

J.M.J.

Feast of the Visitation

The Blessed Virgin Mary

July 2, 1955

Dear Katherine^{md} Marguerite

I am getting an early start with this letter because I want to tell you about my vacation trip.

One of the sisters of this household, named Sister Irene Elise, has relatives living not far from our relatives in Le Pere and Green Bay. She said that she would pay all expenses for me, if I would be her companion on the trip. I thought it would be a good opportunity for me to visit all of Mamma's relatives, so I accepted her offer.

I then wrote to Cousin Charles about the proposed visit and he wrote me a very cordial welcome. He said the whole family are awaiting the visit.

We shall leave here the 18th of this month and return on the 26th. I know I shall enjoy being right out in the country. I am taking rubbers with me so that I can walk out in the early morning to see the live stock and the growing things. When I return from my trip I shall write you a full account.

Katherine, I received the letters dated June 20th and June 27th. and found them very interesting. You certainly did the nice charitable thing in getting the priest for that poor woman who could not walk to church, and also in assisting your sick neighbor. I am glad that you persuaded her to go to the hospital, because that is where she can get the proper care, and besides, you are not strong enough to care for the sick for any length of time. You and Marguerite are certainly much alert to help others and God will reward you for it.

Along with your letter of yesterday came one from Alice Muffy. A long, nifty letter giving me all the family news, and also an account of John Leary's death. I am glad to know that Frank has been seeing some of the family lately and I am sure he enjoys his visits with Larry, now that he is working in Napa.

Marguerite, I haven't received your new address yet and am waiting for it. How is Butch behaving lately?

This afternoon I am going to attend a movie on the campus. It is one in which Tom Cruise figures. I expect it will be good.

All the sisters who are attending summer school here will be at the movie. There are about 400 sisters on the campus daily, sisters of many orders.

We had quite a storm last night, and it rained heavily. This morning it is much cooler, for which we are very thankful.

Sunday, July 3rd

It is hot, hot, hot today. It feels like a hundred firs in the shade, but I am going to add a few lines to my letter because I am tired of praying just now. This is our Monthly Day of Recollection, and is spent mostly in spiritual exercises. At 3:30 P.M. now and at 4:30 P.M. we are to have Holy Hours, so this writing between acts will relieve the strain.

We had another heavy rain during the night, but I am afraid that this heat will dry up everything.

Tomorrow will be the 4th of July, but we must leave the campus on holidays. I shall do some sewing. It keeps me going in order to keep my garments mended. It is nice for our Mary that she is celebrating her Birthday with God this year.

-4-

July 5th

Yesterday we celebrated the day with a nice chicken dinner and in the evening we had a picnic supper. The sisters have to have some relaxation from their strenuous studies.

Today is cooler, but not cool enough to suit me.

This morning I sewed on a habit. It is an old one and needed plenty of mending but there is a certain amount of satisfaction in making old garments look like new.

I noticed, as I took a walk around the campus today that our plum and apple trees are loaded with fruit. They are all green yet, though so green that I am not tempted to try them. When I was younger I used to begin on them when they were quite green. It is a wonder that I did not get sick.

Tomorrow I think I shall answer Alice Burph's letter. It certainly was nice of her to write me such a long, newsy letter, and without being brow-beaten, as she calls it.

I suppose Frank was especially lonesome yesterday because he always remembered Mary's Birthday. It was very attentive to her and she appreciated it.

Thursday, July 7th

This 11¹² A.M. and I have been sewing up until now so for a change I shall do some working.

Fatherine, your letter mailed on July came this morning, and I am glad to know that all is well, and that your flower garden is doing nicely.

The sky is getting quite dark and I think we are in for a storm. There have been quite a number lately round about us, and we have had some very hot weather too. I just had to put the electric lights on because it has gotten so dark. If you hear loud thunders, you'll know the storm is on. I think it is time for me to sprinkle some holy water around. There is a powerful prayer of the Church on holy water.

Friday, July 8th

This is the day after the big storm. All night the storm raged on. About 5¹² A.M. the temperature cooled off so much that I had to put a blanket on my bed, but now we are sweating again.

This is our confession day
and I had to wait a whole hour
before I could take my turn.
I just returned from the chapel
now.

Today being Friday, we had
some fish for dinner. I don't know
just what kind it was, but
it was well prepared and I
liked it much. As a rule I
don't take fish.

I think I should get this
letter on its way today and also
the one I am writing to Alice
in answer to the one she sent
me last week.

I send love to you Katherine,
and Theresita, and to all
my relatives. I keep you all
in my prayers.

When I am visiting Cousin Charles
and family, I shall mail you
a postal card, but don't expect
me to write again until
after I return.

God bless you all
Sister Elise