I am very pleased with the sentiments you express in your last letter. That is how I want people to ask me for services; I am fond enough of being useful to you, but I have to plan my different duties and then act according to what God seems to want of me. If I cannot attend your prize distribution, I think I will not be less useful to you if I pray for you wherever my duties detain me at the time you would like to see me at your convent.

All yours in Our Lord

Ghent, 29th August 1840