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Reverend Father P.J. Ledwig
Gonzales-Texas.

June the 24th-1924

My dear Father Ledwig:

For the greater good of the Cause I herewith grant you permission to accept the position of State Lecturer offered you by our K. of C.

I give my consent and approval with the knowledge that your travels all over the State will of course deprive your home-diocese of very much of your time and labors. I give this consent all the readier moved as I am by pity for so many honest souls whose minds without any fault of theirs have been poisoned against everything Catholic.

Surely it is Catholic Charity in one of its best forms to try and reach these people and disabuse their minds and let them see how grossly the Church is calumniated and how shamefully they themselves are being fooled by these anti-Catholic lecturers and vile sheets. I feel that this contribution of our diocese to this missionary venture will bring God's blessings upon us.

You are the man for this peculiar work. God fitted you out for it. You have nothing of that "priestly shyness" which is so common within the ranks of the Clergy. You are not afraid to face a non-Catholic, nay even an anti-Catholic audience and you seem to take a special delight to give them straight talks and to answer their various inquiries as they pour into the Question-box. You are withall a good speaker and just the priest to go to the highways and byways of our great State of Texas and gather around you those who never heard anything of the Church except through the lips of her deadliest enemies.

I am writing you on the 24th of June the feast of St John the Baptist that fearless exponent of the Law. How appropriate the words spoken by God to "Jeremiah the Prophet and applied by the Church to the great Precursor of the Lord: "Ad omnia quae mittam te, ibis: et universa quaecumque mandavero tibi loqueris. Ne timeas a facie eorum: quia Ego tecum sum ut eruan te, dicit Dominus." We may as well apply them to your own mission.

Imitate this great apostolic example: be humble in the midst of success. Be a man of deep faith: counting more upon the help of Heaven than upon human efforts. Be a man of prayer: place your labors daily under the protection of the Queen of Apostles.

We shall follow you with the greatest interest in your travels through the vast plains of Texas. Our prayers shall not fail you. Your task is not an easy one. You will meet with physical hardships and spiritual desolations. But with God all things are possible and your mission with His help is bound to produce consoling and abundant results.

And this I wish you with all my heart.

Sincerely yours in Kto,