

My dear child

The sentiments you expressed in your last letter prove to me that our good God wants your heart whole and entire and that you are effectively working to give it up to him. Without reserve, the confidence you feel is a new effect of mercy. Carefully preserve that grace; it is the fruit of the love Jesus bears you. Cultivate it with zeal and perseverance. Ah! my child, the more we forget ourselves for the sake of God, the more God thinks of us. So let us be generous towards Jesus Christ and our souls will become incessantly more beautiful! Your nephew is getting better and better, so our good God has designs on him. Live therefore for Jesus and his holy love. Let him reign over all hearts. I give you my blessing and renew to you the assurance of my devotedness.

Your spiritual Father

C. G. Van Crombrugghe

Ghent, 13th April 1832