

as from The Vicarage Panghill  
actually for The Churchyard -

Sund 7 May 3<sup>rd</sup> 1942.

My dear Daisy (one)

Here I am with Penma in the Churchyard  
Gillian has gone to Church with M<sup>rs</sup> Burgess.  
and will join us before the sermon when all the  
Children come out.

A little robin has just sung his heart out  
as a twig near Penma says "Birdie says  
"Alleluiah"!

I suppose the mock invasion is going on all  
right - so far we have only seen our  
own men - but heard shots just now.  
Your letter re Bath made me sad - sad  
especially for you, but I see you have the  
right values in life & so all is well - But  
you must not hold our lives too dearly.  
It will be a difficult <sup>(the children's & mine)</sup> world to live in even  
after the war so that to leave it now might be  
the most merciful - But our Children are  
good stuff I think and for the world's own  
sake we should try and keep & preserve them  
- there sort will be needed in the reconstruction  
of the world. I was thinking of what Edith said  
"If at the end of the world I have Springfield intact  
I shall be content." I thought "If I have Gordon &

be children I shall be content" - now you put an even higher call - even if life on the lines of our dear ones go all is not lost if we retain a mental scale of values. That reminds me of how Pa used to interpret that phrase in *Stilleben* "That I may know the things which are good" - into "That I may appreciate the relative value of that which is good - a right."

It is a perfect spring morning - before Church we went for a walk along a lovely lane that led through a spirey - so we studied birds and the trees that are just coming out. We saw a goldfinch, robin, yellowhammer, bay thrush & heard tits, blackbirds thrushes and dove & many others -

Planes are flying low overhead - P.A.F. of course - but are they pretending to be invaders?

6.45 p.m. Children just in bed - I've got my "ear" on Paul too so that M<sup>rs</sup> Burgess can go to Church, so to all intents and purposes I'm alone with you in the house.

Panghill was "taken" about 10.30 a.m. by the invaders - we heard shots while in the Church yard -

By the way - please bring your stethoscope I'm not taking any notice of Gillian's cough

except to give her a Penma adexalin still - but tho I scarcely ever hear her cough her chest is as wheezy as can be - could it have turned to asthma? She is so well & strong and eating like a schoolboy & as happy as a lark so it is not damaging her health whatever it is -

Here is a Penma story -

Gillian "Penma you'll see Jesus in Church today - the Church is Jesus' home"

Penma "Will I? Is he walking about?"

Gillian. "No - He is up in the ceiling somewhere"

"He'll speak to you - he says to me Gillian I love you, I want you to be happy and do what Mummy tells you?"

Penma "Does He?"

However I could see the Burgesses' did not think Penma old enough & as Mrs B said she'd take Gillian I stayed in the Churchyard with Penma -

When Gillian joined us we came home & Penma was furious & all the way home sobbed "I want to see Jesus - I didn't see Jesus!"

Have you heard of anyone you know being killed or injured? What about "Spear"

Wasn't St James the Church near ~~the~~  
~~Bath~~ Uncle Edmunds' business premises?  
 I'm so very glad you had a last visit  
 there so recently - Will Hilda now stay  
 with Winnie for the duration?

I'm glad I had given up the idea of a holiday  
 away from Buds. It did seem rather silly  
 to "stay put" for 2 1/2 years & then move at the  
 most critical time.

The Bath plan is bound to be definitely  
 off.

I cannot be here a third week as the  
 rooms are booked up for the 3<sup>rd</sup> week end  
 by others but I could stay 2 1/2 weeks. I'll  
 see how the second week works out, i.e.  
 a school week. Already I feel a different  
 person <sup>after 5 1/2 days</sup> and another 8 1/2 days will do me  
 a world of good even if we don't go into  
 the 3<sup>rd</sup> week. So I shall be nice and fresh  
 for you.

Tonghill is a magnificent place for views  
 We chatted with a farmer of a farm called  
 Mount Pleasant - well named. He was leaning  
 on his gate - Down the field the path dropped  
 right into the Church yard - ~~to~~ St Olafs looks  
 so lovely nestling among the trees. How you

would have loved to stand beside him. I've taken  
 1/2 lot of luminal every other day, and either  
 it has done the trick or the fresh air has  
 I've slept all night for three nights now - with  
 wakings once or twice only to go to sleep again at  
 once. Oh it's good to feel like this.

I hear the "invaders" gave all the folk  
 eating out of the cinnam last night  
 a dose of tear gas -

Hope Miss Wood has learned a few lessons  
 from Miss Sell - and that you had a  
 useful week end with her - but I  
 hope too you got a little rest today -  
 I'm expecting you Tuesday or Wed after  
 Whit Sunday - roughly - owing to  
 your birthday.

I've got you a little book of St Olaf Church  
 I'll try and remember to put it in -  
 I'm hoping to find time to write to Gallagher &  
 answer these notes on the Xmas cards. Had  
 just begun to do the latter when we were taken  
 ill in January. What a writer it was!

The book I bought to read here is "The Gay Galliard"  
 by Margaret Murin - all about Mary Queen of  
 Scots - fascinating reading. It makes me  
 want to visit Edinburgh again - & go over the

6

the Castle & Hollywood. I wonder if any of these places have been hit.

Well my darling one - it isn't very private to ring you up - there is Mrs B. back from the service - but I just had to ring you up last night as I read in the paper that some places in the East of England had been bombed - I just felt after the Bath affair that I simply could not rest till I heard your voice - I must get braver than that must I - Both of us must believe the best unless or until we hear definitely & the contrary and not let our imaginations run away with us.

By the way did you see in the paper the other day that some of the British & American (& others) civilians from Shanghai, Peking & Tientsin were being exchanged for Jap civilians. I'm just wondering if by any chance Bill & Claire are among them - Wouldn't it be a thrill if they suddenly turned up.

Well my own darling one - I'll post this tomorrow - All my love forever

Ade.

Hardly  
your letter just in thanks you so much for the mag - I shall enjoy it.