18 May 1954

Dear Mrs. Kapaun:

Just three years ago Father Emil Kapaun passed away at Pyok-tong, Korea while he was a prisoner of war. I was among the group who was with him before and during his captivity. I did not know him prior to being captured but I was a member of the same unit.

After our capture Father Kapaun and I slept side by side for several months and I got to know him well. Many nights we would talk together about our homes and he would tell me of the good things you would cook for him and what a wonderful Mother you were. Of course, he spoke of his Father also but he would always dwell on things regarding you.

I am not a Catholic but I know he had as many who were not as he did that were, who loved him for the great Christian he was. While we were together he wrote out a set of prayers for me and to the best of my knowledge it was his last writing. I want to give you these prayers because you are his Mother and will appreciate them more than anyone else could hope to do.

Several people have asked me for them to use in publications but I felt that if they were released for that purpose then you should be the one to do so.

My deepest regards and may God bless and keep you.

Respectfully

Eugene Davis Shaw.

Captain Eugene D. Shaw
Trans. Sect., Hq. 2nd Army
Fort George G. Meade, Md.

FORT GEORGE G. MEADE
MAY 19
1:30 PM
1954

from a fellow prisoner to his mother; includes prayers written by Fr. Kapaun on a paper towel

Mrs. Enos Kapaun
Marion, Kansas

Prayers to be learned by Heart.

1. In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost. Amen

2. Our Father Who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy Name. Thy Kingdom Come. Thy Will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily Bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. Amen.

3. Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

4. Glory be to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

5. I believe in God the Father Almighty, Creator of Heaven and Earth. And in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and was buried. He descended into Hell. The third day He arose again from the dead. He ascended into Heaven, sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He shall come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Holy Catholic Church, the Communion of Saints, the Forgiveness of sins, the Resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.