Palm Sunday, March 29, 1953

Dear Sister Elvira:

Thank you for the Interlude, with all its' information. I hope that the sick are well on the road to recovery.

The Cathedral Program for Holy Week will be of interest to those of you who know Chicago. The Solemn Rites today were most magnificent but a bit long for one who likes to move about. The music and chanting were exceptional.

The book described on the enclosed card will be on its way to you in a day or two. I know that you will all like it-especially the Art Department. Sometime after Easter I hope to get over in person with some additions to your collections. Just a few days ago I was able to get another item of the St. Dominic's Press, in paper, which is being hooked by this book worm, then will have some small repairs done to it and then to CSF.

I thought the Book Hookers might be interested in the enclosed letter from Foyles, London. It is one of the greatest book shops. I had written for the one remaining Mandrake Booklet we are short in the Raymond Collection. They surely save space in the Trans-Atlantic Mails with this tissue paper type of letter. I am still looking for the book, it is by Joseph Conrad and collectors of him would have early grabbed up copies. But we shall see.

Remember me in your Prayers of Holy Week.

Kind regards to all who like books.

Yours very sincerely,

John Raymond
April 21, 1953

Dear Sister Eleiria:

The book described on the enclosed card is on its way to C.S.F. as well as an item by Peploe of S. Dominick's Press. I'm sure the Book, Hookers & others!
will enjoy too. If some of your
worthy assistants will check the
Catalog on the enclosed yellow list
let me know which you can use, they
will be sent "pronto." The kind
regards to "all who like books-

Sincerely yours, John R.
June 6, 1953

Dear Sister Elvira:

The book described on the enclosed card will be on its way to you in a couple more days. It was rebound from necessity, had been loaned many times and owned by the donor since July of 1920.

The clipping of the Masefield Poem to Queen Elizabeth II is from the Chicago Sun-Times.

An interesting book for children will also be sent shortly, *Among The Leaves and Grasses* by Dorothy Waugh. You may have a copy, but a duplicate will not harm its' interest.

*Children’s Games Throughout The Year* by Leslie Daiken will please you I am sure, with some excellent illustrations. It will be certain to appeal to those of your people who are interested in games, music, and/or folklore!! It is also a first edition-1949-London.

*Designs To Music* by Margit Varro is a most unusual thing, I cannot say I quite grasp what it is all about, but enjoyed "trying" to do so. I am willing to leave final judgement up to your Department of Fine Arts.

Your letter of May 25th. was enjoyed. I am most grateful to Sister Hermia for the daily Rosary—the intentions are made and being "pressed upon Heaven" by this Book Hooker. Since my "Dick Whittington Days" I have liked cats so I was pleased that you looked into the Stout-Hearted Cat.

My kind regards to the members of the Book-Hooker Society and I hope to pop in soon to offer them personally.

Most sincerely yours,

John Raymond
This lady whom we crown was born
When buds were green upon the thorn
And earliest cotswells showed;
When still unseen by mortal eye
One cuckoo tolled his "Here am I,"
And over little glints of sky,
In rain-pools where the trickles flowed,
The small snipe clattered wing.
The swallows were upon the road,
Naught but the cherry-blossom snowed,

A Poet Hails
Queen Elizabeth II

By John Masefield
Britain's Poet Laureate

May love keep all her pathways green,
May sunlight bless her days;
May the fair spring of her beginning
Ripen to all things worth the winning,
The very surest of our praise
That mortal men attempt.
May this old land revive and be
Again a star set in the sea,
A kingdom fit for such as she
With glories yet undreamt.

The promise was on all fields sowed
On earth's beginning spring.
Now that we crown her as our Queen
July 16, 1953

Dear Sister Elvira:

Your card and note from Saint Norberts was sending double pleasure. I am glad that some Franciscan "Zip" is being spread about and especially where you are!!

The Shrine you mentioned having visited is becoming better known each year.

I am happy that the June books are "settled." My summer has been a bit trying, new work, wild weather, etc., but it is easing up a bit now and I feel that I am getting something done.

It was good to hear that the Book-Hookers are in Joliet and I do hope to pop in for a chat and mayhap with a book. Sr. Carmel is still in Wisconsin, I think, at least I have had no word from her.

Yesterday a truly beautiful book came my way and I am sure that your Art Department will make use of it--Emile-A Van Moes' The Decorated Letter from the 8th. to the 12th Century, Paris, Editions Du Chêne 1950. It is a first edition and the book is in mint state, but the dust wrapper is badly abused, however, that is not important, as it is a temporary protection while the book is being shown for sale. The illustrations are excellent and many are in fine color. The text has been translated into English and is most helpful. I shall send it to Joliet, as I am sure you will not want to be loaded down with extra baggage. Other items will follow at a later date.

This fall I shall look forward to hearing all about your experiences in Wisconsin. My kind regards to your fellow-faculty-Franciscan.

Yours very sincerely,

John Raymond
July 20, 1953

Dear Sister Lillian: — A book suitable for your Art Department is on its way today. Sister Elvina knows about it. I have written
her in her cool (we hope!).
Northern Retreat. My kind regards to the Book.
Hooker Society Members.
Yours sincerely, John R.