

Praise be J.M.J.

15-21

My very dear daughter in Jesus Christ

You did well to inform me of the matter about which you have just written to me. Send me all the letters in an envelope. Then tell Sister Eugénie to receive no more communications, and that you are charged to decide the matter directly with the sodality member ("congreganiste"). Inform the latter not to be afraid to go to confession, indicating that the person concerned is bound by vows of religion. If the confessor insists on statements being made to the Superiors, she may say that everything has been done in this respect and she must not subject herself to any further steps, outside the tribunal of penance. If that "congreganiste" dare not deal with you, you could inform her through Eugenie of what I indicated here should be done.

I hope that our novena will obtain fresh favors for us and that the cure of our dear Sister Stéphanie will be among them, if it is a favor. The judgment of God being impenetrable.

Remember me to all your dear sisters; you know how sincerely I love you all and Our Lord Jesus Christ.

Your devoted spiritual Father

C. G. Van Crombrugghe

Ghent, 16th February 1840

It is useless to put on the letters sent by post, the date on which one wants them delivered. That organization does not change its arrangements in any way because of such recommendations. Other arrangements would be possible with the coach service and other opportunities. I like to think that Mme Philomène will profit by the help they are lavishing upon her at the Convent of St. Joseph, and that she will be formed internally and externally. She is in great need, as regards deportment; she is already a little lopsided. Here are the papers concerning the temporal affairs of Mme Philomène. You will hand them over to your Superior when she returns and Mme Honorine will explain matters to her.