

Our Lady of Gethsemani,

TELEGRAPH: {
TELEPHONE: { NEW HAVEN, }
RAILROAD STA: GETHSEMANE. } KY.

J. M. J. B. C.

TRAPPIST P. O.. KY. Mar. 23rd, 1942.

Pvt. Fred O. Peake,
U.S.S. Atlanta, Div.1
C/o P. Master, N.Y.C.

My dear Fred:-

Your dear father was here but a few moments ago, and it is from him that I learn of your whereabouts for the first time.

You are fighting for your country, dear child, and it is only right that we assure you from time to time that you are remembered with affection by your dear ones at home, and by us all here at the Abbey.

We sincerely hope that you will be with us again in the not too distant future, and that your message will be one of victory and bravery. The coward gains nothing because in the raid he is struck as readily as the hero. I know that you will do honor to your country, your family, your friends, and to Kentucky.

Father is in good health, and I think that the rest of the family is so likewise. We have nothing to the contrary.

Rest assured, dear child, that we are most concerned for your spiritual welfare. It would be a terrible failure, after exposing life and limb in the temporal warfare, a man should also lose the battle against the enemies of his soul. The military career does not prevent you from working out your salvation. Saints Sebastian and Martin, and Maurice

with his Theban Legion were soldiers, but far braver in facing death to save their souls, than they were in fighting the enemies of the country. Be a good soldier, but a better Christian still!

Remember that back home we are all thinking of you and praying for you. We hope that you came back to us a good boy.

Once more assuring you of our prayers, and begging God to bless and protect you, I am

Very sincerely yours in the Sacred Heart of Jesus,

Fredrick W. Dunne

Abbot. *cc sa*