

Your two letters, my very dear daughter, gave me pleasure; and in spite of the defects you noticed in them and the spelling mistakes I found, you gave me to understand that you have a large heart, and that you are going forward with courage, and will correct what a state of constraint had given rise to in your sentiments and external demeanor. It is to a great extent to Mme your present Superior that you owe that result. But it is to our good God that you owe the effects of his fatherly solicitude. So, my Child, always be grateful.

I have just at this moment received the letter that your dear Mme Superior wrote to me. I thank that good and devoted child for the good things she is asking for me of St Joseph. "You are also praying very much to our glorious Patron for all your children", she says to me. Please tell her that most certainly I am trying to fulfill that sweet task with zeal. I thank her for the news she gives me. I am of the opinion that we must not be in a hurry to send Mme Julie back to Coloma. I hope to come to Brussels the first week after Low Sunday. On that occasion, I will decide about her return. I am continuing to pray for that dear invalid and for all of your other sisters.

I have seen with pleasure the satisfaction of the family of the relative of Mme Théodosie. Please tell that Lady and add that it is sweet to me to do something she finds agreeable.

I hope that your Mme Superior will allow me to have recourse to your mediation, to spare me a second letter.

Tell the young Ladies, or Mme Superior will tell the young Ladies who wrote to me, and also to the two Mlles Stack, that tomorrow at the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass I will commend them to the Lord in a very special way.

Your very devoted Father in Jesus Christ

C. G. Van Crombrugghe

Vigil of the feast of our Holy Patron 1853