

Malines, 31<sup>st</sup> March 1806

Pupil at the Boarding School in the suburb of Noyon, Amiens.

My dear Great-Nephew,

Your letter gave me great joy. I see that the Lord has put into your heart a precious seed. It is the fruit of your Saviour's Passion; you must keep it carefully and water it often with prayer. The vocation to the ecclesiastical state is one of the greatest graces which God can give to a man. Do not doubt, my dear nephew, that if the Lord calls you and you open your heart, that if you humbly ask Him for the means to respond to His call, His omnipotence will remove all obstacles, His wisdom will guide you on all your paths, and His goodness will shower you with all His gifts.

I have already written to your father to ask him to allow you to study Latin: I am expecting a favourable reply. As for yourself, put yourself entirely in the hands of the Lord and, in all simplicity, say like Samuel: speak, Lord, your servant is listening. Give yourself entirely into the powerful protection of the Virgin Mary; she will be your Mother. In response to your request I am making every effort in putting this matter before our Good Lord.

I have a great friend in Amiens, a Mr Franel who lives with his son who is the Parish Priest of St Jacques. Please greet him, his son and his family on my behalf: if you need anything you can turn to him. He is a holy man and he will pray for you.

I have the honour to be affectionately your humble servant and uncle,

| \_\_\_\_\_ *JG Huleu*