

02-135

As soon as the chalice is delivered to me from the Bishop's House, I will send it to you. I cannot say anything positive about the brief appearance you want me to make. However, it is a pity you have not found a painter capable of arranging your altar. All the same, the matter is not urgent.

You must abide by the decision of the doctor about abstinence and fasting. The class teachers may not fast. To remove all grounds of anxiety, I dispense them from fasting, and I include in that dispensation, the teachers of your classes for the poor. I also include those Sisters whose weak constitution or other causes lead you to judge they need a dispensation.

I will be pleased to receive all that my postulant writes to me. But let it be herself and herself alone that compose it. All the same, I will not have the leisure to reply at once, make her understand that she must not infer from that, that her letters do not please me. I have a real interest in that child. I thank you for making her known to me and for what you are doing for her.

Receive, dear daughter in Jesus Christ, my blessing and the assurance of my affectionate devotedness. I wish, for your house in particular, that the month of St. Joseph will bring down special graces on it through that powerful influence he exercises over the divine Savior's Mother and over Jesus Christ himself.

Your Father, ever and entirely yours in Our Lord

Ghent, 23rd February 1854