

LETTER NUMBER 170

1 1837-04-16

2 Zeer eerwearden Vader-Oversten der Broeders van den H. Joseph te Geeraerdsberge

Gelooft zy J. M. J.

Eerwearden Vader-Oversten

Uwe twee laeste brieven zyn my waerlyk aengenaem. Ik dank den heer, over de goede gevoelens die hy u ingeéft; en ik verheuge my met u, over den iever die gy gevoelt, om Gods heyligen wil te volbringen in alles. Om aen uw verzoek te voldoen, legge ik u op, negen dagen vervolgens, te lezen een gebed des heere met den weéstgegroet, ter eer der hh. Engelen van deze personen die door uwe onagtsaemheyd, geestelyk verlies hebben onderstaen.

Wekt ook gedurig op, onzen goeden B. Joannes en doet hem zien hoe veél 'er aengelegen is, dat de Novitien nooit veronagtzaemt worden, en ook dat het Capittel van B. Oversten, op tyde plaets heeft.

My dunkt dat uwe redens, ten opzigte van B. Xaverius, te Halle, gegrond zyn. Gy kont hem dan den last opleggen gelyk gy goedvint.

Gelieft te zeggen aen B. Albertus dat ik zeer tevreden ben van zyne gevoelens van dankbaerheyd. Hy mag t' eenemael gerust zyn, ik weét dat hy voor my bid en dat hy werkt om God te behagen. Laet ons verheugt zyn over de middels en mogelykheyd die den heer ons verleent, van malkanderen te helpen.

Het zal my tot grooten troost dienen, dat B. Benoit met vlyt zyne fonctien uytoeffent. De schoolbroeders moeten wel te samen werken om de leerlingen te winnen, en dezelve dan tot God te bringen. Beveélt de beleéftheyd en zagtmoedigheyd. Dezen zomer zal veél doen aen onze goede faem, als ieder lidmaet van onze geestelyke familie wel zijne pligt zal volbringen. Ik bid den gever van alle volmaektheyd, ons tog indagtig te willen zyn.

Broeder Athanasius gaet wel. Ik hoòp dat wy malkanderen zullen in vrindschap gedienstig wezen.

Ontfangt, erw. vader, den zegen en de goede wenschen van uwen

Zeer genegen geest. Vader

Gend 16 april 1837

C. G. Van Crombrugghe

16 April 1837

To the Very Reverend Father Superior of the Brothers of St Joseph at Grammont

Praised be Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Reverend Father Superior¹

Your last two letters were most pleasant. I thank the Lord for the good sentiments he has inspired in you, and I rejoice, with you, in the zeal that you are experiencing to accomplish the will of God in everything. To satisfy your request, I order you to read for nine consecutive days the Lord's Prayer with an Ave, in honour of the Holy Angels and those who, by your inattention, have suffered a spiritual loss.

Constantly encourage our good Brother John² and make him see how important it is that the novices are not neglected and that the Brother Superior's chapter is done in time.

I think that your reasons concerning Brother Xavier³ at Hal are well-founded. You can, therefore, impose the burden on him however you see fit.

Please tell Brother Albert⁴ that I am very happy with his expression of gratitude. He can be quite happy, I know that he prays for me and that he works to please God. Let us be content with the means and the possibilities for mutual help that the Lord gives us.

It would be a great consolation for me if Brother Benoit⁵ were to fulfil his function with zeal. The teaching Brothers must co-operate in order to win over the pupils and to lead them to God. Insist on politeness and gentleness. This summer will be good for our reputation if each member of our religious family completes his duties. I pray the giver of all perfection to remember us.

Brother Athanase⁶ is well. I hope that we can be useful to each other in friendship.

Receive, Reverend Father, the blessings and good wishes of your

¹ Mr Ignace Vandebosse [1]

² Br Jean Schepens [5]

³ Mr Xavier Dénuncé [12]

⁴ Mr Albert Vandervelde [29]

⁵ Mr Benoît Busschaert [22], Prefect.

⁶ Mr Athanase Bulteau [14]

Most affectionate spiritual Father
Ghent 16 April 1837
C.G. Van Crombrugghe