

Praise be J.M.J.

11-5

I am taking advantage of an opportunity that is very appropriately offered, my dear Child, to repeat to you the recommendation I made you by word of mouth, not to do anything imprudent during this holy time of penance. You have a lot of work; if you were to add to it mortifications that your zeal for justice would perhaps suggest to you, you would fundamentally harm your health. You are young, not too strong, and then continually occupied with teaching. That must be enough, my Child; God does not ask you for more at the moment. Purify your heart well and adorn your mind for the service of the one who is awaiting you and will make you happy in time and in eternity. That, my dear Bathilde, is what he thinks he must say to you whose sentiments could no longer be unknown to you and who will not cease proving to you that he wants to be your true spiritual Father.

C. G. Van Crombrugghe

Ghent, 28th February 1833

Tell Mlle Flore from me that I have every reason to be assured of her vocation and, if I do not speak to her of it any more, it is because things that are clear do not require great explanations.