

Your last letters, my dear daughter in Jesus Christ, have given me very sweet satisfaction. The sentiments with which our good God is deigning to adorn your heart, in which he is pleased to make his dwelling place even without always manifesting his presence to your senses, are a pledge of that true and unvarying love that he bears you, the indications of which you will always find when the good of your soul requires it. The periods of darkness as well as the gleams of light are in turn the means used by your divine Spouse to sanctify his beloved. Thanks to Jesus Christ, you understand this teaching, and profit by everything that happens to advance towards Heaven. That is a reason for real joy for your devoted Father.

Persevere in that sweet self-denial and you will have the happiness of doing good to souls and storing up treasures of graces for eternity. I unite myself willingly with you in thanking God for his blessings, and asking him to continue to give them to us for his glory and our sanctification.

Your Father in Jesus Christ
C. G. Van Crombrugghe

Ghent, 3rd October 1862

Be sensible about taking care of your health. In reply to the question that your faith and just confidence in prayer have suggested to you, I have the consolation of telling you that I feel the effects of the filial piety that my children in Jesus Christ obtain for me.