

Praise be J.M.J.

17-39

The same day I received the letter enclosing your pious wish that I should solicit prayers from the Carmelites for your Reverend Mother; I made it my duty to get that help for our dear invalid. I took alms to those good souls and asked for the help of their prayers in favor of a person whose recovery seems to me very important for the good of a religious house. Since them, and today especially, I have prayed it seems to me with fervor and confidence, to the merciful Jesus whose sufferings are the concern of Holy Church and whose love for us is manifested in everything. My heart is more at rest than it has been since the 17th, and I understand that the Lord is the absolute master of all of us; that our views must be subordinated to his ever adorable wishes. Those, my dear Child, are the sentiments of your Father in Jesus Christ; strive to put yourself also at the mercy of your divine Spouse and acquit yourself with zeal and in simplicity of all he asks of you. Jesus was obedient even to the cross.

I have just received the letter you sent yesterday: thanks to the Lord, you will be able to lessen to a small extent the weight you had laid on me in spite of yourself by your news of last Tuesday! Send your letters by post, my Child, I will receive them 4 or 5 hours earlier and the cost of carriage is the same. It is a much surer way.

I am all yours forever in our Lord who was obedient even to death on the cross.

I am touched by your sentiments of filial piety. Yes, Jesus Christ, his Holy Mother and his foster Father will be touched by your perseverance. Do not let your responsibilities frighten you, my good child. Oh! how much heavier was the cross your divine Spouse carried! Let us blush at our lack of generosity.

(Letter not dated. Postmark: 3rd March 1836)