

L.S.J.M.J.

11-17

I received at Bruges, the letter you sent me, my dear Sister. I am delighted with your wish to belong solely to your divine Spouse and to make yourself more and more useful to the humble family of Mary and Joseph, of which you have the honor of being a member. It is God who gives good sentiments, so it is to him that I address my thanks. As for you, my Child, carefully cultivate these gifts from heaven and be more generous in reality.

The fanciful project you write to me about must not occupy your mind any more. It is impractical.

As for the watches you write to me about, they would not fit in with the simplicity, with the poverty of the daughters of Mary and Joseph. All that could be permitted would be to have a clock or watch in the classroom for class use, and so it would have to be fixed on the wall, or either fixed on the small machine or watch holder.

Receive, dear Child, the blessing of

Your very devoted Father in Jesus Christ  
C. G. Van Crombrugghe

25th September 1837