

My dear Sister

It seems to me that it would be in your power to give me some useful information about the first years in religion of our very dear Sister Aloÿse. Start making investigations; your sisters, your own memories will provide you with notes that I will be very pleased to receive and that will be used for the good of souls. You will even be able to tell me what you could not always reveal to everyone. So, I shall await with pious eagerness even the least details about that dear Child, that was the consolation of your Father in Jesus Christ and the perfect model of the Daughters of Mary and Joseph. Far from weakening with time, my affection for Madame Aloÿse has done nothing but grow since we no longer see her with our bodily eyes. Let us imitate this beautiful example, my Child, and we shall respond more and more to the designs God has on our Institute.

You know how devoted I am to you in Jesus Christ

Your spiritual Father

C. G. Van Crombrughe

Ghent, 23rd April 1838