

L.S.J.M.J.

13-9

The details you give me, my dear Daughter, prove to me that our good God is leading you by the way of privations, after making you feel his presence and tangible help for a fairly considerable time. I bless those attentions on the part of your divine Spouse. You must recognize in them an attentiveness full of charity. You are more abandoned to your own strengths and your weaknesses. In this way you will better understand that basic virtue, holy humility. You will admire that ineffable goodness that supports you and loves you, you who feel so unworthy of that distinction.

What! you will say to yourself, God deigns to love me, and I know from experience that I am unworthy; I can find in myself only tangible proofs of unworthiness! These considerations will lead you to a sincere and lasting feeling of gratitude, submission and abnegation of all natural affection for the things of this world. I want you to repay the attentions of my Savior. I shall henceforth live for him. With his grace, I shall serve him, without feeling like doing so, providing that in all things, I accomplish his good pleasure. Such will be your sentiments, for already, thanks to God, such are the sentiments I find in your letter. They are worthy of a soul that Jesus Christ enlightens and that wants above all the fulfillment of the very holy and adorable will of her divine Spouse. May God be blessed for that!

Receive, dear Child, the blessing of

Your very devoted spiritual Father  
C. G. Van Crombrugghe

Ghent, 10th August 1861