

2 Letters addressed to Madame Stéphanie de Jaegher (1838-1839)

Born May 13, 1820; Professed Sept. 25, 1838; Died March 27, 1840

19-41

To Madame Stéphanie de Jaegher

It is true, my dear child, that one must have Jesus as Spouse in order to form a true idea of him. You have had the happy experience and your happiness will always increase if you are faithful to the inspirations of so tender and generous a Spouse. Be especially careful to preserve in peace, that heart which Jesus Christ has chosen for his dwelling place. May nothing be able to upset it in spite of your own weakness. With grace you can do what all others have been able to do. This grace is as strong in you as in any other. The trails are useful; they show us who we are, and they prove that we can do all things in him who strengthens us. The favors, which you have already received, make you aware that nothing is impossible with God and that you must not have any anxiety. I know, my dear child, that you want what your heavenly Spouse wants. Very well! you do not have to fear that you lack the strength to do good. Is not Jesus Christ all-powerful? Go then with courage; you will triumph over all obstacles no matter where they come from. I am myself helped by you being weak. This weakness, will bring about humility, that fundamental virtue which I know to be more and more necessary, in order to please him who wishes that we learn from him, that he is meek and humble of heart.

Your good friend, Madame N. will not fail to recommend you to Jesus, to Mary, to St. Joseph, and to the Holy Angels. Think often of this dear friend because I remember very well that she has a special consideration for you.

Your very devoted spiritual Father

Ghent, 20th April 1838