

I am making a novena to the Sacred Heart of Mary for all my spiritual children. It will end on the Feast of the Purification. You are not left out of my commendations, as you can well imagine.

I do not know whether I have already spoken about the fast. It seems to me that no mistress can fast. So I grant dishonest ions to you, my dear daughter, and the mistresses, except those whom you think strong enough to fast and take their classes.

Remember me to our dear invalid.

Your devoted Father in Jesus Christ

Ghent, 27th January 1853