

To Madame P.

19-39

I do not wish, my dear daughter that you remain any longer in that imaginary fear of having lost my good graces. If you have been deprived of a letter from me for a long time, you must attribute it only to my little amount of leisure and to God allowing it by testing you through love. I love you more than ever because I see that you work diligently at the work of your perfection. The little moment of discouragement which you felt, caused me pain, but I do not show less affection to a child who is experiencing her weakness. I thank our good Master for having given to his Spouse, that peace, that courage, that zeal, that can never abandon these privileged souls whom he has kept close to himself by blessings so sweet and so precious. Then, always be for Jesus Christ, in the darkness as in the light, and may Jesus Christ find your heart always as he desires it and as he has a right to expect it, without variations at all moments. I pray the Lord to give you what you need, to be without interruption, gentle, courageous and with true affection for your divine Spouse.

Pray also my child, for

Your devoted spiritual Father

Ghent, 22nd July 1836