

THE COLLEGE OF ST. CATHERINE

ST. PAUL 5, MINNESOTA

Saturday, June 27, 1959

Dear Katharine,

Every day I intend to write a few lines so that you will know that I am constantly thinking of you. I awoke at 1:25 A.M. this morning so I sat up in bed and prayed for you and for all others who are sick and suffering. Other souls are precious in the sight of God, too, and therefore I feel that my prayers will be more efficacious for you when I include all.

In the Chapel this morning my meditation was on St. James's Epistle and his consoling words, "Blessed are they who suffer trials, for when they have been proved, God will bestow upon them the crown of Life which He has promised to all who love Him." Many persons are willing to work with and for Christ, but fewer are willing to suffer with and for Christ.

In the Life of St. Gemma we read that our Lord once said to her, "Gemma, if you will be my suffering love I will grant all the desires of your heart. I have read Gemma's life many times and derived much good and strength from it. She was canonized only a few years ago and if she were living now she would be only about my age.

A few moments ago one of the sisters stopped and asked about you, Katharine, and as I told her of your wonderful disposition in regard to your departure, she marveled at the great faith that God has given to you.

Katharine, your soul is already immersed in our loving God and only your frail body prevents you from realizing it, but as soon as it has been laid aside, while awaiting its glorious resurrection, you will become one with the Beloved of your soul.

Sunday, June 28th

Last night we had quite a big rain storm with plenty of thunder and lightening, so I lit the blessed candle and sprinkled holy water around.

The Church has placed a powerfull prayer on holy water and candles, and those two sacramentals should be used freely. I hope, Katharine, that you keep yours at hand constantly. Be sure to wear your scapulars and Sacred Heart badge at all times, *Two.*

As I sat by the window last night waiting for the storm to abate, I prayed for you and for all others who are sick and suffering. God, Who regulates the storms and the calm and all things is with you, Katharine, surrounding you with His love and grace, and from your soul, in sanctifying grace, continual prayer is ascending like incense before Him, whether you are conscious of it or not, and even though you are not conscious of forming words.

Soon I shall be going to our Chapel to recite the Office of our Blessed Mother and I shall unite my prayers with the whole congregation in behalf of you.

THE COLLEGE OF ST. CATHERINE

ST. PAUL 5, MINNESOTA

Monday, June 29th

This is the Feast Day of St. Peter and I prayed fervently to him for you, Katharine, and I know my prayer will be heard.

The weather has turned real cold, cold enough to wear a shawl with comfort, but it is good weather for the workmen who are still on the plumbing project in Caecilian Music Hall. It will be about six more weeks before they finish.

The first week of Summer school is over and every thing is moving along nicely. There are about six hundred sisters on the campus.

I was hoping to get a letter today, but so far it has not come. I am most anxious to know just what your condition is with all the details included.

I haven't written to Uncle Joe or any of our relatives lately; I just don't feel like writing to anyone but you, just now. Later on I shall write to them.

Saturday will be the Fourth of July, our Mary's Birthday. She never wanted to grow old, and now her wish is granted, for throughout the eternal ages she will be youthful, beautiful, glorious, loving and lovely as all are who attain the purpose for which they were created.

Sometimes in the Chapel I make my entire meditation on the joys and happiness of Heaven in which Papa, Mamma and all the others are sharing, and it consoles me for all the hardships that they endured in this life, in so many ways.

It is almost time for me to go to prayer with the community so, will bring this letter to a close with great love for you and deep gratitude to Alice and Helen and to all who are attending to your wants. May the love of the Sacred Heart of Jesus penetrate all .

Sister Elise

.....

Dear Alice and Helen,

I hope you will find time to write me another detailed letter. I feel that it is an imposition to ask you because of your many duties, but I do so much want to know just how Katharine is.

Ever gratefully

Sister Elise