

Reverend Mother

Our dear Sister Aloÿse is still alive, and consequently, we may still cherish the hope of keeping her for the Institute in which she is so eminently useful. Let us persevere in prayer; perhaps God will be satisfied with the sacrifice of Abraham

Sister Gonzague, as a result of her weariness and anxiety, is also unwell, and although her state does not arouse anxiety, we need to come to her help. This is what I have resolved; you will send me the novice Stephanie next Wednesday; you will have a lay sister accompany her on Thursday, by rail, to Brussels and immediately return to Mouscron, after handing the Novice over at the convent of the Holy Angels.

It is with great reluctance that I have recourse to this means, but there is nothing else for me to do. At Alost we have several sick sisters, Sister Euphrosine, Sister Henriette and Sister Marie-Charlotte and each of them has a different illness. Sister Marie-Charlotte has in a little way, the same illness as Sister Aloÿse. It is a stomach inflammation that in the case of the latter has spread all through the intestines.

I beg our good God to give you his most abundant blessing and ask you, dear Superior, to pray for

Your devoted Father in Jesus Christ
C. G. Van Crombrugghe

Ghent, 18th February 1838