

*original sent as autograph letter*  
Copy of Bishop Ferrando's letter.

P. O. Box 776 Ponce P. R.  
Quebrada Limon March 27 - 1923.

My dear Bishop Colmore: Here I am once more among my beloved people!

I want to thank you for your kindness in asking Fr. Haughwout to meet me, and Mrs. Colmore to offer me her hospitality. I regret not to be able but for a short call at your home, but one of my boys (Valois Pagan) came to meet me with an auto and realizing what must have meant for him to spend the night on the road and leave his business, and to avoid him more expense I decided to start homewards as soon as possible. We arrived at Ponce at 1 p. m. and found several people waiting my arrival at Valois home. I intended to come here in the afternoon but one of Clergymen came, and told me that the people had been working hard on the road in order to come out to meet me as of old, and they would be greatly disappointed not to be able to do so. Their plan was to start from the Church at 8 a. m. and if I should leave Ponce at the same time next morning it would be all right.

That afternoon I went to the hospital to see some of my people and in the evening had many people come to see me.

Next morning as planned we left at 8 a. m. and found a procession of 283 on the road with cross and standards. After my benediction the procession started homewards singing hymns and after a service at the Church we exchanged greetings and the congregation was dismissed till that evening. In the afternoon we had a service and long talk for the household in which I went as far as I thought I could go and no more. In the eve. we had a full congregation as all those who could not come in the morning came to greet me. Saturday and Sunday and yesterday I hold three services daily today and to-morrow one a day, but all together between us all, have ministered in four days to 3139 people. Almost everybody is out to-day some as three Deaconesses left yesterday and Primitivo and his wife left this morning at 5:40 a. m. and the others at different times and places. I expect that they will reach to over 2000 to-day. I intended to confine myself to the central this week as Thursday, Friday, and Sunday are very hard days for me, and I told the people that if they want me long among them they have to spare me and not to let me go anywhere where I have to go on horseback but yesterday the people here begged me to have the seven words on Friday all by myself and there came a commission from el Pastillo urging me to have a service there this week which I consented to next Thursday. So that day I will have at 10:30 am. Office of the Institution here from 1 p. m. to 2.30 the washing of feet a service at which even people from Ponce and other distant places come; from 4 to 5 at Pastillo and from 7.30 to 9.30 passion sermon here.

The peon is waiting and I have to close. Hoping to see you soon I am as ever

Cordially yours  
Manuel Ferrando  
Bp.