



The Church of Jesus
Manuel Ferrando
✠ Bishop ✠

Box 7.
Mountain Lakes, N. J.
Sept. 19, 1923.

Rt. Rev. C. B. Colmore
San Juan, Porto Rico -

My dear Bishop Colmore -

On our return from taking
Edith up to Connecticut College, where we left her
as cheerful and contented as we could expect - we
found your good letter of the 13th awaiting us.

I hope you have received my two last letters in-
forming you of the result of my interview with
Dr. Wood, and I earnestly hope that you see your
way clear to come north as soon as possible so
that we may arrange everything together before the
meeting of the National Council.

As I think we may have to have some consul-
tations before putting things on paper, I hope you
will allow some days for this purpose - So I shall
be expecting you - by the end of this month or
the 1st of October - if possible -

We ought I think to confer with Bishop Taylor, Dr. Wood and Dr. Grey, before the Council meets - and to ascertain exactly what proposals the Board would be willing to accept without difficulty.

There is no one, as you know, who has any claim on the property, but ourselves, and we should consider it most unfortunate, not to say disgraceful, to allow any consideration as to the property to stand in the way of what we feel to be for the advancement of the work of the Kingdom of God.

You say that you could take over the Clergy and the Church at once, but that would not provide for myself.

That would imply that should I not be in the way everything would be perfectly easy.

This thought, of course, is very painful to me, and I have considered more than once whether I should resign my position and leave it entirely to the Church of Jesus to decide as to their incorporation in the Episcopal Church and the arrangement of all details with you. This I cannot feel I ought to do, however, for reasons of conscience -

In the first place it would imply my resignation from the ministry to which I have consecrated my life. My present state of health would not warrant this and I do not find any other conscientious justification for it. Secondly, for nearly twenty-five years.

Mr. Ferrando and myself have given ourselves and everything we possessed to the work, without any remuneration, and with great personal sacrifice. To give up everything would mean that we have to look for our support, (as we have nothing in reserve) to the charity of friends, or to a ^{teaching or} business position of some kind -

The first I could not accept without giving its equivalent in Missionary work - It would seem strange to begin somewhere else, relinquishing our life-work - The second would not only be difficult at my age to obtain, but is entirely foreign to my vocation and temperament.

Besides, you know, after having received the Supplemental Consecration and gone so far as we have gone, that would never tend toward the benefit of the Church.

As stated in my last letter, the only way that things would work out automatically in conformity with Canon and practice - is that I become Bishop Coadjutor, unless or until, the Church feels that my services are required elsewhere -

The only difficulty that I can see in this is that the Board might find it entails a little more expense. But if we are consistent in our belief that we are doing God's will, I do not see why we should not completely trust His providence.

My sincere feeling in the matter is this: The steps that I have taken have been guided by a purely altruistic motive, and an earnest seeking

after the fulfilment of the Divine will. When I saw what wise and saintly men were selected to form the Committee for the consideration of the question before us, I had no doubt that God's purpose was to bring it to a satisfactory settlement. As you will agree with me, everything was done in a way even better than we could wish or expect.

At present it seems to me that the whole difficulty lies in the business standpoint. But I have the same confidence in the men most concerned, and I know that God will inspire them as to the means to solve the problem in the most conscientious and effective way. For my part I am more than ready to help in every way possible.

I have no doubt as to the outcome, and feel sure that everything will be for the best; and I cannot see any reason for delay that would not be detrimental in every way.

So it should be now, and I hope and pray that very soon we shall again be able to give ourselves wholly to the service of the Church relieved of any anxiety whatsoever.

You may count upon me as to taking charge of the Church in Toron, or whatever other work you may desire me to do.

With warmest greetings and good wishes to you and Mrs. Colmore - in which Mrs. Ferrando joins -

As ever - Faithfully.

Manuel Ferrando