April 2, 1945

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

Some time back I wrote to you requesting an interview regarding a plan I have for a national memorial to the gallant men and women who have made the supreme sacrifice. I asked if you would see me in the event I went to Washington, and you replied that you would be very glad to grant me an interview.

Since then, due to the long illness of my sister, who has since passed on, I had to drop my plans and then, of course, I found that I was not quite up to date, so I have gone on working here to reach a climax sufficiently well enough developed to achieve your interest. Now I am ready. At any time that it will be convenient to you to see me, I will go to Washington fully prepared to place my plans before you, and I feel satisfied you will be interested.

You did mention the fact in your letter to me that you approved of hospitals rather than monuments and, of course, my plan is a nonsectarian chapel, but after all there will be many hospitals built and I rather imagine that this will be the only chapel, and shouldn't we do something of this sort to gain that which the world has seemed to have lost -- the spiritual influence so necessary to everyone.

But let's forget that this is a chapel until you have seen my plans and gone into the matter with me. This is not a request for federal or state aid -- it is merely the background which locally, up to date, I have been most successful in obtaining.

I have a number of letters of introduction to prominent personages in Washington, among which is a letter to Admiral Leahy. However, I personally
have quite a few friends in Washington.

I sincerely trust that I may hear from you at an early date, although I think that it would be best to wait until the conference in California is over before I make the trip to Washington. I shall leave this to your judgment however. I will greatly appreciate your cooperation and will look forward to meeting you again, though I shall miss seeing our dear friend, the late Caroline O'Day.

Of course Senator Pepper is a close personal friend, and I am sure that he can tell you how I stand in Florida, for he is doing his part to help me to see this through. He knows that I want no federal or state moneys, and of course as I have stated above, no place – no town, nor city – could be more appropriate than St. Augustine, our historic city and cradle of Christianity.

With my best wishes to you, I am

Faithfully yours,

[Signature]

Mrs. H. Willis McFadden
CHRISTUS DE PROFUNDIS
MEMORIAL CHAPEL

When I first saw the Carving, it was during the first World War. I visualized a chapel erected as a permanent place for the Carving as a memorial to our men killed in service, and I could think of no place more appropriate than St. Augustine, Florida, since it is our Cradle of Christianity.

It seems that the time was not right for I have faced many stumbling blocks and disappointments in my efforts. But time has gone by, and now we are in another war, much greater than the world has ever known. It makes me feel that my disappointments were intended, and that the time has come for this chapel to be built as a memorial to the men and women who have heroically given their lives in the present war.

The plan is as follows: Location, St. Augustine; Chapel, nonsectarian; the Carving will be put on exhibit in various cities throughout the country while the campaign is in progress.

When sufficient interest is shown and the chapel is built I will place the Carving in a sanctuary in the chapel permanently.

The plan will be incorporated, with a board of trustees. Committees are to be formed in all larger cities wishing to participate in the campaign, with chairmen and co-chairmen, as may be necessary.

There will be music, electrically furnished, in the chapel; and custodians in charge throughout the hours that the chapel is open. However, there will be no admission fee. There will be no services conducted—just a place where one can go to see this beautiful work of art, commune with God and listen to beautiful music.

During the exhibits of the Carving in various cities, memorials will be offered to all those wishing dedications in the name of some loved one. The memorials will consist of names inscribed on the silver bells; bronze plaques in the chapel; chapel windows, and other suitable places for memorial dedications. Monies subscribed will be used for the purchase of war bonds for the duration, or until such time as we will be once more able to purchase building materials.

The investment of the monies in war bonds for the duration is helping to win the war, as well as preparing for the building of the national memorial to our gallant men and women who have made the supreme sacrifice.
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Mr. Frank Dearing
Mr. Scott M. Loftin
Mr. Bion H. Barnett

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1915 Pearl Street  
Jacksonville 6, Florida

Dear Marcia:

Thank you for bringing me further up to date on the excellent project you are undertaking. As I told you before, I will be glad to help you in any way you suggest. Under your able direction, I know it will be a success.

Best wishes to you end,

Always sincerely,

[Signature]

[Address]
January 17, 1945

Mrs. H. W. McFadden
1915 Pearl Street
Jacksonville 6, Florida

My dear Mrs. McFadden:

I have just returned and find your letter of the 15th.

I am glad to know that your plans are working out so encouragingly.

Sometime after the first of February I will be very glad indeed to see and talk with you. I regret that I cannot meet with you this week, but I am having to spend all of my time this week in preparation for our Council, which meets in Pensacola next week. Meeting of this Council and meetings in Birmingham will require my absence from the city until after the first of February. If you will call me after that, I will be very glad to make an appointment with you.

With every good wish to you and yours, I am

Faithfully yours

FAJ:SC

Copy made February 1, 1945
CHRISTUS
DE
PROFUNDIS

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON HOTEL

June 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th, 1942
The Exhibit of the “Christus de Profundis” is being given this week for the defense work of the churches participating, the Chinese War Relief and the United Service Organization. There will be three exhibits daily with a free will offering to go to these worthy causes.

This remarkable Carving has hitherto received world-wide recognition, so that these exhibits offer a rare opportunity to all Christian folk and lovers of art a chance to see the “Christus de Profundis”.

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Monday, June 8th
3 P.M. Riverside Park Methodist Church
Dr. John L. Horton
First Methodist Church
Dr. Rufus Wicker

Monday, June 8th
8 P.M. Snyder Memorial Methodist Church
Rev. W. F. Dunkle

Tuesday, June 9th
11 A.M. St. Johns Park Presbyterian Church
Rev. Alex M. Mitchell

Tuesday, June 9th
3 P.M. Salvation Army
Major Herbert W. Young

Tuesday, June 9th
8 P.M. First Presbyterian
Dr. Albert C. Holt

Wednesday, June 10th
11 A.M. All Saints Church
Rev. Alan R. Chalmers

Wednesday, June 10th
3 P.M. St. Andrews
Rev. Basil M. Walton

Wednesday, June 10th
8 P.M. St. Johns Church
Rev. Newton Middleton

Thursday, June 11th
11 A.M. United Service Organization
Rev. Ben A. Megginiss

Thursday, June 11th
3 P.M. United Service Organization
Father E. L. A. Fisher

Thursday, June 11th
8 P.M. Chinese War Relief
Dr. Albert Kissling

Friday, June 12th
11 A.M. United Service Organization
Rev. Ed. Driscoll

Friday, June 12th
3 P.M. United Service Organization
Rev. Alex. Mitchell

Friday, June 12th
8 P.M. Riverside Baptist Church
Rev. Charles C. House
My dear Mrs. Roosevelt,

While you were in Washington, I didn't realize you, but surely enjoyed reading of your coming and going. I have great admiration for your whole family and since you've been in the White House.

You have been so brave and wonderful during these trying days since your dear companion left your side and I want you to know that I've thought of you all along the way. I've prayed daily for 'our President' and his family, and for your days in service, too. Have been praying for your little grandson who was so ill, and I am now hoping he has fully recovered.

I felt you would appreciate my copy of the "Religious Herald," our Virginia Baptist paper, which contains tributes to your dear companion.

God bless you and yours in the years to come. Mrs. A. C. A., Alexandria, Virginia

May 4, 1943