

Dearest Nell,

Just in from Gethsemani where I had a marvelous ten days of silence and solitude and WORK up in Tom's hermitage.

THE VISUAL THOMAS MERTON is done and at the publishers. It is so beautiful you will just die, as Mandy says.

Cannot send out cards this year. Never have things been so overwhelming. But your card is simply the most beautiful we have ever seen, and Piedy is having it mounted and framed. Lord - it is magnificent.

Sent you a box of the famous and good Trappist cheese from Gethsemani - I hope you and yours will like it as much as we do here. It is the mainstay of our diet at Gethsemani...along with home-made white and wheat breads. I hope you have been getting the books I have been sending you: The Church and the Black Man, and also the Continuum Merton Memorial issue.

Love, John