

ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH

1621 DILWORTH ROAD, EAST  
CHARLOTTE 3. N. C.

February 28, 1957

Right Reverend Lawrence J. Riley S.T.D.  
Archbishop's Residence  
Lake Street  
Brighton, 35, Massachusetts

Dear Monsignor Riley:-

May I take the occasion of this letter to express my sincere sympathies to you. Evidently, it was a sudden death which called your father to the life for which we are yet longing. Tomorrow morning, First Friday, I will offer my Mass that God will hasten your father's journey to the Blessed and Holy Presence of God, the happiness of which not even saint or inspired theologian can possibly describe to us. May he rest in God's peace!

But, a word about myself. I have arrived, thank God, safe and sound. As yet, I have not met Bishop Waters, but, expect that I will meet him with this evening or tomorrow.

I have been assigned to Saint Patrick's Church in the City of Charlotte. It is one of the largest and most flourishing parishes in the Diocese. I trust that my assignment here is temporary and designed to accustom me to the Diocese. It is the same as any one of our own medium size Parishes, with a Pastor whose reputation is high among both clergy and people. He is an exemplary priest.

Charlotte has been rightly called the City of Churches. It has more Church per thousand than any other city in the world save Edinburgh, Scotland. One for almost every corner, and, all beautiful. While Saint Patrick's here is the largest and most beautiful of Catholic Churches, it is not comparable to most of the other Church buildings.

I will keep you posted as to our activity. May I ask that you change my address at Chancery, so that I might receive my Boston mail! My promise as to Mass tomorrow morning, I will keep. May God bless you, Monsignor, and, please, an occasional prayer!

Sincerely, yours in (the) Lord,

JOHNSON-2 032