RT. REV. EDWARD M. CROSS, S.T.D.
2303 West First Avenue
SPOKANE 43, WASHINGTON

October 3rd. 1954

Dear John:-

Most humbly I apologize for this long delay in answering your fine letter of Sept. 18th. The job of figuring out anything has been quite beyond me. The long hard pull up till the day of Angela's going, and the two weeks since, when so much has had to be done, and could be done only by me, have left me quite flat and without resources of will and energy to do anything more than the passing hours have demanded.

Of several thing I feel quite certain namely:-

That I shall remain here, make my "home" here.

That I shall, God willing, continue to exercise my Ministry among these people with whom I have lived for nearly thirty years. I feel much needed--in emergency ways--and will lend a hand where it will not interfere with my Successor in any way.

That for the next several months I must stay right here in this house that has been Angela's and my home for said nearly 30 years, during which time I must learn of the fact and finality of her absence in the flesh and grow stronger, if I can, by learning to endure the unavoidable lonliness.

Then I shall be able to go where I can be of help, here and there, outside the District as well as in it; and always with the will to perform the work I have been called upon to do till I myself be "called".

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I think that is about how things stand as of the present moment. And please believe I am grateful for your every consideration and for the understanding and sympathy that are expressed by both you and Nell in such tender and effective ways.

Nell's"Mother and Child" I have read and poured over again and again.It is so heart-searching and poignant.Unquestionably it transcends time and space.The photographs are in some ways beyond my reach.But the words,the true,deep poetry, are enough to lift any volume out of the ordinary--far out of the ordinary.For me they breathe and live.I feel the very timeless heart-beat of them, as much so as the heart-beat throbs in the photographs.

I do thank her for the message in the inscription.

Angie is still with me. She has been of incalculable help in every possible way. She will start home Tuesday morning.

Until later when I shall hope to have more of a satisfactory nature to impart,and with assurance of our abiding love and gratitude to you both, I am

Devotedly yours,

Edward