

Paróquia São J. Tadeu,
Caixa Postal 2,
85810 Corbélia,
Paraná. *BRAZIL*.
14th July, 1973.

Dear Mrs Rice,

Many thanks for your nice letter and photos of Pat, Kathleen and her Tommy. Please give them my best wishes. May our Lord grant the two of them prosperity and happiness always.

I must apologise for not writing sooner, but I've been very busy the past few months. It's very bad of me to delay for so long especially as you had sent me a cheque. Unfortunately, when I received the cheque in Rio, I couldn't cash it, because the name isn't fully correct. They're particularly strict about names here. The name on my passport is 'LAI KING LEONG KOM'. Pretty long isn't it? Frank or Francis is my Christian name but it doesn't appear on my passport. Thus they wouldn't change the cheque for me. I'm sending the cheque back to you. Sorry for all the trouble I'm causing. I really appreciate you kind thoughts. Thanks too for Pat's address. Will be writing to him soon.

Sorry to hear that you had to have an operation. Hope you've fully recovered by now. Do take it easy and look after yourself.

Well, our course ended at the end of May in Rio. After that I did a lot of travelling during the month of June. My first stop was São Paulo. We have a seminary there. It's really huge! Full of skyscrapers and highways. Then I met Tom Hughes and Sean Moynihan. Tom is from Dublin and Sean is from Galway. The three of us went to visit Arthur Brown, a classmate of Pat's. It was good seeing the three of them again. ~~Once again~~ I travelled by bus to Curitiba on my own after leaving my three priest-friends. In Curitiba, where our Provincial has a house, I more or less fixed up my Brazilian licence. (Curitiba is 408 Km south of São Paulo along the coast-line. São Paulo is 435 Km south of Rio) When I had everything fixed up in Curitiba I travelled west-wards to Guarapuava (313 Km) where Tom and Sean are working. I stayed with them for about a week before going to Cascavel which is 237 Km west of Guarapuava. Corbélia is about 30 Km north of Cascavel. The road from Curitiba to Cascavel

is all tarred but from Cascavel to Corélia, the road is unpaved.
It's nearly two weeks now that I've been in Corbélia... My n.n.
is German. So far he's been very kind and has been introducing
me to all the different people including the bishop who lives in
another town called Toledo. Last Saturday, I married two couples.
It was a bit tough as I still not too fluent with the language,
but I got through everything alright. We have a lady here who
cooks for us, so we're not dying of hunger anyway. Corbélia is
a small place of about 4,000 people but we have quite a few
chapels in the country-side so we have to do quite a lot of
travelling. The p.p. has ordered another car, so very soon
now I'll be travelling on my own. Please don't forget to pray
for me.

It's nearly time for Mass. We usually have Mass at 6 p.m.,
so I better sign off.

God bless you and all at home.

Frank..