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St. Adrian's Convent
7020 S. Wastanaw Street
Chicago, Illinois 60629

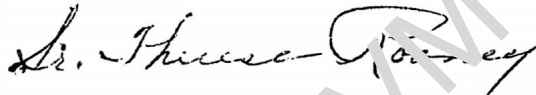
November 1, 1977
Feast of All Saints

Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary
American Board
Dear Sisters:

Enclosed is the proposal for the Apostolate I would like to enter into when my Sabbatical ends in August 1978. I am submitting it at this time because it will require time to fully prepare for it, time not only for me, but for you and the Institute. I have given this matter much prayer, study, investigation and consideration. I will continue to pray.

If you need further information, I will be happy to meet and discuss it with you.

Lovingly in Christ,



Sr. Therese Rooney, I.B.V.M.

cc: Sister Angelina Shannon, I.B.V.M.

THE PROBLEM

At Assinin's Indian Reservation, which borders Baraga, Michigan is a Fransican Priest, Rev. John Hascall. His parish is 500 square miles and has approximately 5,000 parishoners. The Boundaries are from Marquette, Michigan, west to the end of the Peninsula, southward to Hayward, Wisconsin, and northward again to Marquette, Michigan. All Indians in this area are in his parish. He is the only priest. Assinins is the main center. He has two Dominican nuns at Watersmeet, Michigan who assist him.

The Government through HEW, OEO, HUD have given the reservation considerable assistance. The result is a social and economic renaissance.

The problem is that the Church must keep abreast of these breakthroughs. Ninty percent of the Indians are Catholic, but are almost totally lacking in religious instruction. Father is working to create a religious renaissance among the people. He desperately needs nuns to help him in parish work and religious instruction.

By accident rather than design, during my sabbatical I began the study of American Indian Culture. Since talking with Father, observing what he is trying to accomplish, assessing the need, and seeking counsel to see if I were able to answer the need, I have concluded that I would like to join Father in this Apostolate, starting in August or September 1978. I would like a companion, but if no one is willing or able this year, I am willing to go alone. I have never seen a greater nor timely need for a religious apostolate, It also responds to:

1. the call of the 1977 I.B.V.M. Chapter on Social Justice and "meeting the need of the time";
2. To the May 4, 1977 Statement of the U.S. Catholic Bishops on American Indians;

3. Pope Paul VI "Exhortation of Evangelization in the Modern World";
4. Vatican II, Decree on the Missionary Activity of the Church."

HOW TO MEET THE PROBLEM

1. The presence of Religious on a Reservation is essential to the development of the Church;
2. Parish work would be under the direction of Father Hascall:
 - a) Availability when he cannot be there;
 - b) Religious Instruction;
 - c) Development of American Indian Liturgies

QUALIFICATIONS:

1. Strong background in American Indian Culture;
2. Current studies in Chippeway and Ojibway Art, Literature, and Religion;
3. Currently making a religious renewal:
 - a) Personal;
 - b) On prayer and how to assist others;
 - c) Modern Theological questions.
4. History of personal interest in Liturgical Renewal dating back to 1953 when I began to attend liturgical Conferences, studied Art and Liturgy, and was a member of the Liturgical Arts Conference for many years.
5. Long History of working with the poor and minority groups.

I am fully aware of what would be entailed:

- 1) a simple life style; 2) weather conditions; 3) aloneness not loneliness.

The Reservation is a five hour drive to the Sault, one and a half hour drive to Watersmeet. Hopefully I could come to Chicago two or three times a year to see the doctor, my spiritual director, and these visits could be arranged around our own Community meetings as they occur.

BUDGET

Father can provide me with a trailer for living. He has no other means at this time for support. The Adrian Dominican Sisters support their sisters at Watersmeet. The Budget following is based on their budget which they were kind enough to share with me.

FOR TWO PERSONS:

FOOD	\$2,000
PHONE AND POSTAGE (Everything is long distance)	1,800
TRANSPORTATION (They have to travel a lot. I think the VW will hold out for another year This figure is high. I am investigating Bus Travel.)	2,100
UTILITIES (HEAT) (This figure may vary at Assinins)	2,000
General Maintenance and Household	300
	\$8,100

For ONE PERSON Differential

Food	\$1,000
Phone	900
Transportation Because of Insurance	<u>1,200</u>
	\$3,100

For one person it would be \$5,300

I am aware that none of this includes:

BlueCross/Blue Shield

Social Security

Pension

Allowance - This can be minimal - nothing to spend anything on.

Drugs - currently averaging \$15 per month.