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Poston, Arizona

Jan. 12, 1943

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Dear Mrs. Whitney,

I have not heard from you for almost a week now, and I really hope that this letter finds both you & Mr. Whitney in good health. Have you been busy?

There is not too much to write about this evening, but I generally feel much better if I write to you, hence the letter, which perhaps will not have much meaning to it.

Several days ago, I heard regardless of our being in Camp, we had to file income tax returns for 1942. Is this true? The whole idea, I understand, is to inform the collector's office of our whereabouts - & so they can keep their books straight. It sounds silly to me - but could be true. Would you let me know, please?

Well, it looks much as if the young men in Camp will be called for selective service soon. They are starting to register all young men in that group

from to morrow on. I suppose this means they will really be called into service & not just a means to classify them as they did once before. In a way, I suppose it is for the best.

³⁹⁰ Have you heard from Braddo lately & has Gorge left the States yet? Please give them my regards Mrs. Whitney. We think of them often.

It looks very much as if we shall not start actual instructions until Father Lavery can get a Father for Gela. I know Father Clement's term is limited as he must commute between Gela & Boston so I have not been "lauding" him. We are getting along tho' as I realize some knowledge of the Bible will be needed, & both Louise & I have been reading & discussing the New Testament.

"The Song of Bernadette" has been finished, but it will forever remain with me. She died a beautiful death, didn't she? Oh yes, all of us - & two of our girl friends attended Mass Sunday. They have not been to church since coming here - but after they attended mass, they are anxious to go again.

My regards to Mr. Whitney -

With love - Ferdinando