

15 DEC 1980

The Reverend Dr. Herbert J. Ryan, S.J.
 Jesuit Community
 P.O. Box 45041
 Loyola Marymount University
 Los Angeles, California 90045
 Tel. 213-642-3170

December 8, 1980

My dear Christopher,

Pb;

Have a Blessed and Beautiful Christmas. I am sorry that I will not be with you at Liverpool. Please remember me to everyone.

When I got back home from Venice I had a good talk with our Archbishop here, Cardinal Manning. He has been very supportive of ARC and ARCIC. The Cardinal read our recent Venice Statement with great care. He asked that ARCIC write a strong conclusion for the infallibility section. The Cardinal's reading of our U.S. bishops is usually excellent. He predicts that our documents will be accepted by the U.S. R.C. bishops more on this one point than any other, though he believes the primacy is theologically more important and that we have handled that more difficult question quite well. The Cardinal suggests that for the Koinonia paper the Commission (or the drafter) should use Karol Wojtyla, Source of Renewal The Implementation of Vatican II. Harper + Row, San Francisco + London, 1980, especially pages 133-188 where the Pope elaborates his ideas on Communio, the link uniting the Church as People of God and Koinonia and Diakonia: the hierarchical order of the Church as well as "The historical and eucharistological consciousness of the Church as the People of God".

I then contacted my dear friend and fellow member of

ARC-USA Monseigneur John Fortman. I asked John to comment on the recent Venice draft statement and to keep the matter strictly confidential. I am enclosing John's comments. John and I did our graduate studies together at the Gregorian and until last year when he became pastor at Coronado Island he was Chairman of the Theology Department at the University of San Diego. John Fortman's reactions are usually typical of our mainstream R.C. theologians in the U.S.A. and I hope ARCIC will study the reaction seriously.

My colleague Father Willie Egan, S.J. has taken as much chemo therapy and radiology as he can tolerate. I do not think that he will recover. Henry Chadwick met Willie when Henry was visiting here and do have him keep Willie in his prayers. It has been a very, very difficult semester.

In Christo Amenio.
Herb. S.J.