



Sidewalk graffiti, April 1973

JHG

April 30, 1973

Blessed Nell,

You know by now that our beloved compadre, Jacques Maritain, died Saturday in Toulouse. We have been on the phone almost constantly since. He was Mandy's god-father, and she sent him a letter only last week, similar to the one she sent you. We were prepared for this. Sr. Marie-Pascale, who did his typing and was an angel to him, wrote me to expect it. His enlarged heart was playing out, she said, he had to stay in bed, very weak, but was without pain, wholly at peace and lucid. Father George who had met him here at our house, said Mass for him yesterday evening.

Mandy loved your letter and was thrilled - she shows it to everyone who comes in. Thank you for that thoughtfulness, and such a charming little beaver-face on the front (I think it was a beaver.) You know how much this kind of thing means to a child that age - or any age.

I hope spring has come to you, and that it is surrounding you with life and beauty.

Great love to you, blessed friend,

*John*