

Lisbon, 10 June 1960



Dear Rev. Bruce,

Thank you very much for your letter to which I was not able to answer earlier. I am sure that you forgive me for such a delay...

I must say that I am very enthusiastic about your project for the book. I agree with you that what is needed at the present moment is a clear and objective study of the Christian tradition on the role and vocation of woman rather than an useless discussion on facts which involve so many psychological and sociological factors. I think that the synopsis you sent me is in this line, but the title and the introduction stress, at least to my mind, the controversial attitude - am I wrong? I would put it more in a positive approach, but, of course, you know better than I what is right to do...

As far as my contribution is concerned, I would like to develop it according to the following line: the very basic conception of the Catholic Church about the vocation of woman would be the main core of the article; I would say then how this conception is expressed in the current life of the Church, how a continuous dialogue between the doctrine and the experiences-in-life takes place within the Catholic Church; I would add those historical facts or trends which have been most significant in the development of the role of woman in the Church, but I would consciously avoid a mere factual description. - What do you think? Is it in the line you want? I do hope so!

I need to know two things: 1) when shall I have the article ready? 2) how long is it supposed to be? I would like to have the answer to these questions as soon as possible and I thank you very much for it. In the meantime I am collecting some material and making the first draft of the article. Though, as you probably know, we, in the Grail, are very deeply connected with the ideas and expressions of the vocation of woman, one needs to make a new arrangement for such a definite purpose.

I am very grateful for your kind words about our International Grail Center - they touched me very much.

With my best wishes,

yours sincerely,