January 3, 1973

Dear Sister Durea: - Just a few lines to wish you (and the Bookkeeper "Crew") a happy New Year.

My holidays were not very eventful, but restful - I personally enjoyed a non-white Christmas - no snow or slush to hinder the foot-steps.
A couple magazines and some clippings are in the mail this pm. By now I presume you are ready for the plunge into classes, etc., with all the students with faces shining & full of good resolutions!

Best to you and the "B.N. Club".

Cordially,

John L.
John L. Raymond
207 North Genesee
Waukegan, Illinois 60085

January 6th, 1973

Dear Sister Aurea:

Thank you for your letter, even tho' the news was not of a happy frame. Your brother has more than one person should bear of ill health. I hope and pray it will not be too painful or long-lasting.

My reply has been caused by a sinus infection and extremely heavy head cold which has kept me almost down and out. The last two weeks of January were miserable and some of the time I was a-bed — which I dislike. But she's been up and about. My apartment needs attention and my desk looks like a rats' nest (a two-legged rat) but the...
Slowly attacking the problem. There are quite a few people who have been ill as some of it may be the flu. Since being cooped-up I've been able to get a lot of reading done. Our fine weather has been ideal for my walks which I have welcomed happily.

The English (British) Magazine Encounter (pretty dull!) will reach you shortly—it is one of the one-of-a-kind if not each month a different magazine.

Greetings to the Babooks.

Cordially,

John L.
John L. Raymond
207 North Genesee
Waukegan, Illinois 60085

Easter evening
April 21, 1913.

Dear Sister Aurora: At long last the legged is taking up his pen. All your letters, cards, etc, were fully appreciated and I should be ashamed to allow myself to grow so lax. You have had a trial with the illness and passing of your brother for which sympathy and prayers. Cancer (the "Big C") is a frightful thing. The death of Dr. Chrysanthia, while expected, was very sad. It is almost 25 years (a quarter century!!) that I've known and enjoyed her keen mind and inspiring friendship. Her letters are still very much alive and worth the re-reading. Sister B. has had her sorrows also - do it
Dear to be in this Crazy World,

My "Apoll" began with a Chill (was at a funeral in Lake Forest) on January 4th — a few days later I had a real Cold & Sinus infection — Fever, Headaches, etc. — the so-called flu that is (or was) common. My additional problem was with my back — lumbar region that called for lots of bed rest — a fairly hard Mattress at. So, that is what happened to my first 3 ½ months of 1973. For the last week I've been much on the mend — out for dinner on Palm Sunday (first time since the New Year) and then today a wonderful New Year's celebration (at) excellent sermon the Church so filled. Not to attend the services. This is no reply to your last letter well wishes but your letter I know I'll still on the field of battle. As I catch up on my
3 letters, etc. I'll send some clippings — one thing I did while down was to get a lot of general reading done.

Thank you again for your kind words and prayers.

All Good Wishes to the Book-Hookers.

Always Cordially,

John L.

O.S. I'll "walk" this letter to the post office so it will get in the early morning outgoing mail.

JL.
May 28 - 1973

Memorial Day

Dear Sister Lurie: Just a short note to thank you for your greetings and well-wishes. In a larger envelope I'm sending some items that will tell you what I've been doing. This afternoon I'm invited to the country for a picnic,
Pupper on a & spread forch but the weather (very damp & foggy here) indicates that we may end up in a large old-fashioned kitchen — either way it "Can't Miss".

Good wishes to the Bookhookers — are there many still around & active? —

More from "John L."
June 5-1973

Dear Sister Mary:

The lazyone is here again. Slowly but surely, I'm getting caught up with lost time, if not lost horizons.

You can tell from the enclosed item what has kept me busy. Our tour of Rome was a decided success and worth all the attention and work entailed.

Yesterday, I finished reading a novel of the Civil War - "The War to End All Wars" by James A. M. Burns. In the Author's notes at the end of the volume, he stated that he had used data from "The Celebrated Case of Fugitive" by Otto Eisenschlim. That mother brought it close to home.
At the moment I'm raffling through Samuel Johnson—his friends and enemies by Peter Quennell—it is a
pleasure for people who were Johnson followers and is rewarding reading—"Windy" Boswell is kept rather in the
to background.
Recently I wanted a book on Victoria
Architecture by John Wass—it is very
New—it was not in the Waukegan
library but as we are a part of the
North Suburban Library Service it was
located out of the
library. It is a splendid service &
the local (10 c. small) loan period
is short naturally, but ample for
a normal reader.
June 6 — Time just
out of town away yesterday — So here
we are again. Our new pastor is
right on the ball — The choir has been
reorganized & has a trained director.
The improvement is outstanding, it is a
Mixed Choir and they are doing good music. Weekly practice is a must. One of our assistant pastors (Father Robert Fitzgerald) is being transferred to the Chaplaincy at St. Therese Hospital. He has been here almost ten years, I'm told, and is very well liked. His work with the school boys has been most successful. As this Immaculate Conception Parish is fairly conservative we do not expect a far out long haired flower child. One cannot hell these days.

Friends of mine in Lake Forest tell me that they are to have some funds with St. Joseph's Parish here in Waukegan. The Church of St. Mary (L.F.) is a very wealthy parish and the Archdiocese has asked for the help mentioned. St. Jos. here is a very poor parish — mainly Black and Mexicans. The Church and school
Are just struggling to keep head above water. I'm not sure how the plan works, but it has been done elsewhere.

This afternoon I was asked to see a garden belonging to one of the Hist. Societv members — it is a corner location & beautifully kept. The flowers were brilliant & she never seen such color in irises. She & her husband (all she lets him do is mow the lawn!!) have put in a lot of time on the project — flagged walks, English rock garden, etc. I was invited in for tea and home-made cake — but Mary a flower was offered — drat the woman!

A nice letter today from Mr. B. in it she mentions a friend of mine, of long standing, an O. S. F. (Brown Bee) who is celebrating a jubilee — was I told? — no — said
friend is due for a Citation lecture!!

Yesterday I turned on my air conditioner for the first time this season—it is great help in having clean air to "loan the lungs." Sister Mary Ann Bartels sent me a copy of the new program recently—it sounds like a challenge & also interesting.

The clipping (Letter to Editor) is a reflection of the confused situation at the local high school—they have been very permissive for a couple years and now they are reaping trouble & problems—drugs—beatings—teacher attacking—even getting fired in classrooms. A good old-fashioned strap (in the woods?) would halt a good bit of the madness.

This is enough for one spell and I have plenty on your eyesight.

Find regards to the Bookkeepers—

Most Cordially yours—

John L.
M-241—CATHEDRAL OF ST. PAUL AT NIGHT
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA
PHOTO BY GLENN E. SMITH

POST CARD

7-19-73
On a little

Juliet, Illinois

M. Aurea, O.S.F.

500 Wilcox Street

College of St. Francis,
Dear Sister Anna, all Book-keepers:—Thank you for all the prayer cards, notes & well wishes. They mean so very much to me. I feel very much at home here. I am hoping that God may let me go home in about a week. In anticipation tomorrow! All here have been wonderfully good to me—The Care goes around the clock, other than a slightly faulty walk I am doing well writing. On the way.

More tomorrow. Thanks.

More later. John B.

5th.
Nov. 9th.

Dear A. & C. + to A. B. et. al.:

How 2 days! Getting settled.

I seem to be mixed up on my dates. Even the work it feels good.

to me on my own.

The prayers from all of you did a great job.

This afternoon the Fitzgeralds
Are coming up to help "house clean" a wonderful offer of aid.

I'm hoping for warmer weather so I can get out in the open air for exercise. Nothing quite alike.

Thank you again to me.

The book list was on my desk - it must have been meant for C.S.F. A little letter in "foil" from (letter)

Sincerely, John L.
John L. Raymond  
207 North Genesee  
Waukegan, Illinois 60085  

November 30, 1973

Dear Sister Anne:—

Thank you for the kind greetings, cards and prayers. I forgot to thank you for the three copies and that elegant Presidents report — beautiful as a work of fine printing. The 3-year degree suits me, however, interesting — is it too early to know how it is turning out? I should plan to get over to CSF and have a look, of course won't be soon as I'm still on the respirator list and have improved a lot since I returned from nearly 6 weeks in bed. St. Theresa is a remarkable place and they give splendid service.  

While in hospital I missed out on the faint to horizon March to watch the Canadian team. It would have been our 3rd year to the refuge. Maybe next year? You can be sure I'm making good use of the library here. — However, din
disgusted with the 'Modern' novel. They are worse than the 'Modern' movie. It is rather interesting to return to good books for a change.

The Historical Society has moved into its new home - on Sheridan Road. One of our members drove me up earlier in the week (just to look in return home) and I found a crew of volunteers painting and fixing the old wall paper. Eventually, it will be quite attractive and allow us to use the room for exhibitions. We pay a dollar a year for the Park District Board. Already, we have our name board (between 2 posts) at the entrance to the drive leading to "our" athletic building - etc. The old trees are still in good shape - we feel very happy over the deal.

Today I’ve had a good walk in the fresh air - chirps + dry - went to the bank - then to the grocery store + the post office. Will the fuel crunch make itself felt at C. F.? How about students who use their own cars - gasoline?
Dear [Name],

We've just been through a series of large events - the stock market crash of 1929, the political corruption of Watergate, and now, the current state of affairs in politics again. Prices are out of control, public officials are greedy and crooked. I don't wonder that our young people think so of their elders. That's enough of 'reporting.' There is a waste of pure stitching and House breaking here.

In Zion, whatever is obtained from the citizens is to buy drugs. A special study is being made on the problem.

Take care of yourself and the good 'old library.'

Kind regards to those who know me.

Cordially yours,

[Signature]

John L.
Some pages are omitted from the digital version of this folder.

Learn more
John L. Raymond
207 North Genesee
Waukegan, Illinois 60085

December 12, 1973

Dear Dr. Amoss: Yesterday a large package arrived and it was two tubs of Cookies — (one of my failings are Cookies) — beautiful to look at & more "beautiful" to taste! Thank you. That was my first Christmas gift. Though making a decoration for my door — that is Christmas in Hispanic — flat that is 23' tall & 13' at the base — white with all manner of old costume jewelry glued on to give glitter & sparkle.

What do you think of Phinney College closing? It seems too phinney an institution to fade out. On the other hand the bankruptcy of Parhome College is true judgement from on high! And if this state continues to offer junior & county colleges I can see what a problem.
Created for private schools.
Being a bit bored with Modern
Novels I've returned to such things as
Lamb's Essays (Elia) and on Architecture
biography—a happy change for the
better.

Today is brilliant with sun-
even after a cold. And I'm being driven to
our new Historical Society location—just
for a short visit. I want to see how the
members are refurbishing it. Members are
coming along—quite enthusiastic about the old house.

We have a dedicated few who work (and
are working) like devils.

I've not gained much
weight, I am feeling stronger every day.
A get-out door endurance (walking) which
I find good. Of course, I cannot do
The 8-10, 17 miles per week which
Charles and Mary Lamb did when they lived in
a rural area. — You see. I just today
Completed a "re-read" of The Ordeal Of
Bridget Elia by Ernest C. Rose. — And but a
Sympathetic Study — Not New—1940— I'm
dare you have it at C. S. F. Library.

Another
Good book, just recently done again, is "The Long Loneliness" by Dorothy Day.

Christmas greetings in the form of cards are arriving in pleasant numbers. I do not feel up to sending the usual number, but I have sent a few notes.

You are more than busy— and I hope you (both of you) have a chance to relax a bit during vacation.

A nice card came from the former bookkeepers who live in the Cold Climate of Onamia, Minnesota.

Take care of yourself (helves) and don't take on the flu.

Every joyous wish—

Cordially yours,

John L.
Dear Sister Aurora: Thank you for Now One fellow bookworm is right up on top - a new recording artist no less! Not having a phonograph I've not read it, but shall take it to a spot where I may do so. The concert was very good - a baked chicken supper (private home) after. So you see I'm getting about a bit. More know here today - I feel it is up to my elbows! Weather being what it is I'm house bound cannot have my walk. I'm reading letters from C.S.F. Book Hookers - starting in 1950 - fascinating so pleasant to recall that era. I do hope you people can relax during vacation. Good wishes to all there - Cordially yours.

Dec. 19-1973

John L.
Some pages are omitted from the digital version of this folder.

Learn more
Season's Greetings

in health and joy.

John L. 1973