Wednesday Dec. 15-65

Dear Bro Tom:

Recd your letter yesterday glad you are all well and that you enjoyed your visit to Scotland sorry to hear Mary Heneghan passed away, We called on her when we were home also Maud (Flannery) Connolly losing her life. tragic Is that Bro Coleman that died I have been visiting around with my family different places I have not seen any of the Foys in months If did hear they were going to Ireland to visit you told me in your letter that Ireland

was behind the times (You can Say that again) if you noticed when I was there I did not Criticise anything that you had or anything I saw about Eire but let me give you an illustration about the reception myself and priests received in Chilltown, there was not one person, Neighbours, Friends, or relatives to meet us and show us we were welcome what happened, did you tell anyone we were coming, did you invite anyone to your house to greet us not 1 one person, stopped at the house to greet us outside of my sisters and their families I wanted you to rent the school Hall and invite the family some relatives and boys + girls that I knew, and you said none

would Come (3) you Could offer
me your house invite our
families a few others on the
last night we were there
and I would really appreciate
it I wanted to give you
and the family a boost.
Do you know of
any other family like mine?
when each one of them was
ordained priests 5 to 6,000
people attended their reception
standing four (4) deep on
the side walk for a period
of three hours waiting to
get into the hall and
kneel down in front of them
to receive the Father McHugh
Blessing. Now you said,
Ireland was behind the

times I didn't say it, but I will say, there are no large families there anymore population is on the decline there, and When I was a boy on the road I took off my Cap, and greeted him on a bended knee, what has happened, did all the young Irishmen die in-vain?

I talked to sister Della on the phone the other day, and she sounds great,

Renewed thanks for your letter received, joined by Mary and Father Kevin in wishing you, and all the family a Merry Christmas & a Prosperous New year.

Love & Prayers to Yar & Yours Catt.