

L.S.J.M.J.

16-7

Your letter gave me the greatest pleasure. The good God is granting you great favors and he is giving you the special grace of understanding that it is out of sheer goodness, and not because you have deserved the gifts you have received.

I thank you, my child, for the good wishes you have sent me and the prayers you have said on my behalf. Be assured that I do not forget you either, in the presence of the Lord.

It will be more useful for us to see you when you come back from your Parents, than before you go to see them.

I am adding 10 francs here for your small traveling expenses.

Give my compliments to your Parents, to Mlle your sister and to Mme Constance.

Your devoted future Father in Jesus Christ

C. G. Van Crombrughe

Ghent, 2nd January 1864