

# CHAPTER I

## The Wedding Feast of the King January - June 1862

*“One hundred fifty to one hundred sixty poor workers have the privilege of having been prepared for First Communion... it is the royal mission of the Eucharistic wedding feast.”*

*To Virginie Danion*

*Feb. 25, 1862*

### **Spiritual Teacher**

- **Parish Missions**
  - Tarare**
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- **Correspondence**

### **Founder and Superior**

- **Retreats, Conferences**
- **Preparation of a Manual for Associates**
- **Resignation of Fr. de Cuers**
- **Tentatives for London**

**SPIRITUAL TEACHINGS**

*Jan 5-12 Retreat to the SSS Religious in Marseilles*

*Jan 5 Opening of Retreat*

*Jan 6 Retreat Counsels*

*1st Meditation: Purpose of a religious of the Blessed Sacrament.*

*2<sup>nd</sup> Meditation: Faith of the Magi. Their trials and victories of faith.*

*Jan 7 A.M. Openness of heart with one's director.*

*1st Meditation: Love of Jesus Christ, the means to the end. Conference: On the eucharistic Spirit.*

*2nd Meditation: Eucharistic faith, paralleled with the faith of the Magi.*

*Jan 8 Chapter: Fidelity to the spirit of the vocation.*

*Meditation: Eucharistic love - The Holy Eucharist, end and means of the life of the religious of the Blessed Sacrament.*

*3rd Conference: On Adoration. Instruction: Eucharistic love of Our Lord.*

*Jan 9 Chapter: Joy and sadness.*

*Meditation: On mortification.*

*Conference: Means to correct one's faults.*

*Jan 10 Chapter: Love for the Society.*

*Meditation: Jesus Christ, our means.*

*Conference: Means to go toward God. Instruction: Eucharistic humility.*

*Jan. 19 - Departure from Marseilles for Tarare, via Valence, La Mure and Lyons.*

**1090**

**CO 1089**

**TO MISS MARGUERITE GUILLOT (MOTHER MARGUERITE DU SS)**

**(II 208/395 VI 2)**

*Marseilles, January 19, 1862*

Dear daughter in our Lord,

I am writing to you on the train, since I didn't have [either] the time, or the possibility of doing so from Marseilles.

I'm going to stop to say a quick hello to my sister. Saturday morning, I'll go to say Mass at Fourviere, if possible. I'll see your dear sisters there briefly, and then Mme. Marcel.

In the evening I'll leave for Tarare where I'll spend a few days; then I'll leave for Paris, arriving at the end of the week. This is my itinerary. If you need to write to me, do so either at your sisters', or at the Pastor of the Madeleine at Tarare.

The north wind bothered me somewhat. I was aching for a day and a half, but it all disappeared when I was on the train.

The sea air usually bothers me a little and leaves me with a slight chest irritation.

I was favorably impressed with our little house of Marseilles, it is edifying; the Master is served well there, he must be happy. Though Fr. de Cuers is a bit rough exteriorly, he is very good at heart. He improves with acquaintance: he is a holy man, his intentions are always so upright. The Good Lord really tried him; he owes him a generous blessing, and he does bless him.

Fr. Leroyer is a true apostle of the Most Blessed Sacrament.

Fr. Locudent behaved irresponsibly here, he had caused disunity, spoken against the house to outsiders, discouraged vocations. Never had we ever had such a disgraceful novice.

Alas! after we had been so good to him!

Please give news about us to good Fr. Champion; I'll write to him later; please give my apologies to Mother at the Good Shepherd and tell her that necessity has no law.

*The Wedding Feast of the King*

Tell Sr. Benoite that I am pleased with her letter and even more so if she is prudent and prays much. My sincere and devoted wishes to all your sisters, I didn't forget them, they are my family: how could I forget them? I bless you all and especially the mother and servant of all<sup>1</sup>, in the love of our Lord.

All yours in our Lord,  
Eymard

**1091**

**CO 1090**

**TO MLLS. MARIANNE EYMARD AND NANETTE BERNARD**  
(III 121/145 VI 10)

*Marseilles, January 19, 1862*

Dear sisters,

I am writing a few words to tell you that I am on the train for Valence. I will sleep there tonight and arrive at La Mure tomorrow, Monday evening, around 6 o'clock.

I am well. See you soon!

All yours in our Lord,  
Your brother,  
Eymard, Superior S.S.

Miss Marianne Eymard  
rue du Breuil  
La Mure d'Isere  
via Grenoble

*SPIRITUAL TEACHINGS*  
*Jan 26-Feb 2 Parish Retreat at Tarare*

<i>Jan 2</i>	<i>Sun</i>	<i>Opening: Devotion to the Blessed Sacrament is the fundamental devotion.</i>
<i>Jan 27</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>1st Meditation: Eucharistic Interior Life.</i> <i>1st Instruction: Eucharistic Faith.</i> <i>2nd Meditation: Tepidity.</i> <i>2nd Instruction: If you knew the love of Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament.</i>
<i>Jan 29</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Meditation: Spiritual education through love.</i> <i>3rd Instruction: Eucharistic kindness.</i>
<i>Jan 30</i>	<i>Thr</i>	<i>Love, the Principle of Life.</i> <i>4th Instruction: Holy Communion.</i>
<i>Jan 31</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Conformity to the Will of God.</i> <i>II: The simplest, most perfect, most blessed way.</i> <i>3rd Instruction: Eucharistic Life of Jesus Christ.</i> <i>6th Instruction: The Blessed Virgin: Mary's Mission.</i> <i>Sermon: Eucharistic Royalty.</i>

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<sup>1</sup> Herself

1092

CO 1091

**TO COUNT JEAN RAYMOND DE CUERS (FR. DE CUERS SS)**  
(I 104/181 VI 4)

*Paris, February 9, 1862*

Very dear Father,

Things are back to normal.

I found the house functioning well; one is missing for the service, that is Brother Louis, he was the last one to come from Moulins. His father is a follower of “*Sicle*;” he saw what they said against religious Orders; he obliged his son to leave, in spite of the written permission he had given.

When I arrived, Fr. Champion spoke quite strongly about what I will [now] share with you.

Authority must be shown respect in everything which does not constitute a privilege, but which applies to common laws. Well, he would like the community Mass at the Mother House always to be said by the Superior. He says it is in the order of things and appropriate: a Father ought to give Communion to his children; he should be the center and the unity of prayer. He says that this is done in other Orders.

It should also be the same for the hebdomadary who ought to return to his ordinary place in choir as soon as his turn is over, if there is another office. What do you think of that, dear Father? As for me, I would prefer oblivion. I am told that in this matter it should not be a personal question.

They also say that when the Superior enters, everyone should rise, etc.

Tell me how you see this in the presence of God, and what is best. I often visit you in spirit, my heart is always present to you, especially at the feet of the Good Master.

I am well. I am behind in so many things that it is frightening: everything will get done.

Fr. Clavel made his vows December 8 and wrote us a fine letter. A thousand and one eucharistic regards to everyone.

All yours in our Lord,  
Eymard, S.S.

1093

CO 1093

**TO MME. MARTIN**  
(VII 1/1)

*Paris, February 11, 1862*

Madame,<sup>2</sup>

I am writing to thank you for your spiritual remembrance and gift to our Lord. The devotional candles burned on his altar in gratitude for the grace received. We are asking our good Master to let it continue, to bless it, to make you a happy mother.

He is so good that he will give you even more than all we could wish and hope for! So, do continue to trust in his tender kindness. Consecrate your fruit<sup>3</sup> to him. Serve him even more and you will be called blessed in Heaven and on earth.

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<sup>2</sup> Mme. Martin, 7 Rue de Bonne 1, Lyons.

<sup>3</sup> Perhaps a pregnancy. Ed.

*The Wedding Feast of the King*

Saints are always the fruit of prayer and penance.

I beg you, Madame, to remember me a little in your prayers and to believe that I am in our Lord.

Your respectful and devoted servant,  
Eymard, Superior

<i>Feb 18</i> <i>Conference Servants: Respect - Bearing.</i>
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**1094**

**CO 1094**

**TO MLES. MARIANNE EYMARD AND NANETTE BERNARD**

(III 122/145 VI 10)

*Paris, February 17, 1862*

Very dear sisters,

Here I am in the midst of increasing occupations, not having even a moment for myself. I must often accept this sacrifice and say: My God, I offer it to you! - I did receive the money you sent me, thank you.

When I reached Grenoble, there was adoration at Notre Dame de La Salette and I preached there that evening; there were many people, as usual.

When I visited the Bishop, Friday morning, I could not decline his invitation to dine with a kind Bishop from America whom I know, and who was there; this delayed my arrival at Lyons, where I had only passed at first. I preached a Blessed Sacrament retreat at Tarare, a city of twelve thousand people with seven hundred men and women adorers; I was edified and consoled by it. I preached morning and evening for a week and very many people received Communion. The Good Lord still has some very good people. Yes, you certainly would need to have a good mission at La Mure, for alas, people are very cold; yet, there are warm hearts.

So then, poor Françoise died! I began to offer her forty masses myself and I am happy to do so, because I had great esteem for her and she is surely saved. But we haven't been to Purgatory, so I really don't know.

We are having very fine weather... My health is holding up well. - Miss Guillot is pretty well, so are her sisters. I saw Miss Prost, I will try to help her.

Have courage, my good sisters, when we have the Most Blessed Sacrament, when we know it, love it, and receive it often, we can do without many things. The Master replaces all his servants in an exceptional way; what matters is to live spiritually recollected in our Lord.

I bless you.

All yours in our Lord,  
Your brother,  
Eymard, Superior

Miss Marianne Eymard  
rue du Breuil  
La Mure d'Isere

**TO COUNT JEAN RAYMOND DE CUERS (FR. DE CUERS SS)**  
(I 105/181 VI 4)

L.J.C.<sup>4</sup>

Paris, February 19, 1862

Very dear Father,

Thank you for your reply and the contents, that is: 1. About the Superior's Mass: that was my thought, I wanted to know yours.

2. About the brief admonition at meals, you are right; so we have followed that Rule ever since.

3. About London, Fr. Champion likes that idea, he has written but no answer yet; perhaps because it is an important matter.

I am praying a great deal for a third house and offer myself to our Lord to suffer for it, because a foundation is a crucifixion and a resurrection, if God wants it and finds us faithful.

4. I paid Mr. Gondon his 100 francs; he needed them badly. His project is moving ahead; I saw his memorandum, the men at the State took it seriously. He is hoping for some reimbursement.

5. You are thinking seriously about Rome, that is fine. As for me, I do not see God's will in it clearly yet, for if the Society will receive nothing by it, I ought not to go. Then, I don't think that it would be a favorable time to handle private matters with so many Bishops present: may God's Holy Will be done! I spoke about it to Fr. Champion; he is hesitant. When the time comes, he may perhaps decide favorably.

6. Fr. Champion has been ill for three or four days with a fever that is circulating. However, he wasn't bedridden, he is better and has been doing everything for the last three days. The others are fine, except Brother Simon, from Verdun, who has a slight headache.

7. If you wish, Mr. Fouquet will fix the Tabernacle key by soldering it on the ring, if you want that; you could send it to him by mail, it only costs 10 centimes. That may be the best way to have a lovely key.

8. I paid all your small bills, Fr. Carri ordered your candles. The Good Master must pay some of his candle bill.

When you send the cases to Paris, please find out the approximate weight of the case; otherwise everything will be paid like candles.

9. I was sorry to learn that you haven't been well, nor good Fr. Leroyer. Courage! take care of the lamp so that it may continue to burn for a long time! I do thank good Fr. Leroyer wholeheartedly for what he sent me, it really pleased me, I am using it.

10. As we had said, dear Father, try to see your little novices in direction every week. It is the most effective way to form them and attach them to the Society. I embrace you all *in osculo sancto*<sup>5</sup> and in the love of our Good Master, I am,

All yours,  
Eymard, S.S.

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<sup>4</sup> Praised be Jesus Christ.

<sup>5</sup> With a holy embrace.

1096

CO 1096

**TO MR. JOSEPH-AUGUSTE CARREL**

(V 11/24)

*L.J.C.*<sup>6</sup>

*Paris, February 20, 1862*

Dear friend and brother in our Lord,

I am writing to reply to your lovely letter: first, it frightened me, because it's difficult to resolve. I waited a few days, I prayed.

You are right to seek clarification, it's worth it; and then, it involves you alone. In matters of conscience, we must always go back to the principles and have a precise rule. Well, here is my reply:

There are three kinds of reactions: natural reactions, accidental reactions, and passionate reactions.- Accidental reactions have little importance, because they are unforeseen and have no roots in the will; they are simply temptations to be rejected. - Natural reactions are more serious; their root and strength come from our nature itself. They can easily become natural temptations and consequently have more power over us. Dear friend, the three examples you gave appear to me to be this type. The three examples are not a serious matter or even a voluntary cause of sin, because the reaction of temptation, criticism, or interior condemnation rests on a good principle and not on persons; that is, on the love of order, generosity and self-denial. It's true that the application then becomes personal by comparison and by parallel: that's the real temptation. The first reaction is a pure reaction without sin. The second, if it were premeditated and without a just cause, could become a venial fault. But what kind of venial fault? In your case, venial in its initial reaction, because you were quick, strong and combative. Afterward you must humble yourself about it in God's presence, when it concerns strangers or persons over whom you have no rights or responsibility. But it is your right and duty when it concerns your family or your workers; here justice passes ahead of charity. However, make justice as charitable as you can.

I don't need to speak to you about passionate reactions, thanks be to God, you are not affected by them. These reactions are not the origin, but the outcome, of an evil passion which is either loved or willed: so the reactions of a hateful, jealous, impure man are very dangerous, because they do not originate from a point of weakness, but from an enslavement or an evil foundation. - Although in principle, reactions are never sins in themselves, but only temptations in one's feelings; however, they need to be feared when they are under the dominion of a passion.

Dear friend, this is my reply. I am pleased with your question. It showed me that you give priority to your salvation and your desire to walk surely toward it. It also gives me the satisfaction of thanking you for your gracious hospitality, and to repeat my fond sentiments of dedication to you and your dear family, which I love as my own. Therefore,

All yours in our Lord,  
Eymard, Superior

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<sup>6</sup> Abbreviation: Praised be Jesus Christ.

**TO MME. MATHILDE GIRAUD-JORDAN**  
(IV 5/19)

L.J.C.

*Paris, February 23, 1862*

Madame Mathilde,

Dear daughter, I'm writing to answer all your questions. They show that you understood me well and that you seriously desire to belong to God with your whole heart and by your whole life.

First, let's establish this great principle:

Go to God, to your duties, to your neighbor, in a spirit of love, of love for his present holy Will, because God wants it so.

Then everything will be an exercise varied by this divine Will. You will be led by this beloved divine Will, you will remain free toward everything else.

You will then have only one general, universal and specific thought: God wants it, God no longer wants it, God does not want it.

The way to attain the spirit of this great principle is to pray, to meditate a few days on its excellence, to read what relates to it, such as the Treatise on the *Conformity to the Will of God*, by Rodriguez, etc. It is to make frequent aspirations of love for this will which directs, accompanies and follows all our actions and situations.

Now let me reply to the details of your letter. You say: "It is easy enough to see the Will of God in the duties of my state of life, but what disturbs me are inspirations for things which are not obligatory, such as to deny oneself a legitimate pleasure, to choose a mortification, etc."

Reply:

1. Follow inspirations of counsel when they come with peace and the attraction of grace: God wants it from your good heart.

Reject those which conflict with other duties and leave your soul sad, upset or worried, or undecided as to whether God wants it or not. That is a false light.

2. Be more generous in mortifications of sensuality, when you think of it beforehand, but leave them aside when it comes during an action which is already in course. It's too late. It would be nothing more than a pious worry or a disturbed conscience.

3. Reject your fear of a way of life which is too perfect: that comes from the fact that you are focusing on the mortification itself, on the means and not on the freedom of life in God, the great principle of life.

4. How many times should I plan to think of God during the day?

Reply - Choose some external sign which reminds you about God: for example when the clock chimes, when you are beginning a short action, when you receive a visitor, etc.

Love's thoughts are in what it loves. The greater the love, the more frequent, pleasant and spontaneous the memory of it is.

The love of God should be natural, that is, related to what you are doing, to your interior feelings, mingled with everything you love.

5. Which penances? - Short ones, during a free moment, when you are alone. Never otherwise, and better in the morning, if you are not alone at night. In that case, it would be better to set them aside.

6. Don't meditate with pen in hand, but always with your heart, and a little bit with your mind, when it isn't closed. Have few concentrated reflections. Reflect with affection, in dialogue with God, etc.

7. Confession every two weeks is enough. However, if something extraordinary, insurmountable or very definite prevented you from receiving Communion, it would be better for

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you to seek reconciliation,<sup>7</sup> because holy Communion is the purpose of life and its perfection.

8. For you holy Communion is the principal exercise of Christian virtue, the royal act of love, the morning rain.

You must then go to holy Communion as to the sovereign grace of sanctification, like a little girl who has nothing, like a good beggar who needs everything and to whom our Lord wants to give himself as a favor and with special love.

9. As for night examen, examine your duties toward God first, then toward your neighbor, and finally the interior faults which your conscience felt or perceived, and no more.

As for interior faults of self-love, laziness [or] distractions, dismiss them as soon as they occur. They are like mosquitos for your state in life, or like the dust from the wind.

10. To struggle against your dominant fault, laziness, means never to put off a duty when the time has come to fulfill it and it can be done without too much inconvenience.

Love the Good Lord very much, dear daughter, but with a spiritual love of his divine beauty and truth, with the love of an affectionate and childlike heart, with a devoted love, as new as the flame from the hearth which never turns back on itself.

Goodbye, I bless you and will always pray for you and yours, who are very dear to me.

Eymard, S

**1098**

**CO 1097**

**TO MME. NATALIE JORDAN (NEE BRENIER DE MONTMORAND)**

(IV 38/75)

*L.J.C.*

*Paris, February 23, 1862*

Madame and dear sister in our Lord,

You are scolding loudly, but I only spent a few hours in Lyons, in spite of the two nights. I spent all my time on the mountain of Fourviere visiting the communities there, etc. So Lyons didn't have the greatest share of my time. Then I must also say that I don't know how to free myself from people and that I stay too long where I shouldn't. To sum up, you have scolded me enough, or pretended to do so. Aren't you an eldest daughter in our Lord!

So, I am totally ready to receive your two nieces and give them all the time they want. But they must come; since errands take a long time in Paris, it would be better if they could write me a note the day before to tell me at what time they will come. It's true that I am always at home at 4:00, the time of Benediction. I am free either before or at 4:30.

So you are busy with errands and visits, and you feel good about it. So much the better! The interior life sometimes needs an outlet or even some difficult practice; the soul isn't distracted by it, it finds its expression there and pours out its surplus. Therefore, learn how to converse with God and your neighbor, keep God within you in the midst of the world; and when you have expended too much of your interior life, refill this empty vase and become once again a full and overflowing reservoir. You must!

I always pray for you. In our lives, we come across certain persons whom we never forget because they are like a mirror which is ever alive in the presence of God.

Goodbye then, I leave you and bless you.

All yours,  
Eymard

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<sup>7</sup> Confession.

**1099**

**CO 1099**

**TO MISS VIRGINIE DANION (SR. ANNE DE JESUS/SR. MARIE OF THE BL. SACRAMENT)**  
(IV 15/36)

*L.J.C.*

*Paris, February 25, 1862*

Very dear sister in our Lord,

I arrived here from Marseilles just a few days ago, and I didn't have the pleasure of reading your dear letter until today. I am answering promptly.

First of all, thank you for your Masses. I like to say them myself, every Tuesday.

I found eleven adorers in our house of Marseilles; three of them are priests; they understand the Blessed Eucharist, and that is saying everything. They love it and are fully dedicated to its service. The Work is influencing all of Marseilles. There, worship of the most Blessed Sacrament by perpetual Forty-Hours is splendid. Picture the church of Forty-Hours opened all night. Until noon, it is ordinarily full; from midnight to 5 o'clock still many people, and that, in every parish.

When I returned to Paris, I stopped at Tarare near Lyons. I gave a eucharistic retreat there in a city of 12,000 people. There are 700 men and women adorers there, and day adoration is perpetual in both parishes. It is very comforting and edifying.

Here in Paris, we are 14; there are 7 priests and the rest are aspirants or brothers.

Our Work for the First Communion of adults is growing: 150 to 160 workers have the privilege of having been prepared for First Communion; they are poor rag-pickers, poor neglected children from the factories. What a beautiful and lovely mission; it's the royal mission of the eucharistic wedding feast.

Rich, important, even learned people, put aside the holy Eucharist; the poor uneducated people of the world replace them. What causes me unbearable pain is to see many priests without devotion to the most Blessed Sacrament, who appreciate only external activities or knowledge. Oh! What are they doing? Nothing. - Empty echoes, dead words, they hardly still know how to speak about our Lord. How distressing! Heart-rending!

So, now we must rivet the chain of our hearts to the foot of the altar.

Oh! dear sister, let us pray, suffer, immolate ourselves in the presence of the adorable Host; never have the needs been greater, never more need for reparation. - What are Christians doing? devout souls? Hell is unleashed, the reign of evil is spreading, the blaze of impure vice is taking over from one person to another, the darkness of unbelief is increasing and spreading; and we are sleeping! and we say: everything is fine! Oh! Oh! If we could see what the heart of Jesus and the heart of Mary must be suffering, and the sadness of the Angels!

I leave you, my sister. I'm going to adore our Lord and God, for you and for me, in union with you and all the souls who love him.

Your silence is never blamed, nor judged; but, good sister, you aren't in Heaven yet from where people can no longer write or be crucified. Be a little more efficient with your time.

All yours in our Lord,  
Eymard, Superior

**TO COUNT JEAN RAYMOND DE CUERS (FR. DE CUERS SS)**  
(I 106/181 VI 4)

L.J.C.

*Paris, February 28, 1862*

Very dear Father,

Trials can be expected for such a beautiful Work! I admit that the trial that came from Michael affected me very much, I had accepted the sacrifice of what he had stolen, but the Masses were worrying me.

Finally, our Lord saw to it that we should be repaid sufficiently to pay for our monthly bread; I had been too happy to have a little in advance.

We received your money and applied it as you had indicated.<sup>8</sup> Thank you for the 25 francs for the house, but keep some small Providence for yourself and your needs, which are increasing with the family.

For those who come to see, examine whether they come from God, drawn toward and by our Lord. We must receive as a brother those whom God has chosen, who cooperate with his grace, and come with the honor of virtue in their present state, and with good will.

Twenty-five years is a nice age, I like it. God is giving strength to the curate.<sup>9</sup> Alas! There are so few priests who have the courage to break away from everything, stopped by a thousand things!

For the novices' breakfast, do as you think best. Some with weaker stomachs may need more, as some do here. The wisest thing, I feel, is to leave it to the prudence of the Superiors. However, I find that the idea is very good, and I will benefit from it.

London is still in contact, the owner hasn't been found. Fr. Bernin from London likes the idea, he will try other ways. Things are still in the planning stages, Fr. Champion is very enthusiastic: let us pray. But, farewell to the cassock [worn] in public. Ecclesiastical Authority has forbidden it for serious prudent reasons. Everyone is following the decision of the provincial Council; they wear only a white collar and a semi-clerical garb. Everyone who knows London says the same thing: therefore, if you went to London, you would be bound to the cloister.<sup>10</sup>

Nothing new in the house. -- The divine Master lives and reigns.

Goodbye. Many regards to everyone.

All yours in our Lord,  
Eymard

<i>Mar 4</i>	<i>Conference Servants: Four ends of sacrifice</i>
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<sup>8</sup> Fr. de Cuers' military pension.

<sup>9</sup> Priest studying his possible vocation to the Society.

<sup>10</sup> Fr. de Cuers' evident determination to wear a cassock.

**TO MME. CAMILLE CHANUET NEE CROZET (SR. CAMILLE DU SS)**  
(VII 10/17)

*Paris, March 6, 1862*

Dear mother and sister in our Lord, Finally, I can turn [my attention] to you! How has this happened? I have no idea. One thing is sure, I was not silent about you in the presence of our Lord. The thought of you and your sacrifice are always present to me. That is what leads me to say that in God's sight it is fine and very fine.<sup>11</sup>

What you are feeling is felt by all those who seek and desire God alone. The attraction to his holy will is strong enough but not clear enough to produce only peace and trust. At certain times of grace, everything is radiant, beautiful, attractive; then difficulty, anxiety, even agitation follow. We are afraid, fearful, everything in us revolts. It is the [moment of the] garden of Olives, of sacrifice.

Oh! How much did I myself suffer from that situation; not so much with doubts about my vocation, but from my unworthiness, my presumption. I was asking for the grace of a sudden death rather than to act counter to the will of God. God supports us in this state of war; we feel within ourselves a powerful strength which goes beyond the ordinary. Then, at a grace-filled moment, we forget all our suffering. We love, we desire sacrifice, we accept everything, we want everything to be as God wills because he wills it.

However, we must not open the door to practical doubts, to indifference toward both [ways] of life. We must incline our heart toward the way which is more perfect, more glorious for our Lord. Indifference would be the beginning of infidelity. God forbid!

Therefore, dear mother, when the sight of the children you are leaving strikes you with all its emotions, make it a bouquet of flowers; look at Abraham, the Blessed Virgin, our Lord.

When your struggle springs only from yourself, from the sacrifice of your freedom, your comfort, your person, Alleluia! (in spite of Lent). This is the victim of pleasing fragrance, the true Isaac. The more there is, the greater the victory!

Oh! Desire to come soon! Come under the shadow of this divine palm tree, which feeds and covers the solitary soul with its shadow. Vocations other than the great vocation of our Lord are only sporadic.

At least, be here at all times in your heart, your mind, your life. Then you will be on a mission, but at home, which will be your duty at that moment.

Goodbye, good Mother. Now that the door is open, I will be more prompt and attentive.

All yours in our Lord,  
Eymard

Mme. Chanuet (widow)  
18 rue St. Helene  
Lyons

<i>Mar 7</i>	<i>Conference Servants: Four ends of sacrifice.</i>
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<sup>11</sup> He means the approaching entry of Mme. Chanuet, the mother of Fr. Michel Chanuet, to the religious life.

**1102**

**CO 1102**

**TO MME. NATALIE JORDAN (NEE BRENIER DE MONTMORAND)**  
(IV 39/75)

*Paris, March 10, 1862*

Madame and dear sister in our Lord,

Continue your breakfast as you are doing;<sup>12</sup> hunger does not prove a good fast, but the will to do it and the fulfillment of the external law.

I can tell by your letter that you care for others first and yourself last; that is progress in charity; but isn't that nightmare of a trip to Lyons over yet? I've learned from experience that I would need to be abducted and gagged. Once I go out on the street, I don't belong to myself nor to anyone else.

I saw your dear nieces, three different personalities with their own good qualities.

I gave them all the free time I had, so you should be pleased with me because I obeyed you.

They will tell you about my decisions: God, grace, and time are the Christian's three great strengths; whoever is looking for God alone and his Will at each moment is always in peace and fervent.

Thanks to our dear Mathilde for her little letter. I suppose that her mother<sup>13</sup> will read mine and explain it, if needed, and will also find a few good thoughts in it.

Thanks to your good friend from the 4<sup>th</sup><sup>14</sup> who is so affectionately dedicated to you; I received her letter this morning. I was pleased with it, as usual. I agree with her, but I hope for better.

Goodbye then, good and eldest daughter in our Lord. You know that you have rights that no one else has, and so I really count that you will obtain for me from God one of those graces which makes saints.

All yours in our Lord,  
Eymard

**1103**

**CO 1103**

**TO MME. MARGUERITE BLANC DE ST. BONNET (NEE CHANUET)**  
(VII 1/1)

*[Paris], March 10, 1862*

Madame and dear sister in our Lord,

I am enclosing a little note with the letter to your dear brother,<sup>15</sup> in order to tell you to remain always available to the love of our Lord, to be entirely his, like his possession, his property, in order that he may do with you as he wishes and you may attend to everything which will please him.

See our Lord in everything, I mean, our Lord in his kindness, in his divine and gracious Providence of salvation, disposing everything for our greater good.

Continue to receive Communion with the obedience of a child, the simplicity of love and the poor person's gratitude. Your natural and supernatural life must come to you from the Holy Eucharist. Continue to go [to Communion] with a longing for our good Savior who calls you, waits for you and loves you.

---

<sup>12</sup> Lenten fasting.

<sup>13</sup> Natalie Jordan herself.

<sup>14</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> district, perhaps

<sup>15</sup> Mr. Amedee Chanuet or Fr. Michel; we do not have that letter.

*The Wedding Feast of the King*

You have nothing, but you need Jesus; you have neither virtues, nor merits to offer, but you have your heart, and the grace which God gives you.

I do thank the Good Lord that you are feeling a little better, and especially are really conformed to the Holy Will of God; that is the best [thing] that you could do.

My loving [respects] to your husband, to the mother<sup>16</sup> and the whole family, to Miss Zenaide and to all your children.

I bless you.

All yours in our Lord,  
Eymard, Sup.<sup>17</sup>

**1104**

**CO 1104**

**TO MME. FELICIE DE COUCHIES (NEE RATTIER)**

(VII 3/9)

*Jesus Hostia*

*Paris, March 12, 1862*

Dear Lady,<sup>18</sup>

I don't have any plans this week nor next week; so you may come.

On Wednesdays, I go out in the afternoons until 4:00 p.m., but not always.

I am happy with the news you give me about your fine daughter.<sup>19</sup> I will be happy if I can help her, as well as yourself, dear Lady.

I am in our Lord, all yours,  
Eymard, Sup.

**1105**

**CO 1106**

**TO MR. ROSEMBERG AND FAMILY**

(VII 5/9)

*Paris, March 14, 1862*

Very dear friends,

How shall I begin my letter? If you were not so far, I would come to express my great act of contrition, because I have been here for a month and I still have a stack of letters in front of me; but I am writing to you with the tender friendship [which I feel] in our Lord, which you have inspired within me and which two baptisms have strengthened. You really are my family. That is how I love you and offer you every day under that title to our good Master. Yes! I do pray for you every day. You know my wishes are always the same: let us truly love our Lord Jesus Christ. Let us love him royally in his beloved Sacrament; let us serve him with joy and happiness, like the Angels and Saints in Heaven. Let us always be happy with God, with his holy and ever adorable will. Let us find everything good,

---

<sup>16</sup> Mme. Camille Chanuet.

<sup>17</sup> Abbreviation for superior.

<sup>18</sup> In-law to the Chanuet family, mother of Sr. Philomene du SS.

<sup>19</sup> Blanche Chanuet (nee de Couchies) or Nathalie (S. Philomene).

*The Wedding Feast of the King*

everything fine which comes to us from his fatherly hand. Let us lovingly surrender to him our worries for the future, forgiveness for the past, and walk under the beautiful sun of his grace.

Oh! How unfortunate are those who do not know Jesus, our good Savior. How ungrateful are those who reject him! How guilty are those who deny him! There are so many today who look at a man, a master, to know whether they ought to believe in Jesus Christ, serve and honor him.<sup>20</sup>

Oh! How many lazy, mercenary apostates there would be, if a choice had to be made between a job and faith, a protector and Jesus Christ, Luther or the Pope!

Good friends, let us pray. See how our good Master can make his church grow on its own! How he unmasks his enemies! How they are overcome, because they are the enemies of God, of the church, and of any decent society.

I have real confidence in divine mercy and in the protection of the Immaculate Virgin Mary.

You are in perpetual thanksgiving, dear friends. Remain so always. May God give you a thousand times more loving reasons [to be so]!

I bless you, father, mother and dear children. I embrace the whole family, especially my good little Madeleine, and that charming Catherine.

Thank you for your pictures; they brought me the greatest pleasure, I keep them all in front of me and I place you under the Blessed Sacrament<sup>21</sup> from Sunday, the 16<sup>th</sup>, until the end of the month. There is no more beautiful place on earth; that is where you shall all be blessed!

It will surely be a feast for me to go to Tours, when the Good Lord wills it. I have such good friends there in our Lord. It has been such a long time since I have seen good papa Dupont! I am longing for it. Please say hello to him in God; one day it shall be eternal.

Goodbye dear friends. My loving remembrance to all our mutual friends.

All yours in our Lord,  
Eymard, Superior

**1106**

**CO 1105**

**TO MME. CAMILLE CHANUET NEE CROZET (SR. CAMILLE DU SS)**  
(VII 11/17)

*L.J.C.*

*Paris, March 14, 1862*

Dear Mother and dear sister in our Lord,

I certainly favor your plan to go spend a few days at Lantignie, then you will come and have your prie-dieu.<sup>22</sup> Later you can return to move your belongings, etc.

I like the peace and orderliness of your plans. Your departure must be noble, gracious and holy. It will be.

Dear daughter, keep in mind that you are coming to the divine court, that you will be living in the midst of the Angels, that Jesus will replace father, spouse, children, heaven and earth for you, and consequently that everything is an honor and again, love and happiness.

I like to present you to our Good Master every day, and to bless you. Therefore,

All yours in our Lord,  
Eymard, Superior

---

<sup>20</sup> Consider political advantage.

<sup>21</sup> Their names under the monstrance.

<sup>22</sup> Enter the convent.

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Mme. Chanuet (widow)  
18 rue St. Helene  
Lyons

**1107**

**CO 1107**

**TO COUNT JEAN RAYMOND DE CUERS (FR. DE CUERS SS)**  
(I 107/181 VI 4)

L.J.C.

*Paris, March 22, 1862*

Very dear Father,

I don't need to tell you how sorry I felt when I read your letter. I can understand your personal pain; I can see that your only intent is the love you bear for the Society and your fear of harming it.

Without analyzing your reasons, I'm writing to beg you to continue in your responsibility until its time is over; I'm not ready to name another Superior; while you have the initial grace, another would need to be taught.

I know all that you are able to do and not do, dear Father, I take the responsibility for it. Your conscience should find comfort in having expressed your present state of mind and count on the grace of God and holy obedience.

I am convinced that to make a change at this time would be more harmful than helpful. Please, good Father, I have enough crosses, spare me that one. I beg you in the name of our Lord, continue to bear your cross a little longer; there is no honor today in being a Superior, there are only sacrifices. It isn't time yet.

Take heart, good Father, consider it as a temptation. I bless you *in osculo sacrae dilectionis*.<sup>23</sup>

All yours in our Lord,  
Eymard S.S.S.

*SPIRITUAL TEACHINGS*

*Mar 26, 27, 28 Paris Retreat for the 40 Hours Services at Herblay.*

*Opening: Prepare the Way of the Lord.*

*Mar 26 1st Day.*

*Morning Instruction: Priesthood.*

*2nd Instruction: Faith in the Blessed Sacrament.*

*Mar 27 2nd Day.*

*1st Instruction: Holy desires for Communion.*

*Instruction: Contrition.*

*Mar 28 3rd Day.*

*Meditation: On prayer.*

*Instruction: Eucharist, the Christian's consolation.*

*Vespers: Priesthood.*

---

<sup>23</sup> with a holy loving embrace.

**1108**

**CO 1108**

**TO MME. CLOTILDE THOLIN-BOST**  
(IV 45/52)

*L.J.C.*

*Paris, March 30, 1862<sup>24</sup>*

Madame and dear sister in our Lord,

Thank you for your brief letter; thank you for the fine, devout greetings from the good adorers of Tarare. I also have a beautiful memory of it. Tarare will become the city of my heart. Our Lord must be happy with it; he has a court of fervent and dedicated hearts [there]. You must love this city of crosses and graces a thousand times more.

You must have eyes, ears, taste and hopes only for the holy Will of God at each moment. Hold our Lord's hand and tell him: "Lead me where you will." Poor George!<sup>25</sup> it's a passing fever, you must let it pass, and make him pray. We will surely do so for him.

My best regards to your dear husband, to your dear patient, to all your loved ones. I would really have liked to see your younger brother, but impossible.

Dear sister, may our Lord keep you for his works of glory and give you the strength and joy of his good and beloved service.

All yours in our Lord,  
Eymard, Sup.

**1109**

**CO 1109**

**TO MISS ZENAIDE BLANC DE ST. BONNET**  
(VII 3/5)

*L.J.C.*

*Paris, March 30, 1862*

Mademoiselle,

I am hurrying to thank you for remembering me; I read your letter with the special interest I have for a soul whom God has entrusted to me. To begin, yes, we are praying and we will continue to pray for you and all your loved ones. It's a spiritual and perpetual contract in God's sight.

No! No! Our Lord will not forsake you; he will not leave you ... your place will always be there, yours is a place of love in his divine heart. You belong entirely to the Good Master; you give yourself to everyone for his sake, in all things you are in him.

This sensitivity is not wrong; however, it can go too far. When it becomes upsetting, causes sadness, endures, it must be stopped, even struggled against by your filial submission to the Holy Will of God.

The Good Lord does not forbid us to love our dear ones tenderly; on the contrary, he wills it. Try to direct all these affections toward our Lord as their purpose: our Lord, the royal love of your heart.

I understand that the trials of your family hurt you more than your own, that is always the seal and proof of true friendship. Here again, bring all these crosses to God in order that he may remove or bless them.

---

<sup>24</sup> Listed in the French Volume as May 30, 1862.

<sup>25</sup> Her son.

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I will send you my meditations later. I need to review and complete them; but don't hesitate to ask me for them again. I am a good debtor, but a little negligent and forgetful.

I wish that your dear brother would sell his country home at a good price and soon, that would give him some rest. I promise I will make a novena for this. It will begin Wednesday in honor of St. Joseph.

I understand your sorrow and your joy regarding the decision of Mme. Ch[anuët],<sup>26</sup> I am surprised myself. I did not expect this vocation so soon, but God had it in mind, he wanted that generous heart, that soul so on fire for good. You are not losing her, she will always be a good mother, a good grandmother, a good friend. She will return to visit her children, when it will be helpful. I am convinced that her generous decision will be a positive thing for her families. She was dedicated to all, she will always be, but in a different way.

We are keeping a place for you here, dear daughter, but your mission is not over yet. Stay there, continue to belong to our Lord, by the gift of the heart, in the continual self-denial of your will.

"Sr. Benoite loves you dearly, she is happier than you are. She tells you<sup>27</sup> to be very spiritual, very simple with our Lord. You are doing better. Win that friend who loves you very much. Open her heart to God, because she is sad. She would be such a beautiful soul if she entered more deeply into the spirit of Jesus."

Well, my errand is complete now. I recommend myself to your kind thoughts in prayer. Believe me ever in our Lord,

All yours,  
Eymard

**1110**

**CO 1110**

**TO COUNT JEAN RAYMOND DE CUERS (FR. DE CUERS SS)**  
(I 108/181 VI 3)

*L.J.C.*

*Paris, April 1, 1862*

Very dear Father,

Thank you for sending the money, it came just in time for our needs, and for your Masses. I always regret receiving money from Marseilles, because I am afraid that you might need it more than we do, and that you would be lacking something. In that case, I wouldn't want it.

I received your remarks about the formation of future Superiors with the same intention which made you write it, that is, for the greater good of the Society. We will do all that we can; In the meantime, we are training them for confession, for preaching. Fr. Carri began well enough, even very well for him. Fr. Peilin overcame his weak voice and preached well. Fr. Chanuët repeated himself a little; he needs to train himself and work at composition, since he is one of the most capable.

One of our novices has the chills; however, he is feeling better. He is a 33-year-old priest from Brussels, very pious, very devoted to the Blessed Sacrament, but his health is weak. However, we must say that he is very regular and edifying; he is still only a postulant.

Nothing new; no news from London, nor new members. I would be grateful if, at your convenience, you would send me a memo on the debts that still have to be paid for repairs, the exact cost of the house, the amount we hope to withdraw, and the due date.

---

<sup>26</sup> Sr. Camille du SS, her sister-in-law's mother.

<sup>27</sup> The rest of the paragraph is a message he is conveying for Sr. Benoite.

*The Wedding Feast of the King*

My eucharistic regards to you and to everyone, dear Father, *in osculo sancto*.

All yours in our Lord,  
Eymard S.

**1111**

**CO 1111**

**TO MME. CAMILLE CHANUET NEE CROZET (SR. CAMILLE DU SS)**  
(VII 12/17)

*L.J.C.*

*Paris, April 2, 1862*

Dear Mother,

I am writing a few lines to tell you how happy your letters made me. You understand the dignity of the gift of grace which our Lord wants to give you, while yet recognizing that you are unworthy of it, and in fact, who is worthy of a eucharistic vocation? It is the means by which we live the life of the Angels, dwelling with the adorable person of our Lord, we become his by immolating ours [will]. Oh, how afraid I was to become unworthy of this grace, [even] when I was still longing for it! How I feared to be rejected by God! I spent five years that way, feeling both fear and great interior joy. The eucharistic attraction had become a supernatural force which enabled me to understand the value of trials and the progress [that comes] by means of crosses. What impressed me most as the time approached was this thought: this sacrifice of leaving everything is done only once in a lifetime. It must be done well, it is worth martyrdom, it is the Baptism of love. Oh! Happy the soul which gives itself to our Lord to be only his! It's only right, a servant gives herself to service, a bride to her bridegroom, an adorer to the God of the Eucharist who will be a good Master, a great King, a divine Spouse.

How fortunate you are, good Mother, to end your life here below by the sacrifice of love! To come to live at the feet of Jesus, after having worked for him in your neighbor. Each thing in its own time.

It comforts me to see that your fine daughters, in spite of their pain and the loss which your departure will cause their poor hearts, participate in the grace and the glory of our Lord, to give you to him, to offer such a great sacrifice to him. They will receive the hundredfold in this world which you will receive yourself, because we could say that their sacrifice is greater than yours. Poor Emily! I understand her tears and her pain. She is such a good daughter, yes, she is such a tender mother! But her heart will follow you and become even more spiritual. From here you will help her greatly. Later she will see you again, and her dear brother Michel. Oh! No, she is not losing anyone, she will always have both claims.

Good Lady Marguerite<sup>28</sup> also sees and praises God for everything, she is right. Our Lord, for whom she loves you, will take account of this immense sacrifice. He will give her the strength of his love. It is boundless. Now she knows where to draw her strength and her light, in Holy Communion.

And dear Amedee, he is surely the one who is losing the most, or rather, who will gain the most, for I understand the void you will create for dear Lady Blanche<sup>29</sup> who must replace you. But, they will come to see you and look for you here at the feet of the Blessed Sacrament. The thought of you will be inseparable from the [thought] of our good Master. Love for their mother will be an adoration of the divine King she serves, the thought of you shall be like a perpetual mission among your dear ones.

---

<sup>28</sup> Mme. Blanc de St. Bonnet.

<sup>29</sup> Her daughter-in-law, Mme. Amedee Chanuet, (nee de Couchies).

*The Wedding Feast of the King*

Please, dear Mother, Easter is approaching, the beautiful day of love, the eucharistic wedding, the entry into the Paradise of Jesus.

Believe me in our Lord, dear Mother, all yours,

Eymard, Superior

Mme. Chanuet (widow)  
18 Rue St. Helene  
Lyons

**1112**

**CO 1112**

**TO COUNTESS FEGELY DE VIVY**

(V 2/3)

*LJCE*<sup>30</sup>

*Paris, rue de Faubourg St. Jacques 68, April 3, 1862*

Madame Countess,

I can't tell you the pleasure I experienced reading your fine letter, when I returned from a trip to the South.

Thank you kindly. It shows me that you do not forget me, especially in the presence of our Lord. You have had many difficulties since I had the honor of seeing you, many setbacks every kind; but God is watching over you and your dear daughters, so that nothing unfortunate may happen to you.

Now you are at home, quiet with your fine devout daughters. Surely, we are well at home, with everything at hand, and especially, at one's convenience, or rather, under the same roof, our Lord. How fortunate you are to belong entirely to this good Master! You are rich, but in order to do more good; you have many farmers, but it is to help them to be good servants of God.

For the trials of life, oh! yes, this cross is great, but your virtue is even greater. After having done all that prudence and charity require, we must leave the rest to God who knows what is best for you.

For your Way of the cross, there are some beautiful ones at Bouasse-Lebel, rue St. Sulpice. It is a multi-dimensional photograph. It is the best there is for a small chapel. If you need me, Madame, I would be very happy to help you.

I was thinking a little about the pleasure of seeing you again in Paris this winter, but I see that I must give that up.

Miss Aloysia must be so happy in the house she loves so much!

Thank you, Madame, for your gracious invitation. I would be very happy to go to greet you if you were not so far, or if I had a little more time. I would go quite willingly, but I am the chamberlain of the great King, his unworthy but happy servant. - At his feet, Madame, I will always remember you, your dear family and your kindness for our little Society. God is still blessing it. We are fourteen in Paris, counting seven priests, and ten in Marseilles, of whom three are priests.

Many are called; but few come to the feet of our Lord.

Once again, I recommend the Father and sons<sup>31</sup> to your pious charity: we have such a great need of graces of holiness and devotion.

It will ever be a gentle consolation, Madame Countess, to receive news about you, because you will be on our eucharistic lists until Eternity.

---

<sup>30</sup> Praised be Jesus Christ Eucharistic.

<sup>31</sup> Literally: children, meaning his religious community.

*The Wedding Feast of the King*

Madame Countess, believe me ever in our Lord,

All yours,  
Eymard, Superior

P.S. My very faithful and devoted respects to your good Aloysia, for whom I love to pray, because she is so mature and kind.

1113

CO 1113

**TO MISS MARIE FEGELY**

(V 1/3)

*L.J.C.E.*

*Paris, April 4, 1862*

Miss Marie,  
Mademoiselle and dear sister in our Lord,

Your letter was a great consolation to my heart, because I was worried about all of you.

Then, there are some souls, who, since they are dear, remain so always. God gives one a spiritual empathy for them, which is a relationship of grace and of divine charity in our Lord.

I have seen many people since you passed through Paris; you are ranked among the first in the presence of our Lord to whom you are very dear and who loves you so!

Love him well, serve him royally, this good King and divine Spouse of your heart! Isn't it right that there should be souls called great by the world, and whom the world would like to buy!

Even if you had the most beautiful crown in the world, the richest wedding dowry, I would like to see you as you are belonging entirely to Jesus, the King of love, and you, his happy servant, his eternal spouse. Jesus, our good Master, has so few chosen souls, so few royal servants! You must count for a thousand, and serve him for ten thousand, by a fervent and generous eucharistic piety.

The Eucharist! That, dear Mademoiselle, is your center, your life, your death.

He is a personal Emmanuel; you must be his faithful companion. Love life only for the divine Eucharist, just as Heaven is loved only for God, and not for self.

May your divine love be your criteria for law, virtue, charity, and especially the scale from the sanctuary to judge, esteem, reject, desire, struggle according to your grace of love. Yes, yes, be pure with a purity [which is] like the rays of the sun, since this divine Sun rises in you every morning. The rays from heaven enlighten the mud the same as the flowers, but are not soiled by it. They do not unite themselves to stench, to darkness, but scatter them; they all begin from the same source: so, dear Mademoiselle, may your purity be. May it emanate from the Sun of the truth and love of our Lord Jesus Christ; may never a cloud or an obstacle cut them off from their direct line upon you or upon others. Let them be visible, like the rays, but not tangible, in order that no one may soil them by an impure or imperfect touch.

It is the ray which allows the beauty of the flowers to show; may purity be the beauty and goodness of all your virtues.

Oh! yes, be very pure, because God only joins himself to purity, - and according to the degree of purity, - like the affinity of two bodies in harmony. Be, not proud, but jealous of this purity, which is the most beautiful crown of divine love.

All the efforts of the devil and of the world are directed against the purity of the Spouse of our Lord, be sure of it.

You will even find priests who are more zealous for the good of their neighbor, of a man, than to protect and perfect a spouse of Jesus Christ. Beware of those who speak only about the salvation of their neighbor, and forget that the glory of our Lord has first rights. There are priests who

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imagine they are doing a great thing who encourage the marriage of a spouse of Jesus, or of one who wants to be, alas!

May our Lord keep you, strengthen you and possess you ever! In him then,

All yours,  
Eymard, Sup. Soc. SS

Miss Marie de Fegely de Vivy  
rue de la Prefecture  
Fribourg, (Switzerland)

**1114**

**CO 1115**

**TO MR. ROSEMBERG AND FAMILY**  
(VII 6/9)

*L.J.C.E.*

*Paris, April 8, 1862*

Dear friends,

A brief greeting from the Good Lord to the whole dear family! To the dear mother, in order that she may always be the beloved disciple of the maternal Providence of God, ever gracious in her duties, ever joyful with her friends, always attentive to the Good Lord like the child of his heart, and the good Mother of Mothers. To the father my deepest spiritual expressions of friendship. May he be the St. Joseph of the Holy Family, father and servant, master and disciple. May our Lord bless new little Martin, may he be holy like his Patron, great in works and in words for the glory of God.

I haven't seen Miss Fanny since their return. I'm not surprised, alas! That poor mother considers her best friends as her enemies. We must pray for one and the other.

A heartfelt greeting to dear papa Dupont. I must go to see him, and speak with this friend of the Good Lord. There are so few on earth!

Goodbye, dear friends. I don't know when the wind of divine Providence will push my sails toward Tours. I am under its orders.

I bless you all in our Lord,

All yours,  
Eymard, Superior

**1115**

**CO 1114**

**TO MME. ANTOINETTE DE GRANDVILLE (NEE DE CORNULIER)**  
(IV 36/104)

*LJC*

*Paris, April 8, 1862*

Madame and dear sister in our Lord,

Your kind letter finally brought me news about you, and what is more, the hope of seeing you in Paris. - Come sometime between May 12 and the 20<sup>th</sup>, and I will give myself fully to your dear soul.

*The Wedding Feast of the King*

How many times I wanted to go and work near your chapel! and finish this poor Manual! But, impossible to leave Paris. - You cannot imagine how happy I will be to see you.  
My respectful and devoted regards to your dear sister.

All yours in our Lord,  
Eymard, Superior

**1116**

**CO 1116**

**TO MME. NATALIE JORDAN (NEE BRENIER DE MONTMORAND)**  
(IV 40/75)

*L.J.C.*

*Paris, April 15, 1862*

Dear Madame,

I am writing to wish you the [same] greetings as the Angel of the Resurrection.<sup>32</sup> I saw and blessed your daughter who is so good.<sup>33</sup> I read the letters; I am sending you the answer. Your niece is good; they all are. You must be so more than all of them, you, the eldest daughter of our Lord in his new kingdom of the Most Blessed Sacrament.

Don't forget me in the presence of our good Master.

I remain very united to you in our Lord.

My sincere greetings and dedication to your fine friend, Miss Monavon. I will write to her later.

All yours in our Lord,  
Eymard, S.

**1117**

**CO 1117**

**TO MISS EDMEE BRENIER DE MONTMORAND**  
(IV 1/4)

*L.J.C.*

*Paris, April 15, 1862*

Mademoiselle,<sup>34</sup>

I read your letters. Those from your father show me your position in your family. The first letter proves nothing, except a man of the world who joins every irreligious saying to religion, - who understands charity toward the neighbor as the philosophers do, and doesn't acknowledge God's right to possess hearts for himself.

In the second letter you suppress a word either deliberately or stubbornly, I don't know. This word that you do not relinquish must be restored at the right opportunity, whether it hurts or not: it is the word of God; but I say right, or better, opportune.

---

<sup>32</sup> Peace.

<sup>33</sup> On April 11 he signed a form enrolling Mathilde Giraud Jordan into the Aggregation. cf. Appendix I.

<sup>34</sup> This is the first of 4 letters addressed to Edmee Brenier de Montmorand, 74 rue St. Jacques, Marseilles, the niece of Mme. Natalie Jordan (Mme. Camille).

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You belong entirely to God. May he be blessed! and you also! Belong to God by sacrifice: that is the royal road.

Always keep watch over your heart: it is the fortress, the center of divine union.

Be kind to your neighbor, but not for esteem and love: that would be spiritual adultery.

Hold God's hand on the path of life and go directly to your duty and to the practice of virtue.

I am, in our Lord,

Your respectful and devoted servant,  
Eymard, SSS

**1118**

**CO 1118**

**TO COUNT JEAN RAYMOND DE CUERS (FR. DE CUERS SSS)**

(I 109/181 VI 3)

*L.J.C.*

*Paris, April 23, 1862*

Very dear Father,

I am really late with you. We had work beyond our limits; for Easter, we changed the white drapes in the choir, which were almost black... our chapel is clean, they even say it is beautiful; but unfortunately white material is so quickly soiled! Fortunately, things are in order for a while. I will have the former ones bleached to have a set in reserve. On Sunday we will have the First Communion of 44 adults; they are beginning their retreat today: please pray for them.

Today, the novice who came from the Trappists is going to Senanque. I am returning to this letter which has been interrupted so many times.

Rev. Socquet left at 1:45 for Avignon and Senanque. This poor seminarian can no longer stand people; he would get agitated. The surprising thing is that he went out often; since he wanted solitude, he could have practiced it: a restless spirit. So, I think we should be very cautious about receiving those who have spent some time in contemplative Orders.

I read and reread your priest's choice. In itself, I find it very well done; he seems honest, what he says about his feeling about Prmontr is a tribute to him. He could not think otherwise, a first spiritual impression is always strong and delightful. However, what should we do? Leave him free to leave, or if he wants to make a serious effort, let him give himself fully to the Work and spirit of the Society? If you should notice any inconsistency or a negative spirit, it would be better to bring things to a close.

What you tell me about your young people made me sad. The devil is really doing all he can against this poor little Society. I can only pray for them, that they may triumph over these trials, for the greater glory of our Lord.

I am sure that your charity is very kind toward these poor unhappy hearts.

Here, the change from abstinence to eating meat always causes some inconsequential discomfort for some; however, no one is really sick. Brother Eugene is a little weak. As for me, I am almost as good as usual, as the meat also bothered me, making me [feel] a little numb. So, for several days I couldn't apply myself to anything.

Dear Father, regards from everyone, to you as well as to good Fr. Leroyer and the Brothers.

All yours in our Lord,  
Eymard S.S.S.

1119

CO 1119

**TO MME. ANTOINETTE DE GRANDVILLE (NEE DE CORNULIER)**  
(IV 37/104)

LJC

*Paris, April 25, 1862*

Madame and dear sister in our Lord,

I'm astonished that you haven't received my answer to your first letter. I had told you that I would make myself wholeheartedly available to you<sup>35</sup> from May 10<sup>th</sup> to the 12<sup>th</sup>. Now I would prefer, if that wouldn't upset you, that it would be after your niece's First Communion, because I'd like to go to work a little on my poor Manual after the second Sunday of Easter. I may spend a week with good Mr. Dupont, from Tours, after May 4<sup>th</sup>. If I go, I'll let you know.

Thank you for your kind invitation; I would really like it but you are so far!... If you weren't coming to Paris, I would have gone from Tours to visit you for a day.

While waiting to see you, dear Lady,

Devoted respects to you and to your dear sister in our Lord,

Eymard, Superior

1120

CO 1120

**TO CARDINAL MORLOT, (PARIS)**  
(VI 3/4)

*[April 25, 1862]*

Your Eminence,

His Excellency the Nuncio has kindly promised me to come on Quasimodo Sunday<sup>36</sup> to confirm 44 adult workers who are to make their First Communion on that day, and he asked me to request Your Eminence for authorization.

If it is not too much to ask, may I dare request two favors from Your Eminence for the Work of First Communion of Adults: the first: permission to have them confirmed by any Bishop, either staying in or passing through Paris.

The second: authorization to confer Holy Baptism on those adults who have not received it or whose Baptism is in doubt, as well as the abjuration of heretics<sup>37</sup>. But the most precious favor for us is the fatherly affection of Your Eminence whose most humble and devoted servant I am happy to be,

In our Lord,

Eymard, Sup.

Paris

April 25, 1862

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<sup>35</sup> Literally: at the service of your soul.

<sup>36</sup> Sunday after Easter.

<sup>37</sup> In the margin was written: "I can only express my gratitude to Your Excellency for whatever he is willing to do for good Father Eymard and his Work. I give thanks a thousand times over and I shall always be happy about it.

## 1121

CO 1121

**TO MME. ANTOINETTE DE GRANDVILLE (NEE DE CORNULIER)**  
(IV 38/104)

L.J.C.

*Paris, April 29, 1862*

Dear Lady,

As our first thought is the best one, let us go back to our [first] plan. Come to Paris from May 10<sup>th</sup> to the 12<sup>th</sup> for your retreat. -I am not leaving Paris now, I cannot; so I'm waiting for you at the feet of our Lord, happy if he should give me a few good graces for your dear soul.

May 4<sup>th</sup>. - Dear lady, I couldn't finish my letter; we are in the midst of a retreat: it's ending today. Come. I'm sorry that they cannot give you a room at the house next door; God has seen to it. The Augustinians, on rue de la Sante, are close to us; they promised me that they would receive you for your retreat.

So everything is settled, only you are missing.

My sincere regards to your dear sister.

All yours in our Lord,  
Eymard, Superior

*May Conference Servants: Happiness is the service of our Lord.*

*May 3 Monthly Ret. Ser: Routine. Recollection - attention and rest. Recollection, necessary for a life of adoration. Progressive [growth in] love.*

## 1122

CO 1122

**TO COUNT JEAN RAYMOND DE CUERS (FR. DE CUERS SSS)**  
(I 110/181 VI 3)

*Paris, May 6, 1862*

Very dear Father,

I must begin by asking you to excuse my delay in answering you: I lost your last letter trying to put my room in order, when we had the visit of Bishop Chigi, the Papal Nuncio. He had breakfast here on *Quasimodo*<sup>38</sup> Sunday, after confirming our children. He was very kind, it was a great joy for everyone.

Last Sunday, one hundred five of the older communicants made their Easter duty, after a four day retreat. Now things are quiet, everyone worked hard, our young priests have begun to hear confessions. They are trying to preach, they are beginning to fly, like birds that are still in the nest.

Fr. Peilin is still not well, it is called a cyst. Again today, the doctor told him it was not dangerous, but that he would need an operation shortly.

So you are only six! just enough to serve our Master strictly. That news saddened me; a very strong reason not to receive unsuited vocations which have made us suffer so. They were working for reward, the Master needed them, either for himself or for us.

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<sup>38</sup> Sunday after Easter.

*The Wedding Feast of the King*

I can't answer your letter fully, since I had read only a part of it when I lost it. I looked for it like a pin, impossible to find it; so I decided to tell you so and to offer you regards from everyone here.

All yours,  
Eymard Superior

**1123**

**CO 1123**

**TO FR. ALEXANDER LEROYER**  
(I 1/54)<sup>39</sup>

*Paris, May 6, 1862*

Dear Father Leroyer,

I feel that you need some rest and a change, so I am pleased about your trip to Rome.... it will do good to your soul, but you will need to take care of your body. If you want to stay at the French College, they will receive you fraternally; Fr. Stonif, the Superior of the College, is ever go good. My hope is that our Good Master won't let you return empty-handed. Try to request a letter from the Bishop of Marseilles to obtain something; what I would like would be an Archconfraternity of the Most Blessed Sacrament.

I'm still waiting to hear from you about sending one of our Fathers there: Fr. Peilin. He is the only one who can preach a little, but he can't sing because of his ill health.

If it's urgent, send a telegram.

We also have our small difficulties, it's the fire of purification.

I am fondly united to you, dear Father,  
Eymard

**1124**

**CO 1124**

**TO MME. CAMILLE CHANUET NEE CROZET (SR CAMILLE DU SS)**  
(VII 13/17)

*Paris, May 7, 1862*

Dear Mother,

May our Lord extend his hand to you as you leave and speak to you by means of a very gentle and tender grace [saying]: Come to me. You are coming to the God of the Eucharist, your dowry is your heart. Have courage, cry a little while saying goodbye, but praise the Good Lord who wants you in his beloved service.

I bless you and all your dear ones.

Eymard, Superior

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<sup>39</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> of 54 letters from St. Peter Julian Eymard, written to Rev. Fr. Alexander Leroyer, Assistant General of the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament.

*The Wedding Feast of the King*

Mme. Chanuet  
rue St. Helene 18  
Address correction:  
at Lantigne via Beaujeu  
Lyons

**1125**

**CO 1125**

**TO COUNT JEAN RAYMOND DE CUERS (FR. DE CUERS SSS)**  
(I 111/181 VI 3)

*Paris, May 11, 1862*

Dear Father,

Fr. Peilin will help you during Fr. Leroyer's absence. He is going there full of good will; he doesn't have many sermons [but] he will preach well. He preached very well today; encourage his first steps, [help him to] broaden out. He will need to come back here to learn sacred eloquence which we will teach to our young priests. You can let him hear confessions, he will be prudent; he is learned.

I am better; I fulfilled the entire eucharistic service today. I pray to our Lord for you, dear Father, so that you may stay firm on the battlefield; and for the traveler, so that he may return with some good things for the Society.

I am closely united to you in our Lord,

All yours,  
Eymard, S.S.

**1126**

**CO 1126**

**TO MME. FELICIE DE COUCHIES (NEE RATTIER)**  
(VII 4/9)

*Jesus Hostia*

*[Paris], May 12, [1862]*

Dear Lady,

I am writing to give you news about your dear daughter.<sup>40</sup> She is very happy and greatly desires to have her vocation confirmed by her good mother and tender father. The Ladies love her very much. She is continually begging me to intercede for her, to obtain your final consent.

Personally, I believe she is really called, and I think she will be happy there. As for when to give her entirely to our Lord, dear Lady, it would be good not to delay too long, for her health. Now that she sees and feels that she has found her place, she is very joyful. If you want to come for her, I have done all I can. I studied and tested her. She is a good adorer who would pray for you.

Mme. Chanuet<sup>41</sup> has written to me from Lantignie that she will arrive toward the end of May. She still seems decided and though poor human nature suffers greatly to leave her dear children, she

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<sup>40</sup> Sr. Philomene, with the Servants of the Blessed Sacrament.

<sup>41</sup> Her daughter's mother-in-law, later Sr. Camille du SS.

*The Wedding Feast of the King*

feels that God will replace her and she will serve them in a different way. Then, you know that she will return to Lantignie after a little while.

Dear Lady, I leave you in the arms of our Lord.

All yours,  
Eymard

**1127**

**CO. 1127**

**TO COUNT JEAN RAYMOND DE CUERS (FR. DE CUERS SSS)**  
(I 112/181 VI 3)

*L.J.C.*

*Paris, May 24, 1862*

Very dear Father,

Your renewed request to be freed from the duties of superior because you have reached the end of your strength, really saddened me. It shows me that you must be weaker than usual, and also that your conscience may be disturbed because you are unable to do everything that this service requires.

I resisted this desire of yours long enough. I no longer dare to do so, for fear of aggravating your suffering. Well! So be it: as you requested, I free you from your responsibilities as Superior. However, continue these duties until Fr. Leroyer arrives. I will write to him to replace you in that charge; but I will always count on your help and your dedication, insofar as you are able, for the dear house of Marseilles, for which you worked so hard, and which is providing much glory for God.

I remain, dear Father, united to you in our Lord, in whom I am,

All yours,  
Eymard, S.S.

**1128**

**CO 1128**

**TO FR. ALEXANDER LEROYER**  
(I 2/54)

*Adveniat Regnum tuum*<sup>42</sup>

*Mary Auxiliatrix, Paris, May 24, 1862*

Very dear Colleague,

Fr. de Cuers begged and petitioned me so much to be freed from his office of Superior because of his weak health and what he considers as an impossibility, that I felt I could no longer continue to insist or beg him to continue his office, without increasing his weariness. Therefore, I've just written to tell him that he will be released from the Superiorship when you return from Rome.

You are the one, dear Father, who, for the love and glory of our Good Master, will kindly dedicate yourself in the office of Superior for three years and more, if Holy Obedience requires that sacrifice from you.

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<sup>42</sup> Thy kingdom come.

*The Wedding Feast of the King*

God will be with you, it is his work that you are to cultivate. He will be on your side, as it is in his name that you will direct your brothers to his beloved service. The divine Queen of the Cenacle will be your advisor and guide for this eucharistic life. Then also, all the prayers and merits of the Society surround you. Fr. Champion and the other Fathers all name you for this office, not of honor, but of service.

While you are in Rome, speak to the Saints in their Holy city, especially to the new saints to be canonized, so that they may take you under their protection.

Eymard,  
Superior of the Society of the Most Blessed Sacrament

P.S. -- Study closely how Rome conducts their Forty Hours. That is the royal point for us; study everything that refers to the worship of the Most Blessed Sacrament. For your questions, consult not learned men, but men who are specialists in that area, such as Msgr. Capalti, the Undersecretary of the Congregation of Rites. Visit the religious sisters of perpetual adoration at the Quirinal; please remember me to them, they were very kind toward us. Try to affiliate our Society to their adorations.

In Rome, I didn't have time to go to the Carmelites to ask them for a form to affiliate our Society to their venerable Order, please make the request in my name.

Take care of your health, dear Father. To do your errands, avoid the evening air.

I am pleased to know that you are happy; the entire household thanks you for your greetings, and sends you theirs.

All yours in our Lord,  
Eymard

One book we would need, if it exists, is one which contains the bulls and decrees regarding religious Orders, or is it a partial collection of Bulls, etc.? Please get information about it.

By the intermediary of a friend, I received the authorization to bless the cross of St. Benedict in a certificate granted March 4, 1862, by Very Rev. Fr. Angelus Piscetelli, the general procurator of the Benedictine Congregation of Monte Cassino. However, they forgot to sign it, as there is a *Manu nostra subscriptus*.<sup>43</sup> The name is only in the title, the seal is there. If it was simply an oversight, please request a new certificate for me, do as much for yourself. I don't need the little Manual.

The Benedictines are at St. Callixtus beyond the Tiber.

**1129**

**CO 1129**

**TO MR. LEO DUPONT, TOURS**

(V 2/2 VII 2)

*Adveniat Regnum Tuum*

*Paris, To Mr. Dupont, May 24, 1862*

Dear old friend in our Lord,

It was enough for you to welcome me, did you also have to empty your purse? Thank you twice, and even three times over, since the Good Master has his share in it... or rather, it's all for Him.

Dear papa Dupont, you count for half [the purpose] of my trip, I will go to stay with you and to work with the others. At least, we will have our evenings. What happiness to meet one another in God!

---

<sup>43</sup> Signed by our hand.

*The Wedding Feast of the King*

You found two saints for me: Nabuchodonor and Heliodore about whom I often think, - then you also gave me Sister Mary Emmerich, the prodigy of graces for our century.

What are you going to give me this time?

My regards to the beloved Rosemberg family.

All yours in our Lord,  
Eymard

**1130**

**CO 1130**

**TO COUNT JEAN RAYMOND DE CUERS (FR. DE CUERS SSS)**

(I 113/181 VI 3)

*L.J.C.*

*Paris, June 12, 1862*

Very dear Father,

I am sending you the reply for Fr. Vicard; please give it to him, after looking at it. I included the Bishop's reservations because we will need a dimissorial letter.

This young man was always very pious at La Seyne; his talents were only mediocre, but he was virtuous. If he becomes a good adorer, that is the main thing.

Yesterday we received a letter with good news from Fr. Leroyer who then told us that he will be in Marseilles Saturday. He seems very happy and full of new energy. He told me that he wrote to you.

Your last letter, dear Father, leaves me in the hope of receiving another: your silence made me fear that I had hurt you in some way. If it is so, please accept my apologies. I am not aware of it, but alas! I often sin through human weakness. I don't know whether Fr. Peilin was able to do some good; I hope so and if his health would allow him to be of some help for the major feasts which are coming soon, he could stay a little longer in Marseilles.

All the Fathers and Brothers embrace you tenderly in our Lord.

Believe me always in our Lord, dear Father,

All yours,  
Eymard, S.S.

P.S. I cannot find it.

Rev. Fr. de Cuers  
Superior of the religious of the Blessed Sacrament  
7 rue Nau  
Marseilles

**1131**

**CO 1131**

**TO MISS VIRGINIE DANION (SR. ANNE DE JESUS/SR. MARIE OF THE BL. SACRAMENT)**  
(IV 16/36)

*Adveniat Regnum Tuum*

*Paris, June 13, 1862*

Dear sister,

Thank you for your brief note. I was thinking how very silent you have been. You inform me about your new life-style; I bless it, since it's so good. Besides, especially now, we must place ourselves at the feet of Jesus, the Host of propitiation and love, and ask for grace. There are so few souls who want to continue to belong to him and be satisfied with him! I'm happy to feel that is where you are, but I would like to see you and speak with you about many things which pertain to the service of our good Master; the time has not yet come. Mme. LePage from Rennes, whom I saw recently, told me that she might arrange for me to give a little retreat in Rennes in honor of the Most Blessed Sacrament; I might accept if I can hope to see you!<sup>44</sup>

I received your Masses and we will say them as soon as possible.

Well! The Church is victorious in Rome! Oh! What a victory in all hearts! There is so much evil, I am frightened by the loss of faith among businessmen. Business, science, government, all need faith.

Unfortunately, people neither want to see nor hear; they are afraid of God and his Church. Evil is great because it is organized, wealthy and powerful.

Let's pray for priests; they really need it. We must ask for great faith; it is weak.

I bless you, dear sister.

All yours in our Lord,  
Eymard, Superior

**1132**

**CO 1132**

**TO MISS MARIE (QUERENEL?)**  
(VII 1/3)

*Paris, June 14, 1862*

Dear Miss Marie,

I did not send you a letter for Rev. Fr. Burfin, the provincial of the Oblate Fathers, I was told that he was absent. For, my intention was to go to visit him as a friend, to speak to him about you. [When] you know that he has arrived, please let me know, and I will go. In the meantime, show my letter to this dear Father, he is a good Dauphinois and especially a holy religious.

It seems that this is the season for migraine headaches and the flu, and I have paid my little debt. We must indeed receive these little crosses from the Good Lord, but not provoke them by sadness and frustration, because our agitated nerves are often the cause of migraine headaches.

Here is the address for that dear young lady: Annette Ferrieu, at Mme. de Rez, rue des Martyrs 58. I don't know whether she is still here; if she is, scold her a little for me.

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<sup>44</sup> Rennes was on the way to Mauron.

*The Wedding Feast of the King*

Goodbye, dear Miss Marie, bear with yourself, correct yourself with patience. Love God in all things.

In whom I am all yours,  
Eymard, S.

**1133**

**CO 1133**

**TO COUNTESS D'ANDIGNE (NEE DE MONTAGU)**  
(V 2/52)<sup>45</sup>

*Paris, June 18, 1862*

Madame and dear sister,<sup>46</sup>

It was a great joy for me to receive news from you; I was waiting anxiously for it. Sorrow and sadness are taking hold of you; fortunately, they are only temptations. Always be peaceful: our Lord loves you, you are his beloved daughter, the servant of his Heart; always go to Him passionately. Where would you go, if not to this good Master? You did not sin.... Do not worry about it at all. You have struggled so nobly for the Blessed Sacrament, you have won the prize.

Yes, yes, it would be better to endure any suffering, any loss rather than be deprived of your adorable Tabernacle. Cling to it with your whole soul: your beautiful little chapel makes your house a royal castle; otherwise, it would only be a beautiful prison.

It consoles me to think of your happiness and I no longer fear for you. Give me news about yourself often. I am leaving Monday morning for Tours. I will be staying with Mr. Dupont, rue Saint-Etienne, 10, until Tuesday July 2<sup>nd</sup>. I will bless you from a shorter distance.

Goodbye, dear sister,

All yours.

**1134**

**CO 1134**

**TO COUNT JEAN RAYMOND DE CUERS (FR. DE CUERS SSS)**  
(I 114/181 VI 3)

*L.J.C.*

*Corpus Christi 1862*

To Rev. Fr. de Cuers

Very dear Father,

I was waiting for a letter from Fr. Leroyer before answering you. Since I haven't received anything, I am writing to tell you that you will be received here as a dear brother with great merit before God and the Society. I surely regret that your health doesn't allow you to continue to render a few services in the house which cost you so dearly, and where our Lord is still well served. There are hospitals for wounded soldiers; it is only right that religious also should have a paternal home.

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<sup>45</sup> Taken from a copy not the original.

<sup>46</sup> This letter is based on an authentic copy, not the original.

*The Wedding Feast of the King*

Therefore make the various pilgrimages to Laus, la Salette, the Chartreuse, Fourvire; it will do you good. Take a little more money, and if you should be in need, any of these places will be willing to give you an advance.

We are celebrating our royal Master as best we can, I believe that your celebration will be even more beautiful than ours.

When can we have a chapel at least like yours!

I am very united to you *in osculo Christi*,<sup>47</sup> dear Father.

All yours,  
Eymard, S.S.

**1135**

**CO 1135**

**TO FR. ALEXANDER LEROYER**  
(I 3/54)

*L.J.C.*

*Corpus Christi, 1862*

Very dear Father,

You are at home, among your kind and very fervent Associates, celebrating the royal splendor of Corpus Christi, with the words and heart of Rome. *Deo gratias!*<sup>48</sup>

Good Fr. de Cuers is asking to return to Paris because he is weary. I also believe that it comes from his extreme sensitivity as he leaves office; he is afraid of getting in the way of authority. I would have liked to see him at your side, but since his health is in jeopardy, charity requires that I grant what he is asking. Here he will not find what he has in Marseilles: the beautiful climate, beautiful liturgy, the hearts of the Marseillais people, but he will always find our own filled with esteem and affection for him.

Because of this unexpected blow, Fr. Peilin must devote himself to the utmost, entrust him with the bursar's office, he is excellent at it, he is very resourceful. Spare his voice, he may need a minor operation later. Tell him that the Good Lord will reward him well for this time on the battlefield. Everyone here sends you a thousand and one fond regards, especially Fr. Champion.

*In osculo sancto*, a hug to all the Fathers and Brothers, and especially to you, very dear Father, with whom I am, in our Lord,

Totally united,  
Eymard, S.S.

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<sup>47</sup> in the embrace of Christ.

<sup>48</sup> N.B. Fr. Leroyer had only recently returned from Rome.

**TO MISS ZENAIDE BLANC DE ST. BONNET**  
(VII 4/5)

*Adveniat Regnum Tuum*

*Paris, Corpus Christi, 1862, [June 19]*

Mademoiselle and dear sister in our Lord,

I received your fine letter a while ago. I am sorry I could not answer it right away. Today, Corpus Christi, I cannot forget you, you belong to the family and you are the spouse, or rather the happy servant of our Lord. How happy you are to have kept yourself entirely for this divine Bridegroom! Always be faithful to him!

You have many trials; your good holy mother suffered a great deal, your dear brother also, your whole family. You are the one who is sensitive to all these sorrows. It must be so, since our Lord is your spouse.

The departure of Mme. Chanuet must have left you with mixed feelings. She is so good! She will return to Lyons soon - for her business affairs. I believe that she is leaving Monday morning or evening.

You have nice linen for purificators; our purificators are 50 cent. long and 40 wide. The cross is put in the middle. However, if you have a few meters of that beautiful linen, I would prefer to have it as is; we would use it for the top of an alb; we have a lovely lace trimming for one. However, it is up to you.

Thank you for [the offer of] your lovely blue silk. It would be better to keep it for the beautiful feasts of our Lord or of the Blessed Virgin. It would not be used much here.

Mme. de Couchies will give you the meditations which I gave her, until I can do others.

Always write every month and tell me:

- 1) Your state of soul, sad or happy, consoled or desolate, in devotion or dry.
- 2) How you are doing your prayer and Holy Communion.
- 3) What you are reading.
- 4) What helps you to find recollection and then whatever the Good Lord will inspire you to say.

Goodbye, dear daughter. I bless you with the blessing of Corpus Christi.

All yours in our Lord,  
Eymard

*June 23 - July 2: To Tours for a Parish Retreat for a First Communion, the Octave of Corpus Christi.*

*The Wedding Feast of the King*

*June 23 - July 2, Parish Retreat for First Communion – Tours*

*Opening: Preparation for First Communion.*

*First Day:*

*Instruction: Purity*

*Conference: Self-knowledge*

*Instruction: Faith in the Eucharist*

*2nd Day:*

*Meditation: The love of God*

*Instruction: On sin*

*Conference: To correct oneself*

*(It is not clear which of his prepared notes were used as talks during the following days.)*

*First Communion Retreat at Tours.*

*Prepared Notes:*

*Opening: Do not prevent the little children.*

*Communion - The most important action of one's life.*

*Communion - Love, Jesus and the child; a day in Paradise; Personal Corpus Christi; Royal wedding; and Union; and Rehabilitation; Grace of Strength; Grace of Purity; and Humility; and Meekness; and Mortification; and Charity.*

*The Eucharist and death; Sacrilegious Communion; Preparation for Communion; the love which institutes the Eucharist; Love which perpetuates itself through the Eucharist; Perpetuity, Eucharist thru the priesthood; How we must receive Communion; Communion and Thanksgiving.*