

jhs



OUR LADY OF GETHSEMANI  
TRAPPIST, KENTUCKY

April 28, 1959.

My Dear Victor:

It is already a week since the "all-memorable day" of my visit to Lexington and to the *Stemperia del Santuccio*. The happiness of it has not faded. I still think with pleasure and edification on your very monastic house and all the things in it which give glory to God by their workmanship.

I have not written because I have been waiting for a moment to look up some Latin texts for your silver plates. I have looked only in the Vulgate, though perhaps the texts more appropriately might come from Virgil, but I am too much out of touch with him now. That is to say I would not know where to begin to look. But at any rate here are a few from the Vulgate. I put the one  $\text{\textcircled{f}}$  which seems to me most appropriate in first place. The others... well.

Argentum electum lingua justi. (Proverbs 10:20)

(This seems to me best for dinner plates--a social text, referring to conversation.)

Habet argentum venarum suarum principia (Job 28:1)

(A mysterious text, in a chapter on Wisdom.)

You might also check Exodus 35:31-32, about Beseleel, who had the Spirit of God in him to work in gold and silver, and finally III Kings 10:22 the famous text about the ships coming from Tharsis with gold, silver, ivory apes and peacocks. I still think the first one is appropriate. The others don't seem to fit, except perhaps the one from Job.

I am also enclosing some Latin from the *Verba Seniorum* which will I hope serve for your cover project. Is there enough of it?

Lax and Reinhardt were down over the weekend but I could not find a way for them to get over to Lexington. They would have liked to come very much. They brought two interesting Jewish records, texts from the *Canticle of Canticles* and the *Psalms* etc sung in Hebrew by a singer called Magdalith. Very impressive. (Very primitive). Though Reinhardt is a very abstract painter, he is perhaps the most severe painter in the world and I am sure you would agree basically on Classicism-- though his painting is very two dimensional. I don't know why. But austere!

We drove home last week through Shelbyville and Frankfort. I found Frankfort quite interesting. A rare town with character. The sun came out and the country was very charming in the evening light.

Carolyn- thank you for Marco Pallis which arrived today. I shall be sending back the others, or at least some of them, this afternoon. Did Berdyaev's "Destiny of Man" come in yet? I have received the new Suzuki from Pantheon as a gift and it is a splendid book. About the Broadside- I thought I would sign each copy, as there will hardly be too many. It is after all a "signed confession". When will there be another chance to come to Lexington? I still do not know how our patient is over there. Perhaps I will be back. Meanwhile, God bless you both. Faithfully in Christ

Jhs Louis

and Prayer's "Madison Avenue"?