

Dear Sister Colombe

I have read with keen interest the letter you wrote to me. I see that you are on your guard against the surprises of the devil and that you are persuaded that you would have no more formidable an enemy than that of sadness and discouragement. Your sensitivity would have had consequences if you did not form yourself to humble and prompt obedience. The attacks against the sixth commandment are not so much to be feared if you are cheerfully meek, and do not examine those temptations. Continue to go forward in the direction you have set yourself and the good God will be pleased with you, the Institute of the Sisters of Mary will experience the effects of your services, and you yourself, my Child, will be satisfied in God, in your heavenly Spouse.

So, be diligent in doing what duty asks of you, without pettiness, but also punctually. Show the Lord your good will and you will triumph both over your faults and over the invisible enemies by your perseverance in using the remedies we have prescribed for you. Finally count on the help of my prayers, we like to prove that we have feelings that respond to our position as
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Very devoted spiritual Father in Our Lord Jesus Christ.

C. G. Van Crombrugghe

Ghent, 26th June 1834