

My dear daughter in Jesus Christ

The sentiments you express to me are very pleasing to me, and I thank you for them with all my heart. I know that your usual way of testifying to me your filial piety consisting in commendations to your divine Spouse, is most advantageous to me, but I must admit that a little letter from time to time gives me great pleasure. So obtain that satisfaction for me sometimes, when your occupations allow you to do so; you may count on my gratitude.

It is with joy that I see you are understanding more and more what is required of you by the sublime state to which divine goodness has raised you; be courageous, my Child, and generous and you will appreciate better from day to day, how the yoke of the Lord is light and that Jesus Christ rewards what one does for him.

Keep on reading the treatise on cheerfulness; you will find in it the remedies for all your failings; you will imperceptibly overcome the difficulties nature opposes to the designs of grace.

On my side, I am continuing to pray for you. I understand the need we all have for help from on high to make us worthy of accomplishing with success the ministry of mercy we are charged with.

Receive my blessing and believe in the devotedness of

Your Father in Jesus Christ

C. G. Van Crombrugghe

Ghent, 17th December 1838