

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

April 2, 1987

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School of Historical Studies

Dear Fr. Angenendt,

Gosh, how great it was to receive your letter! A thousand warmest greetings! It has been terrible that we lost track of each other. But in fact, just before I got your letter I was preparing to sit down and write to you, because David Ganz at University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill called me about a Carolingian manuscript and while chatting, mentioned that you were at Princeton.

Congratulations on being there. That is a great honor. I wish I was better up on the latest of your articles. Lately, it seems I have been running into your name everywhere. Joseph Lynch in his new book, Godparents and Kinship in Early Medieval Europe, Princeton, 1986, cites you extensively, I was happy to see (I reviewed the book for Church History). Also Michael Enright's new book, Iona, Tara, and Soissons cites you constantly (Have you seen it? Forgive me if you know him and all this, but I am so impressed that all these scholars are listening to you with care). When David Ganz said he met you in London, I was so proud to be able to tell him how I studied under you at Toronto!

I've had a rather odd four years at Davidson College. It is a very fine undergraduate, liberal arts college, but it is no place for someone who wants to do Carolingian manuscript research. I have had difficulty teaching large undergraduate courses, and my contract was not renewed past this year. That, of course, was a blow to my pride and all that stuff, but I cannot at all complain, because I received a Faculty Fellowship at Harvard University for next year. So, I'll be heading up to Boston this summer, with the grace of God. After next year, I'll be looking for a tenure track job, but in the meantime I hope to have my first book finished. My proposal to Harvard was to publish a book on Carolingian Baptismal Instructions and the Carolingian Reform. I want to include critical editions of all the tracts I found that have never been published, so it is a rather mammoth task. Pray for me!

Will you be going back to Germany when you are finished at Princeton in April? Are you by any chance going to the Medieval Meeting in Toronto? I cannot, but I wish you could, to see everyone. Fr. Boyle is going from the Vatican.

Please let's keep in touch, and perhaps we can work it so that our paths will meet. I would love to hear about yourself, and your latest inspirations! You have never been out of my mind, and in some ways Toronto still seems like yesterday to me. Perhaps it is because I have such happy memories of the place, and the work I was doing there.

Thanks a million, again, for writing, and please let me know your next address. It just occurred to me that April 12 is only 10 days away!

All my love and best wishes,

Joan