

jhs



OUR LADY OF GETHSEMANI
TRAPPIST, KENTUCKY

Feb 5, 1960

Dear Victor:

Here are the first proofs with one correction. I am happy that this project is going ahead and that you like it. I thoroughly agree with you that it is a logical companion piece to the Desert Fathers book. The design will leave nothing to be desired, if the two are going to match one another. About the title page, remember that the copyright can be on the back of the title page. It does not have to be on the front, which is certainly disastrous for design. I look forward to further developments.

About the tabernacle: do not think that I am clinging madly to some idea of my own about how it ought to be. I leave entirely to you the external form and design of the tabernacle. The only thing that I have to be concerned about is that the tabernacle should conform to the canonical regulations. These are in brief:

- 1) That it should be in the middle of the altar (half way between ends)
- 2) That it be fixed to the altar or in some way un-movable.
- 3) It should be, interiorly, very solid and safe-like, so that it cannot be broken into, as far as possible. It cannot in other words be a plain wooden box. The outside casing can be wood. As for the inside "safe" you can go about that any way you like or even get someone else to make it I do not know how to explain it in such a way that it will not deter you from the project. It just has to be very solid and secure. You can fill this prescription in any way you like as long as it is taken care of.
- 4) Inside, the dimensions should be such as to permit putting away a ciborium over 18 inches high. Or at least 19 inches. And there are some special ways of making the inside formal and lavish with silk or something, which I think is probably non essential, and if it isn't maybe some brother can take care of that here.

Really I don't think there has to be any special problem about this. What did you do for Kolbsheim? Surely theirs is regular.

I have been up and down with bouts of 'flu. This weather is miserable. I hope you are all right. From everywhere I get echoes of happiness from J. at the picnic we enjoyed together.

Thank Carolyn for the Nordoff book, which I have received. It is pretty definite that my photographer friend and I will do a book on the Shakers, but I am not advancing very rapidly with study of the subject.

And now: when will you next come over? Let's give the weather a chance to clear a little. Perhaps early in March- the 2nd is Ash Wednesday and that would be bad, but the first, third, fourth or fifth would be all right. If you have some other choice, just let me know a little ahead so that I can confirm or change the arrangement. I hope to hear soon. God bless you both.

With every best wish

Cordially in Christ,

Jm Louis

Height-center - $16' 3\frac{3}{4}"$

Width of room - $20' 8\frac{3}{4}"$

Width of altar top - $7' 11\frac{1}{4}"$

Width of base of altar - $5' 10\frac{1}{2}"$

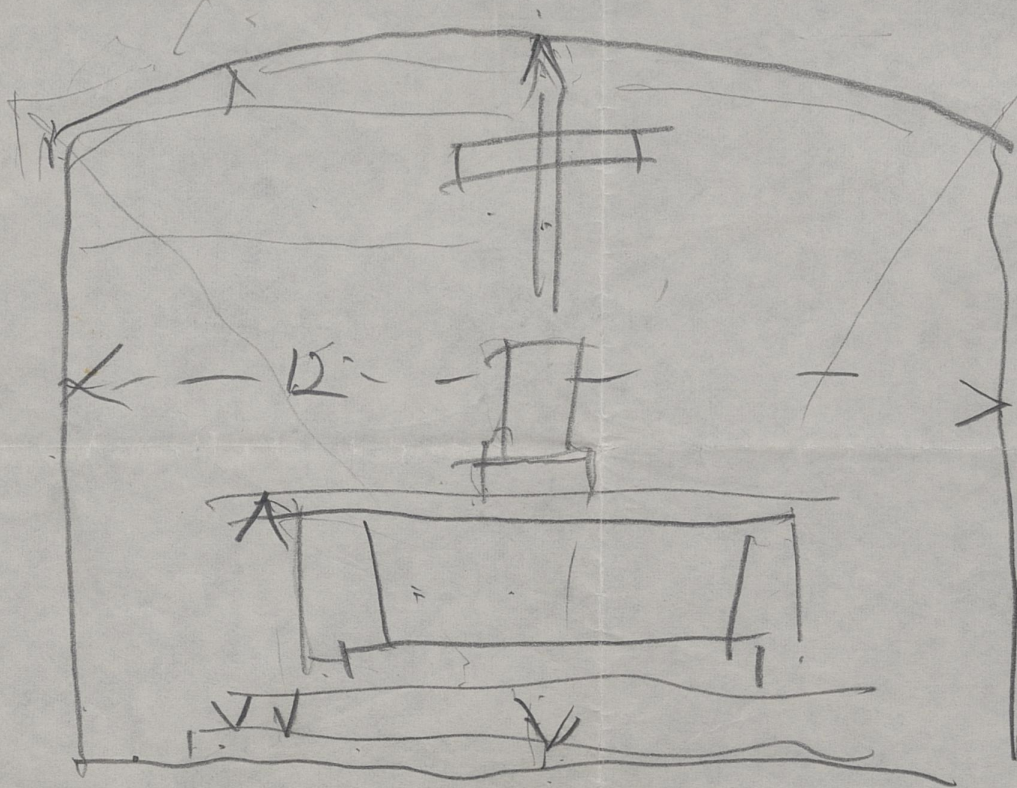
Height of altar - $3' \frac{7}{8}"$

Height of pedicella - $5\frac{1}{2}"$

" " altar step - $5\frac{1}{2}"$

Height from altar
top to main floor - $3' 11\frac{2}{8}"$

* Measurements are not exact



(2)
 Height of Chapel
 Width " "
 Height of altar (2)
 Length of altar

20 7

Handwritten notes or signature in the bottom right corner of the drawing.