

MADONNA HODIGITRIA-ELEUSA
(known as Madonna of Tichwin)
Russian, first half XVII Century
MUSEUM OF ICONS, RECKLINGHAUSEN



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Christmas Day

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Dear Victor.

We have put up the large crucifix in our novitiate chapel + the smaller one in the chapel of the infirmary. I have not seen the latter in place, but the infirmary is very pleased. The large one in our chapel is superb. It is very majestic and sacred and really one does not appreciate it fully until it is seen suspended at a certain height above an altar. It is so perfect for us that it seems to have been done especially for us + certainly we will have to buy it to make sure that it forms part of the finished chapel. Already the chapel seems

transformed. Father Most agreed in principle to consider the travelling - but that will be at a rather distant future date since so many other things are to be done.

Thank you ever so much - yours was an inspired idea. I hope now we can go along with the tabernacle.

On the way home the other day, after my most pleasant visit, I stopped at Markettown. Could Carolyn get me a book or two about the Shakers, especially about their Kentucky colonies? I'd like to do a study of them.

Best wishes + prayers for a happy New Year. I remembered you of course in my masses today.

God bless you both -

In Christ our Lord

[A. Louis]