

Incomplete letter from Kate McHugh to her parents, Michael & Bridget.

Chicago

April 10<sup>th</sup> '18

Dear Father Mother & all:-

I did not receive the answer of the letter I wrote for Easter, but could not expect it so soon as this is only the 10<sup>th</sup> so I thought I would write ye a few lines.

I know you have been reading in the papers how all the boys are being drafted so I thought it better to break the news

2. to ye before somebody else would write it home. Patt left here Wednesday last to go for training in the camps near here. several other boys that we knew were with him so he did not feel so lonesome. now Father & mother dont be worrying or get sick over this news as I know it is a heart break to see him going away but he is not the only one they are leaving by the hundreds. Many a poor Father & mother Brothers & sisters this war has left them a broken heart. unless everybody sticks together & do what they can the Germans will be over here & then it will be worse. Packie Foye was not called yet. it will be a long

3. time before the boys leaving now will be trained to go across. & the war may be over by that time. it is sad to see some mothers parting with three & four sons & left alone I know a woman that her husband is dead & her fourth son has gone to war. So dont feel ye are the worst. we can write to Pat every day & send him anything he wants. after he gets settled up there he will write to ye. the only thing he asks of us all is to pray for him I wish ye would offer up the Rosary every night & also go to Holy Communion that the Lord may protect him in the hard struggle he has to go through. his last words were when he was leaving his poor Mother & father

4. how ye would feel. the only thing we can do is to pray for him & I hope ye wont forget to do that much & go to Holy communion often as he was a good brother & son. & a credit to everybody. Many a poor boy leaving thats not near as strong as patt & has to go through it all if he died we never would hear from him but this way there is always hopes. will say no more about it this time.dont worry we will be all home on a visit when the war is over.everybody is well John Godwin has another young son Patrick Joseph is the name he has two boys & a girl. how is Honnie getting along & how are provisions I suppose very high