

Madame Superior

I join with you and all your dear community to thank the Holy Virgin for having obtained that which all of us desired, that of an increase in pupils, the reputation of your house and the general good of the Institute, which we would appear to have need of. I am not late in fulfilling my promise: I have said with all my heart the Te Deum that I promised. I permit you the novena and the communion that you asked, but you must say the Te Deum without any chant. Join with the practices of your novena, that of care with your writing; if you become docile, your hand will follow your example, firmly rely on it.

We have decided, I think, for a portrait with my hand. But I don't know, my dear daughter, where your judgment is because you think that each house should have the portrait. Should it not be just one (house) and the right belongs to the Mother House.

I did not have the least idea of the indisposition of Mme Superior General and I recommend her to the good God. I think that some imprudence, some little excess are the cause of the indisposition. Assign Mme Angelique to watch over our dear Superior whose docility I also suspect as that of your (word illegible) I do not like these half docilities and neither do they please God, I think.

I pray the Holy Spirit to enlighten all of you, to strengthen you, to give you peace and to make you true children of Mary and Joseph, the faithful Spouses of Jesus Christ.

Your very devoted spiritual Father

C. G. Van Crombrugghe

Ghent, 6th June 1840

(Above letter is the same as No. 4-10. Translation from French to English somewhat different.)