REV. PAUL R. SHANLEY
Route 100, Weston, Vermont

May 11, 1971

Dear {003}:

Thanks for your kind note and generous donation. Also will you thank {004} for her concern and prayers. I am hoping you and the kids and {005} Sr. will be able to get up here some time this summer. Meanwhile, tell {002} Jr. if he has a vacation and no wheels, there is a bus that leaves from Boston and comes to the next town of Ludlow.

Please give my best to all the wonderful people of Braintree who stood by me in the days when my predictions seemed so preposterous but all of which seem to be coming true with a vengeance. Would that I could open up these 95 acres to young people and get others to do likewise, but I guess it will be a while yet before society will realize the havoc it is wrecking upon its own children.

I well remember the days when I first met you, {003}, and your own alienation from the church brought about by the insensitivity and exclusivity of our fellow Catholics. I know it was an almost herculean effort for you to continue and I have admired you for it. Also you might tell {005} Sr. that I have appreciated his long suffering since I am sure there were many things I was saying and doing that were rather inscrutable to him, yet he remained loyal and patient.

My only regret these days is to have lost track of wonderful friends like yourselves, and can only hope that the days ahead will bring fresh opportunities for renewing those friendships.

Cordially,

Fr. Paul