

15 February 1978

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CONEYSTHORPE
YORK
YO6 7DD

Coneythorpe 264

Dear Christopher,

I send you some stuff, but first may I ask something immediate. I don't have details/places of services (or means of finding out) for that Sunday (26 Feb) that I am in Paris. My American hostess (who has meanwhile departed for USA, leaving me her house) may have friends with friends to take to American Episcopal Church, but have you or could you ask ^{of} Fulham's Office to send me the list of services, names/tel: nos: of Chaplains (inc: Amer: Episc:) ^{to whom I could} write, to enquire details when I get there.

I am going to London (c/o Shilling, 2125 Markhouse Road, E.17 SEP: Tel: 556-4105) on Thurs: evening, 23 Feb & take the 11am plane on the Friday. (After all, I could have gone Silver Arrow but all plans then made & more flexible in case plans have to change.)

News about enclosures: Marion Kellerman sent me a bunch of material,
from which I send you ^{to see} two De Witt's article because I think it rather
sums up the critical approach to Bp: Allin & The House of Bps. (which I
think Marion shares) & Plumline, because the long article by Arthur
Lloyd on the St Louis meeting is, I think very interesting. Of him, Marion writes that
he is 'a thoughtful, able priest, grandson of a distinguished bp: long since dead,
son of a missionary clergyman, brother of four priests, one of them a
woman who was the widow of a bishop. Few families in the American Church have a
more dynastic background. It is a fair & objective account of the St Louis movement.
I think you will see that his point of view would be entirely opposed, but he tries hard
not to reveal this.' She also gives some background to statistics of Schismatic Church
& refers to the Mid-Atlantic Diocese. 'This one covers a space larger than England, perhaps
larger than the UK. It is in no sense a diocese, either geographically or ecclesiastically; it
has been declared so, & some diocesan officers have been chosen. The six 'parishes'
which constitute the 'diocese' are in neither the English or the American sense parishes.
Only one of them, St Andrew's in a small village called Clifton Forge, Virginia, is a
congregation. Its rector has been fighting his diocese and the new Prayer Book and the
ordination of women, & he had dramatically, after a service in which he had formally
announced his removal of the parish from the diocese, S.W. Virginia. The other five
consist of small groups of persons whose residence has led them to form groups with
these ambitious names: Edward the Confessor, Margaret of Scotland. They are really
very small, even the diocesan leader admitting that one of them may number 100;
actually, some of the others have less than ten persons. I will bring the full
letter & other papers to Versailles. Yours ever Austin