seems to me that this is really what I came here for, at last, and that the community life has been somehow provisional and preparatory. However, we shall see what develops. Part of the agreement may end up by being a cutting off of contacts with visitors, perhaps almost completely. But as I say, we shall see. I will do my part and leave the rest up to Superiors with their concept of how things ought to be.

Meanwhile I look forward to the joy of seeing you. I hope that everything will work out. If that day is no good, please just let me know any other day (except Sunday) and I will try to arrange something, but can't promise. Otherwise I hope to see you a week from next Wednesday, and will try to get there about noon.

Very best wishes to both you and Carolyn. Yesterday I sent a copy of the new Book, which is not like the others in many respects. God bless you. Is it really five years since I was last in Lexington?

Cordial and warm good wishes in the Lord,

Tom.