

Dear Sister

It has not been possible for me to get the retreat for you that Reverend Mother wrote to me about. The Reverend Fathers charged with this work cannot possibly render you this service at the moment. I am enclosing two letters which you will be good enough to read so as to get to know the subjects well. You will then seal them and deliver one of them to Sister N. and two days later you will deliver Sister N's. This is necessary to prevent them from making the contents known to each other.

I hope you will be more and more pleased with our dear novices. Ah! my dear Sister, take good care of those young hearts, form them for the Sacred Heart of Jesus. You can wipe out all your less perfect years with the zeal you put to preparing these new souls, forming these young Spouses for the one who merits to have the heart and mind whole and entire of those he admits to the signal honor of being his. So love your office and let nothing in you ever show anxiety or sadness.

Faith must give you an air of happiness, an air so serene that your life alone brings peace to those you are called to make happy in time and for eternity.

Tell all my dear children how much I have their perfection at heart. I love Jesus and consequently I take the most ardent interest in giving him Spouses who appreciate their sublime vocation. I also love my children; that is a very legitimate feeling, and consequently I take the most ardent interest in their happiness.

So let them have confidence in God, and faith in his promises and love everything in God who loves them throughout eternity and wants to allow them to love him also throughout eternity.

Good-bye my dear child, I give you my blessing and assure you I am always sincerely

Your devoted spiritual Father

C. G. Van Crombrugghe

Ghent, 4th June 1832