

9-1-2015

Letter from Fr. Leonard Amrhein to Catherine Amrhein, Al, and Tom.

Fr. Leonard Amrhein C.P.

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.whitworth.edu/amrhein_corr

Preferred Citation

Amrhein, Fr. Leonard C.P. , "Letter from Fr. Leonard Amrhein to Catherine Amrhein, Al, and Tom." (1948-07-28). Amrhein Collection, Whitworth University Library, Spokane, Washington.

This text is brought to you for free and open access by the Amrhein Collection at Whitworth University. It has been accepted for inclusion in Correspondence by an authorized administrator of Whitworth University.



"AIR-MAIL"

Mrs. Catherine Amrhein,
2623 Elsie St.,
Pittsburgh 10, Pa.,
U. S. A.

南京
航空
郵局
五月廿一日



空 航
PAR AVION

美
7/48

CATHOLIC MISSION,
WUKI, KUAN CHUANG,
JULY 28, 1948.

Dear Mom, Al, Tom,

Today is a very happy day for me....And it is all because the mailman was good to me. First of all, your letter, Mom, and yours, Tom, arrived. Two swell letters. And thanks a million for them. Mom's news about Leonard going to join the Passionists was a complete surprise to me. God bless him! And Mom, you mentioned how nice your flowers are. Well, I'm going to let you in on a secret. It is about one hour old. I'm going to come home and see your flowers. And I'm going to live in Al's cottage and catch fish---if Tom'll worm my hook. And Tom says she likes to clean fish. No, she says she CAN clean fish. Well, same thing, isn't it? And Al I'll help you to fix up the place. I like that kind of work, and Tom don't you go belittling yourself as my sister. The true is, I think you're swell. I realize you're busy and can't write often. But I haven't been so prompt these last years myself. So we are even.

About this secret. Just about fifteen minutes before I received your letters, I received a letter from the Bishop, via my catechist who was in Yuanling these passed few days. The Bishop told me to get ready to check out of Wuki. My successor would be along this week. Sunday would be my last Sunday in Wuki before my furlough. So next week someday, I'll take off for Yuanling. Pack a handkerchief and a toothbrush and head for Shanghai. In Shanghai, I'm to meet up with Fr. William and "All aboard for U.S.A." I'll try to drop you some kind of a line from Shanghai letting you know when we'll be sailing. Now, isn't that good news. As the Chinese would say: Today is a good day. It doesn't sound as nice or mean as much as it does in Chinese.

And now that I have all that good news, no other news seems worth while talking about. But just to let you know how things were going up till today, I'll fill in with a few lesser items. Lovely Wuki is very lovely this time of the year. But I never seemed to notice it's beauty until now that I'm going to leave it all soon. But that isn't what I was going to say. The Bishop told me a few weeks ago to start collecting materials for a new chapel, which my successor will probably build. Our old one is going to tumble in soon. And it would cost more to fix that old one up than to build a new one. But after all, the old one is over 30 years old. And I had the carpenter put in four seasaws, a sliding board and two swings. Now the kids think I'm Santa Claus. Too bad my beard is red instead of white...If I let my beard grow two weeks, it turns red and curls. O, I had a chance to use my war-time trade the other day. The Sisters' cook quit. And the Sisters didn't have any bread. They tried to teach one of the orphans, but to tell the true they didn't know much about baking bread themselves. My cook tried to help by making yeast. But it seems he's the only one who can use his yeast with success. So I decided to try some of my old tricks. We used to make yeast with hops. But here we haven't any hops. So I tried it without hops. And believe it or not it worked and I make a batch of bread. First time since August '45. But I'm getting rusty on the know how. I'll have to practice up. I think the end of the page is sneaking up on me. Just around the next corner, I guess. So, so long till I get to Shanghai and get booked for some boat.

With lots of love and God's blessings,

Leonard