

LETTERS ADDRESSED TO MADAME ELEANORE LABOULAIS
Mistress General of the Institute
Born Sept. 17, 1829; Professed Sept. 14, 1855; Died Apr. 15, 1895
(16 Letters Dated 1853 to 1862)

L.S.J.M.J.

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It is with great pleasure, Mademoiselle that I have seen that I have been fortunate enough to rid you of a prejudice you had conceived with regard to me. It is so pleasing to me to have the confidence of the persons that divine Providence deigns to confide to me for direction, that I should purchase it even at the price of great sacrifice. I know that the success of my ministry partly depends on that attitude in my spiritual children. Let us bless our good God for this result of our first conversation. I dare to conclude from it that you will find among us and in me the way of perfection, and the means of traveling securely and with complete success, along that way which has eternal happiness as its end.

I am very pleased with the details you give me of the way you acquit yourself of your daily occupations. May our good God continue to give you his graces, and especially the one of fulfilling each of your obligations with perfection, and without trouble and anxiety, but with love, and you will advance fast along the way of perfection and store up treasures of grace for heaven while savoring here below the happiness of serving the Holy Church and enjoying that hundredfold promised to evangelical perfection.

Always rely on my true desire to prove to you that you will always find in me the devotedness that charity inspires.

It will not be due to me if you do not receive the holy habit at the time you desire to have it.

Canon Van Crombrughe

Ghent, 27th December 1853