

Goldbach Decorating Service Inc.

350 W. ORANGE ST. — 349 W. GRANT ST.
LANCASTER, PA. 17603

Thursday April 29, 1976

Dear Bernie:

Your card mailed in Chicago and telling about your trip to New York, arrived yesterday and I do appreciate it very much. I think the next time Aunt Tee and I go to New York, we will contact you for Hotel reservations and meals. What a bargain you got. What play did you see? Last time we were there we saw Debbie Reynolds in "Irene". She is so petite, but so full of energy, you wonder where it all comes from. I was wondering how long you were in New York. I'll never forget the time Grandpa and I took you to New York with us. We were standing outside of St. Patrick's Cathedral, you looked up at the very high building and said "Grandpa why are those windows so tiny at the top."

Your Dad and Mother took me to St. Philip's Monday evening to see Pat confirmed. There were well over a hundred in the class, all were gowned in robes and the girls wore a little red "skull" cap. Bishop Daley conferred the sacrament assisted by Fathers Homola, Keeley, Overbaugh, Gotwalt and Mgr. McGovern. A colored band from Geo. Washington School played during the mass, while the congregation sang some "swinging songs". Your parents and myself however, would have preferred some of the "old time religion hymns", but they didn't consult us. I wanted to take Pat and Mother and Dad out for something to eat afterwards but we all were so cold, we could only think of getting home and getting warm, since the temperature was in the 30's. This had been quite a shock as the temperature on Easter Sunday was 94 deg. It has been quite cool all week but weatherman says it will get warmer tomorrow.

The tulips, lilacs, hyacinths are over but lily of the valley are blooming. The Gardner estate on Millersville Pike is aglow with flaming red and pink azaleas. I have never seen more beautiful dogwood and a lot of trees have been replaced on N. West End Ave. It has been a gorgeous spring in spite of the changing temperature.

I have become almost a full time bird watcher. A pair of cardinals have a nest in a holly tree in back of the shed in our yard and now have a family of young ones. Last evening the parent birds were making so much noise, you could tell they were terrified. I couldn't stand it any longer so went out in the yard and there was the "villian", a big, ugly cat, just sitting and waiting and watching where the birds were nesting. Well with the aid of a long hoise, I got rid of him fast.

Saturday May 1st. Kevin is to receive his First Communion and May 8th, will be Jimmy Kipphorns big day. At present Kevin is talking about skipping the reception in the parish hall, to marching with the Cub Scouts in the Loyalty Day parade. This is the first in many years that a parade will pass here. Too bad Aunt Tee won't be here to see it, for she loves parades. However she has to go to some conference in Pottsville that day, but will come home next weekend. It is so wonderful that she can come so often, it means so very much to me, to have her here.

Your Dad brought papers and magazines in for me to read, that you sent home. I've been enjoying them and I like the picture of you. How do you rate getting your picture in next to Major Vasquez? Do this mean you might be going to South America sometime in the future. Well if you do, we have a job for you. Locating cibotium ferns and palms. Your Dad had me send a letter to Chet and Nettie and see if they could locate any in Arizona. I believe the plants are native of Mexico.

Tiny had Aunt Tee and I for dinner on Easter and Peggy was home, you should see how tall she is, I think she grew a lot since she was home the last time. She will be getting home this week for summer vacation. I can hardly believe she has a year in college. She is trying to get a summer job in Lancaster, she could have had one in Bloomsburg over the summer, but I don't blame her for wanting to come home.

~~I had a letter from David about two weeks ago, he seems to be making out OK.~~

I keep you, Gregory and David in my daily prayers and I hope you pray for Grandpa and me.

I guess by this time you are deep in tests and looking forward to the nice things about graduation. Will you be going to the dance and who is the lucky girl. By the way, I haven't heard a thing about a girl, but I am sure there must be at least a couple that would love to go with you. Well just so you pick a nice one, for you are deserving the best. And remember "Friends, books, a cheefful heart, and conscience clear, are the most choice companions we have here"

Your Dad has been working so hard, wish I could make it easier for him. But no matter how hard he works, he never complains. He and Jerry were working at "Wheatland", Buchanan's home today, for a party to be held there tonight.

The item about Bob Finger was in tonight's paper.

Bishop Daley ordained six priests recently, one Father Nguyen Van Hoa thought to be the first Vietnamese ordained in the United States, he had studied in North Vietnam. Another was Father Brian Conrad, a brother of Sister Ann Patrick, who lives in the same house as Aunt Tee. Father Conrad had been stationed at Sacred Heart while he was a deacon.

~~I've been invited to Father Fregapane's 25th. anniversary mass in York on May 23, followed by a dinner in the Yorktown Hotel. He has been a friend of the family for some years and was so good to Grandpa and me and was also the spiritual advisor when we were in the Legion of Mary.~~

Well Bernie I did not expect to ramble on like this and take up your time reading this long epistle, but I just felt like talking to you, it seems like such a long time, since I saw you, and I thought of you as we were eating dinner today, we had "sukiyaki".

I'm so sorry I can't be with you on your big day, but I want you to know you have my love and I'll be right there beside you on your day, only it will be in spirit- all the way. Your Dad made a schedule of all the activities going on that week and I'll be right there when you get that diploma. We all are very proud of you and wish you many, many, many years of good health and happiness. (And when that other BIG DAY comes, I hope I will be on hand to see the one and only girl) So I'll expect an invitation, but I hope she will not live so far away for I'm getting on in years now you know, and I'm scared of planes, but could you make it nearby) That is just between you and I.

I'll bet you are saying, what is the matter with that woman.

Much, much love and congratulations, Nana

Nana