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THE CREIGHTON UNIVERSITY

68131 OMAHA, NEBRASKA 68131

15 January 66

Dear John:

Your last beautiful letter has touched & warmed my heart as no other letter received has ever done. Of course I not only feel but know my unworthiness of the sentiments expressed & the regard you have for a wretched sinner & unworthy priest. But this constitutes my claim on your friendship whose charity always seeks out, like the charity of Christ the unfortunate, the sick the suffering & the abused & mistreated, especially the sinner. Surely you went farther than anyone else has ever gone in showing your love, & growing it, by becoming one of the most horribly mistreated & crucified group of human beings on the America scene. God love & reward you for it, as He surely has & will! I know of only one Person who has surpassed you & all of us & That Person is Christ, our Lord & Savior of only more could catch His Spirit of total self - sacrifice for the love of His Heavenly Father, dwelling personally, along with His Divine Son, & Holy Spirit, in every human being, at least potentially! Trying to do this during my declining years constitute my present joy & happiness. There is nothing else worth home for, for the very simple

reason that this prompt's everything else.

Since leaving the hospital about two weeks ago. I have been unable to offer the Holy Sacrifice & have been excused from reciting the Divine Office, all under obedience. So I pass my time in prayer, reading + keeping the poor Negroes who seek me out at Creighton, using also the phone & mail for the same purpose. I have just finished a remarkable book, The Power & the Wisdom by Dr John L. McKensie S.J., dealing with the New Testament & am now working on companion piece The Two Edged Sword, by the same author & treating of the Old Testament. It is wonderful reading

An Monday, Feb. 7th, I am expecting two of my brothers, James & Francis, to drive through Omaha on their way to St. Louis for a final reunion of what is left of the immediate family. In suite of my handicapped condition I have been granted permission to ride along with them to meet my Jesuit brother, Fr. William, & my only two sisters Nuns of the Visitation Order, in St. Louis. This will no doubt will be our last family reunion.

It falls on the 80th birthday of my oldest sister, Sister Anne Marie, who is far from well

My letters call for no reply, John. A few Paters & aves will more than suffice. I keep you & the Family continually in my prayers & sacrifices, along with the Cause we are both so interested in a  
Devotedly in Christ

Father