

Accept my sincere thanks for the good wishes you sent me. I too make it a duty of mine to commend you and your dear family to the Holy Patron whom we try to honor through-out this month, and whose feast we are going to celebrate to-morrow, with a zeal full of faith and love. May your community feel the happy privilege of being so specially under the protection of St. Joseph.

I was consoled to learn that you are taking such motherly care of my dear niece, and that all our good children at the convent of St. Joseph are rivaling each other in practicing charity. That is the characteristic of the children of God. Carefully nourish those sentiments, and you will make great progress in perfection.

Please tell N. I am pleased with her goodwill. I am not requiring success in studies, but the proof that one is doing and wants to do what God asks. So you are to decide what is right to do about that person.

My kind regards to Madame Félicité. I am very pleased with her submission to her divine Spouse. I make it my pleasure to do what she has asked me through Sister N.; I commend her every day at the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

Your very devoted Father in Jesus Christ

Ghent, 18th of St. Joseph's month 1853