

You had no need, my dear daughter, of the long preamble with which you prefaced your letter, to obtain the permission to write to me. You have lost nothing with me of the sentiments that you know I have had for you ever since the Lord entrusted you to my direction.

The summary of your letter gives evidence that you have derived great benefits from your trials. Go forward with courage now; you will reap sound fruit from the times that have seemed dry to your rather anxious mind. You will have purified your feelings, learned how to live with less sensible help; your divine Spouse will henceforth find you more submissive and more united in charity to the heart of him who is your crucified Spouse.

I give you my blessing, my dear child, and pray for you that you will no longer put any obstacle in the way of the merciful designs of the Lord.

I find your writing rather too small; in that respect you have had no success.

Your devoted spiritual Father

Ghent, 11 April 1845