

23th trip to
Rome - 4/21/66

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The 27th trip to Rome

Joseph C. Fenton,
S.T.D., P.A.
Rome 9/24/60

The 25th trip
to Rome

The 26th trip to
Rome

[No readable handwritten text.]

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Hotel Michelangelo - Rome

501 11:25 A.M.

Early this spring I received an invitation to a theological congress, devoted to the subject "The Theology of the Council," to be held at Rome Sept. 26 - Oct. 1. After a delay of several weeks I accepted. I was given my tessera and badge and told that the gathering is to be held in the Cancelleria. I hope to be there Monday morning.

I left Bradley at 1:10

P.M., after having been driven along by Father Bob Thornton. The Alitalia man met me at the American Airlines terminal at Kennedy, and drove me to the Alitalia

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station. The plane, due to start at 6 P.M., was delayed an hour. The seat was far too small, and it was almost up against the seat in front of it. Altogether I spent one of the most uncomfortable nights in my life.

Father McNally met me at the airport and drove me to the Michelangelo. There, after cleaning up, I walked for a see Cardinal Ottaviani. He is very melancholy. I am going to dine with him at 6:15 PM today.

Then I saw Msgr. De Bonis. He came down to meet me at St. Jerome's gate. An hour later we dined together at Salvini's. We are to dine together at 7:30

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tonight.

In the old Holy Office I
met many friends. I hope
to see Pernos before I go.
The current Borghese
carries a story about a
prayer alleged to have been
written by Pope John shortly
before he died. The prayer was
made public by poor nuns
of Chicago.

I saw Ottaviani in St. Peter's
square.
The same day - 4:12 P.M.
I am going out for a walk.
This morning I saw Msgr. Romeo.
He is completely discouraged.
He showed me Lefevre's substitute
for the Oath against the Modernists.
It is asinine.

At 1:15 I went to the
Cardinal's appointment for

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lunch. [Coggogne] was there. He has wangled the job as officialis in Brooklyn, and so will be leaving Rome. He is a very ambitious man, in whom ambition has smothered anything like an intellect.

9:30 PM. Room 505 - Last night I went to the Casale with De Bonis for a wonderful meal. I returned here and met Wilfrid Craugh, who is going to the mule scene tomorrow.

This morning I said Mass at St. Peter's at the altar of Saint Simon Jude, where I said Mass the morning of my glorious ordination in 1931. In the bus of St. Peter's, after Mass, I met Shell, who is here dressed in black and

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wearing a Roman collar. He is a [officialis] here. He will never go to the seminary. He talks mostly of building a church near this hotel. On the way out I met Gelbo. He is very well indeed. I also met a couple of others whom I recognized as old students of mine, but whose names I have forgotten.

This afternoon [McCatt] called. He is a Salesian, and he has some influence in Montini. He told me that O. has written some articles, entirely covering his old position. It must have been under pressure from Montini.

I had supper here at the Michelangelo (downstairs) and then I came up here for the night

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I forgot to say that yesterday afternoon I walked down to Trastevere to see the McMurrags. They called tonight to ask me to lunch. Of course I do not know yet how things will go at the Domus Pacis.

9/26/66 - 11:05 PM - Room 505

This morning I said Mass at St. Peter's at the altar of St. Simon Jude, or rather, St. Josephat. I came back here after breakfast at the bar in St. Peter's, and met Craugh. We went to St. Peter's square and got the bus for the Domus Pacis. I met Selysert, Salaverri, Thils, and many others. We were given schedules, and heard some speeches.

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I returned here and slept most of the afternoon. I had dinner here tonight. The McMurrags called, and I shall, with God's help, lunch with them tomorrow. There are too many people at the meeting.

9/29/66 - 3 PM

The day before yesterday I said Mass at [Stanislaus's] altar in St. Peter's. Then I went out to the congress. I bought a couple of pictures. The papers are not at all interesting and the public address system is not used properly.

I lunched with the Mc Murrags. Then I came back here and rested. I ate

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downstairs.

Yesterday I was held
up for half an hour before I
could say Mass. A little old
man with a long beard served
my Mass at St. Josephat's
altar. I would have been
late if the bus itself had
not been behind time. I
listened to one speech (Mansi
S.J.) and came back here. I
ate at the little tavern nearby
on the Aurelia.

In the afternoon I went
to Cirillo to buy a new cord
for my pectoral cross and to
[brew Shilleyps]. I stopped by
to see O. I also bought some
of the tome [Stano]. Then -
[Birey] - that did me so
much good the last time
I was here.

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I have written two letters to Bob. I shall write another one immediately, and also letters to Ed Walsh, Ray, & George Higgins.

10/2/66 - 11PM - Room 505

This is my last night in Rome for my 25th visit.

On Friday I went out to the Domus Pacis and heard a paper on theological terminology.

I am reading Van Roo's book on this subject right now, and the paper was not as good.

At night I ate at the little tavern near here.

The next day, (the 1st of October, we had our Papal Audience. After a concelebrated Mass, we walked up the Scala Regia to the Hall of Benediction.

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Most of the fellows struggled to get to the front. Lattanzi and I took back seats. On the way out the Pope, surrounded by his Swiss guards, his chamberlains, and the photographer, saw me, and stopped the procession, and walked over to talk with me personally. I shall never forget this.

I was told later (after all three stated) to go to the afternoon session. They passed some resolutions. I hope to speak of this when I return.

That night I dined with De Bonis. [Masson. Le Bonis was the night fellow.]

Slowly Oct 2 was a good day. Again I said Mass at St. Peter's. Masson called me up again. Thiel also called me up. De Bonis

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wanted to take me out but I had already agreed to go with the others. Thiel is pitiful. He talks very loudly, and I was terribly tired after the affair.

Monday Oct 3 I went to Coletti's for my book by Vancour and bought my stuff at Curia. Then I changed my money with De Bonis at the Vatican Bank. At 1:30 PM I went out to eat with Romeo. I rested in the afternoon; then packed, and here I am.

Oct. 5, 1966 - Room 22 - Hotel Queen Anne, Adam County? London? I relate - 10:40 PM. On the 4th I drove out to the airport with Jimmy O'Connell. It was fine. Then an Alitalia flight to London. There was

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a long wait and a lot of confusion. Then a very pleasant BEA flight to Dublin. I put room 330 in the Gresham. I slept over 10 hours. I decided to leave this afternoon for Shannon and I feel much better. I flew down at 3:20, actually 4:10, and then drove one of Dan Ryan's car (about \$7.00 day) to [himself]. It was raining so hard I slept here at Lahinch. This is one of the most delightful places I have ever been. May take off for Dungarvan tomorrow.

Monday, Oct. 10, 1966 - Room 213 Skryne International Hotel, Shannon, Ireland - 8:30 PM.
This is the last night in Europe of my 25th

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visit to Rome. I left
Cedar Crest, Media, this
morning of Thursday, the 6th,
after receiving a room for
tonight at the Corinium Club.
It is the most pleasant hotel
I have ever visited.

I drove through Killarney
and stopped at the Lake Hotel.
I also did not forget the run
from the Cathedral there.
I had room 31 that night,
and it was quite rainy.

The morning of the 7th
I drove to Muckross House,
the house on the national
park donated to Ireland by
the Americans, Mr. & Mrs.
Bourn. The house was
quite interesting and the park
was delightful.

Then I set off on the

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away to Kenmare for the "Ring of Kerry." The ride was glorious. It tired me out so much that I resolved to drive back to Shannon the next day and get up at the hotel. I had room 113 the night of the 7th.

The next morning I drove back here. On the way back I stopped at Adare and cancelled my reservation noted for a couple of hours, and had lunch.

Back here I turned in the car, and have enjoyed myself immensely the past couple of days. I hope, with the help of God, to take off from here at 4:50 tomorrow afternoon, and to be in Chicago till before

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midnight.

Here I have been saying
Mass in the little private
chapel in the airport building.

The 26th Trip to
Rome

Bob Thornton brought me
to Bradley airport the afternoon
of Oct. 4. I flew by American
to Kennedy, and there walked
across the field to [Sinquario].
On the plane to Zurich I was with
a Swiss hospital official and his
wife. They were pleasant.
There was a long wait at Zurich.
We flew to Rome in a DC9, and
it was a pleasant ride. I
met Alfredo at the airport and
he drove me to the Hilton.
I stayed there until Monday
and then moved to the Michelangelo,

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which was much more pleasant.
In Rome I had lunch with
the Cardinal, went out with
him to Frascati, and paid a
farewell visit. I ate out with
George Higgins, with Romeo
(twice), with De Bonis and
twice with Pat Riley. I
saw almost everybody.

I bought and read several books.
I was disappointed in Etudes sur
l'Evangile by Leon-Dufour.
I had a fine visit with McCarthy,
read a letter of Father de
Nantes. I had a good visit
with Schauf's, Gannon,
and with Morella.

I am writing this the evening of
the 20th in the Bethlehem Hotel
at Lourdes

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The 27th

This is the morning of
Oct. 8, 1968. It is 10:05
and I am in the Michelangelo
in Room 406.

Ed [Donal] drove me down
from Chicopee Falls to Bradley
at 2:45 the afternoon of
Monday the 7th. I stopped
the American flight at 4
and landed at Kennedy. The
Pan-Am man picked me up at
the American terminal. I
was booked on a flight (110)
starting at 6:30 PM, for
Rome.

In the Pan-Am building
I met John Grannis.
I had a good seat going
over. I could stretch my
legs. Nevertheless, as usual,
I did not get any sleep at all.

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In the morning Alfredo met me at Fiumicino. I made arrangements to see O at 5, but these fell through. I called on De Bonis and Pinto, and had lunch with Romero.

10/10/68

11:30

PM

The old boy was in his usual humor. I am convinced that he is a saint, but a saint with very definite opinions.

Afterward I came back to the hotel. [Daman] called and we groused (I think) for [Fribgo]. I slept for more than 12 hours. This morning I saw Ottaviani. I meant go to his house for dinner tomorrow. De Bonis called to say he would be late tonight. Romeo called to say that he could not make it until Saturday. I shall meet him here at 1:30 in the afternoon.

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I bought a copy of "Diabol
saura la foi," and I read it
during the day. It has to good
points. I must admit that I
am always disgusted by the
substitution of the Eastern
Orthodox.

Tonight supper at the [Ciao]
with De Bonis. It was not
pleasant. I met McManus
who was coming out of
Sabatini's. He is, as always,
brilliant and dirty.

1/22/68

10 AM

Rome - Well, since last writing, I
have seen and talked with the Pope,
suffered, and at least pretty second
from a massive heart attack. This
one was a roaring thrombosis.

8:05 PM. The same day.

It is becoming very difficult
to write in bed, and the

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resulting chirography looks like nothing in the world. In the future, with the help of God, I shall do my writing at this table.

During the days after Oct 10 I saw Romeo again, and Hayden, like myself, one ex C.U. prof., and others I cannot remember. I had dinner with Gannon & Hayden at the Via Sabinia.

On either Saturday or Sunday I went out to Frascati. O wanted me to meet some Americans. There were four of them, McCabe, a theater of C.U., [Bone Sullivan] (H27), and their wives. We dined at a very pleasant place in Frascati and then went to the Oasi for the inane entertainment by the inscritti.

On the fourteenth I was

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terribly tired. I was cheered up by the fact that De Bonis, the best of my Roman friends after O himself, had obtained a semi-private audience for me on the 16th.

On the 15th I stayed in bed all day. Around noontime I had a kind of pain in my chest, and something had burst. I was glad to slumped to realize that this was a genuine heart attack.

On the 16th I had the audience like a fool. I climbed the scala regia. The Pope was extremely kind to me. He said over and over again: "This man is my friend." He told those around him to give me anything I wanted. He spoke of our friendship as going back 30 years. Actually it dates back to 1948.

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De Bonis drove me back to the hotel. I remained there, not going out to eat.

On the 17th I felt even worse. Towards evening I began to suspect the seriousness of my condition. I called Jack Gannon and told him to drop whatever he was doing and come over and put me in the hospital. We landed at Salvator Mundi about 6. I left my good reading glasses in the taxi. Naturally the fellow never returned them.

Once in the hospital I was put in a room with 3 other men. I was given oxygen. The morning of the 18th I was wheeled into this room. I have been here ever since.

O has been here to see me several times. So has De Bonis

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Worcester, John Gannon, Marie McIntosh came in. The McMurrags have been wonderful. So has Pat Riley in "O'Neil," who, by the way, is sick himself right now.

Nov. 23, 1968 - 5 PM - The same place
Here it is Saturday night again.
With God's help, a week from tomorrow morning I should be taking off. I am looking forward to the sleep.

Today the old doctor, Matelli, came in early. He said I could say Mass sitting down tomorrow morning. The chaplain said he would give me an hour later in the day.

I wrote letters to Schroeder, Gallin, Sheedy, & Hamilton.
I wrote to Hamber three or four weeks ago, but I have heard

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nothing. I hope he is all right.
I have just about made up
my mind to start a new book.
I shall write on the notion of
the Church. Nothing like this
has appeared since the Council.

Within the book I hope to
have quite a bit to say about the
Council. I must be very careful.
If a sincere Catholic writes a
book it is either ignored or brutally
attacked. I must make no mistakes.

My main thesis will have to
be that the Catholic theology on
the Church has been informed, but
in no way changed by the Council.
I must start with the basic
notion of the Church, which is
that of a people "transferred" from
the kingdom of darkness into
the realm of light. The
Council left out the background

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of the Church. It minimized or glossed over the fact that the Church faces opposition, not just from hostile individuals, but from the world.

Back of this is the notion of salvation itself, the notion of original sin, and that of redemption.

I must try to bring out the completeness of all these notions, especially the basic one of salvation. This can be taken as something individual, the removal of a person from the state of original or mortal sin, which is the genus of the life of grace. Or it can be taken in a social sense, the transfer of a man from the kingdom of the prince of this world into that of the Savior Himself

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Sunday, Nov 24, 1968. 4:20 PM.
Thank God, this morning I said
Mass. It is a wonderful thing to be
a priest.

De Bonis was in today. One
of his associates in the Vatican
bank is in terrible bad condition,
and De Bonis was with him until
3 AM. He is a wonderful friend.

I am still very much
interested in the idea of a book
on the Church in the light of 2 Vat.
It would be good if I could save
souls.

The book must be ambitious.
It must be or at least contain
genuine advancement of reason. This
is quite possible within the
realm of scholastic theology.

- The first class writing room
of the Femanda de Vino.
7/27/69

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Continuation of above -

On Oct. 16 I saw Pope Paul. The audience was arranged by De Bonis. For at least 4 days previously I had not been feeling well at all. On the 15th I had a pain in my chest, and I thought that it was some form of heart trouble.

On the 16th I took a cab to St. Peter's and walked up the royal staircase. I saw the Pope. He was most kind. He greeted me loudly as his old friend of "venti anni fa," and insisted that I be given whatever I wanted.

I was not feeling well in the garden afterwards. Finally [Bona] wanted me to go to the Vatican infirmary and De Bonis drove me back to the hotel.

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The following evening I was so sick that I telephoned Gannon at the Beda. [Berty] had told him to come right over to bring me to the hospital. It was at the Michelangelo in 10 minutes. We drove to the Salvator Mundi (leaving my new glasses in the cab) and I was brought in immediately. The [later strange] told me that, judging his years of practice, he had never seen only one EKG [bad] as mine.

I stayed there until Dec. 5 when I tried first on the De Vino. O and De Bonis and dozens of others visited me very frequently.

Bob met me at the pier. He drove me home by way of [Lasagna]. Ed Hamel

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had come down to see me.

On Dec. 31 I had another attack. I was in Mercy in Springfield until Jan. 8.

On Feb. 17 my [clunca] came to take or fetch me in the house. Previously I had been visited by De Bonis and the [sturch] dogs coming from the [hosp.]. I paid for the passage of [Jobel] O'Donnell had arranged with O's Vini.

On Feb. 26 I had another attack and was in my room for 36 hours. I and had to give the [thrones] a chance to clean up the room. I have not gone in without the [Proso dei] since then. The past week until a church the last of the semester [tripped].

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A couple of weeks ago I was expecting to see [Schad] about the school. He gave no answer then, but Walt called last week to say he was in [peril]. On this [was to dry] in the train I saw the National [goss], that community that, through financial racial militants have been confused to filthiness.

It is very obvious that C has applauded the action of my clerical assistant.

Thoughts for writing

- 1) "at last all men"
- 2) [Reforming] the Centi - [Mattering] Centi.
- 3) Once the historic can

judge having as [standing]
by a sentence in the field
of theology.

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