

Spring Villa

195 Springfield Rd.,

Belfast.

Sunday, Feast of Holy Family

January 10th '42

My darling Frank,

I heard two masses to-day for our joint intentions. The sermon at 12 was on the Holy Family at Nazareth and I prayed to our good God to bless our love, our marriage. May he not only be a guest - our most honoured - at our wedding feast but also throughout our life together.

On our family New Year calendar there is a saying for every day in 1943 & guess what is my 'saying' for the 20th. "They that sow in tears, shall reap in joy" So now darling, our cruel separation and still more cruel stoppage of letters is all part of a great suffering before a great joy. Mollie O'Hare came in last night to tell me of a wonderful dream she had of us both. We were the guests of Mrs Kelly (Fr Mick Kelly's mother). Mollie was there & she said while you were rather quiet but very happy, I was radiant with joy and happiness. This is what your homecoming shall mean to me.

I saw in last week's paper where Stephen Campbell (R.A.M.C. - Malaya) is now a prisoner of war. News is beginning to trickle through unofficially, but alas there is still no complete list published. What are you all doing about it over there? Just think it is almost 12 months since your last letter. Still what do letters mean when you are safe and well. This war cannot go on for ever & then there will be happiness

untold for us both. If you are in Korea, have you met
Miss Cusack's (Omagh) brother Fr Tom Cusack of the Maynooth
mission to China? Have you visited any other Little Sisters
Convents? They are all over the East.

To-morrow, Monday, I commence work in Belfast as
a temporary civil servant. Everyone thinks the change of
occupation & being at home will do me a world of good. You
must know so well darling how worried & anxious I have
been all these months but somehow though still without
news I am beginning to feel my old self again. I have
promised never to hide anything from you & I never shall.
With all my faults & failings you shall know ~~me~~
This does not mean that I shall never return to Omagh. They
want me back but I shall see how I like the new work.

Philip is back living at Buckwood and your father
is overjoyed. I am going over for tea this afternoon to tell
them all my news. Anne returns to Dublin on Wednesday.
She will be a wonderful housekeeper when this course is
finished in June.

Jo, Mairead & I were at a wonderful party in O'Hara's
on Wednesday last. There were 23 guests including 7 priests
Fr's Cleary, Madden, McEnery, McPhillips, Murphy, Burke (Kerry)
and Canon Small. It was more a musical evening than
anything else. On Thursday I was at de Neulemeester's and
on Friday at another party so life is not too dull at the
moment.

Your beautiful ring is still twinkling up at me. I love
it as I love its donor - with all my heart and self
God bless you; my darling Frank,
Your loving Eileen.