

CHAPTER V

Pilgrims for the Cenacle January - June 1864

Pilgrims:

Fr. de Cuers and Brother Albert Tesniere go to Rome and Jerusalem to pursue the dream of purchasing "The Cenacle"

"Gathered in the Cenacle":

The foundation of the Servants of the Blessed Sacrament in Angers

1331

CO 1331

TO MLES. MARIANNE EYMARD AND NANETTE BERNARD

(VI 10/10 III 145)¹

Paris, January 1, 1864

Very dear sisters,

I wish you a Happy New Year, just as I used to when I was little. I had already wished it for you on the Holy Day of Christmas, while I was saying Holy Mass for you as I always do. These are my New Year's gifts, and they are good ones.

May the good Lord grant you good health, good fortune, his love. Keep on doing good and saving the good souls which God has entrusted to you. It is a great grace to be able to work for God.

I am well. We are working hard. I have no time to breathe. The more we grow the more our work and outside obligations increase; but the good Lord is sustaining us.

I shall be sending you the works for Fr. Faure. Take one of them. I am giving them to him; I want him to pray for me.

With tender affection in our Lord,

Your brother,
Eymard

I have brought a real portrait of the Holy Father from Rome; I shall send it to you.

<i>Jan 4-7</i> <i>Conference Servants: The New Year. The three conditions to serve our Lord.</i>
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1332

CO 1332

TO MME. MATHILDE GIRAUD-JORDAN

(IV 8/19)

Adveniat Regnum Tuum

Paris, January 4, 1864²

Madame and dear daughter in our Lord,

Thank you for your wishes,³ I placed you in the crown which I put at the feet of our Lord.⁴ It has been your place for such a long time!

Have confidence in prayer. It is the unfailing power which God has given us. By means of it you will obtain the salvation of the dear soul whom God has given you, and all your loved ones. "Ask and you shall receive", our Lord said.

I'm not urging you to put aside your old prayers: they are old friends; but Prime is the best morning prayer and Compline at night. We have no others; it's the prayer of the Church.

Freedom and naturalness of spirit are preferable. Be yourself with the good Lord. However,

¹ The original of this letter belongs to the Fraternite Sacerdotale, Montemario, Rome.

² Published as Jan. 12; listed as Jan. 4 - without explanation (Garreau).

³ New Year's wishes.

⁴ Spiritually.

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nourish your spirit with holy thoughts and good reading.

Be assured that your letters, and those of your dear mother as well, are welcomed like friends; they are never too long!

I bless you in our Lord.

All yours,
Eymard, S.

Jan 6. The General Council decided that Father de Cuers should leave for Jerusalem in view of acquiring the Cenacle.

1333

CO 1333

TO MARIE FEGELY
(V 3/3)

Adveniat Regnum Tuum

Paris, Jan. 6, 1864

Mademoiselle,

I told our Lord to bless you, you, your holy mother and your fine sister, not only on New Year's Day, but everyday.

May this good Master keep you for himself, Mademoiselle. May he be all in all things, and may nothing be anything without him. How happy I am when I think that you have given him your heart and your life, that you have given him the honor of being preferred to everything, that you want to be his loving servant! You cannot make a better choice! Be his like an Angel from Heaven. Keep for him [alone] your virginal affection and intentions.

I do so wish that you would establish a house of women Adorers in your country. That is the greatest, the holiest and most apostolic thing you could do. Work for this Cenacle, you have the means, the love and, perhaps, the mission for it.

Enkindle a fireplace which will never again be extinguished. Consecrate one of your estates, like Mary and Martha, to the royal hospitality of Jesus, the Host of love, become its first servant and adorer. - Oh! Heaven and the Church would be so pleased with you!

Thank our Lord for us: today is the anniversary of our first Exposition, of our first apostolic Letter and of our second foundation. If we were better Adorers, our Lord would do even greater things, but our faults hold back his graces, and so, I really cry for myself.

So, Mademoiselle, there is so much evil in the world, so few true adorers, so few souls belonging entirely to Jesus, that we must console him and be his family.

I leave you at the feet of our divine Master, I ask you to remember me to the kind remembrance of your whole family.

In our Lord,

All yours,
Eymard, S.

TO MME. NATALIE JORDAN (NEE BRENIER DE MONTMORAND)
(IV 50/75)

Adveniat Regnum Tuum

Paris, January 8, 1864

Now at last, my good and dear Madame, it is your turn, things have cleared up a little. I will be a bit freer for God's friends. What a life mine is! it is all cut [in pieces] and torn in shreds! At least if our Lord can draw his glory from it! It's just that one is forever losing in the world, we must be ever giving while receiving nothing: then we always give too much and we steal from the good Lord in order to give. Oh! We are much better on the Tabor of the Eucharist! there is no visible body there, the senses are dead or chained. What did I wish for you this year? You surely know, the eucharistic kingdom of our Lord in you. Notice that I did not say devotion, virtue, or even love, but the kingdom, that is, the gift of your whole self to this good Master to be his possession, his field, his heart, his life and even his death. We must absolutely come to that; otherwise, you would only be like wood that is put close enough to the fireplace to be dried; it may smoke, cry, shout, be warm; it will never burn if it isn't in the fireplace, assimilated by its power. Please, you know that in order to light a candle we must take fire from the flame itself and not from the draft.

And what have you wished for me? the love of my Master? I do think that I love him; his Paradise? not yet, I still need to suffer for houses;⁵ Lyons? Wish me the real Cenacle [first], and then the interior Cenacle; then, I will be happy.

Now about your letter. Thank you for your Christmas wishes, etc...; I told you mine.

Thank you for the 100 francs, I wasn't able to go for them yet; I will say the Masses. I have been back in Paris only a short time; I am working for a beautiful foundation; pray for it.

You did well to write to your nieces as you did, because (as an outsider looking at the thing in itself) such a despotism makes me see the greatness of the contrary grace, and also the great virtue of these young women; they are very fine, and so I always pray for them.

I will write a little note to Mme Nugues.

Shout! force your brother to put some order in his affairs, it is an open abyss which can always widen; it often involves salvation.

I am receiving your two friends as associates, you are the first associate after Mr. Carrel. I am working a lot on my Manual. It is almost finished.

I may leave for about 2 months around February 26th. Take advantage of it.

I write almost as long as you do; don't worry, your letters will never be too long. I discontinued my correspondence with Miss Monavon. I really don't know why.

Goodbye, I bless you in our Lord.

Eymard

⁵ To obtain new foundations. Ed.

TO MR. LOUIS PERRET
(VII 13/14)

Adveniat Regnum Tuum

Paris, January 9, 1864

Very dear Mr. Perret,

So now I wish you a good and happy New Year, better than all the others! The complete triumph in you of Our Lady of Roche and especially of our good Master! because you work only for his service and glory in souls. We so miss having you, or at least having news about you. You really are the Blessed Virgin's hermit, [it was] impossible to find you in Lyons where I went looking for you several times.

I didn't get back to Paris until December 18th, I had gone to the springs at Aix which exhausted me; I had to go to Provence, then to Angers. I wonder whether the year '64 will keep me so busy! All for the holy will of God!

Here, everything is the same as usual, we miss you. The devout and interesting blind lady came to wish you a happy New Year; I promised her I would convey her grateful and prayerful heart [feelings] to you. What would she become without you! We advanced her 65 francs and I assure you that it is perhaps the best charity you could do.

Give me your dear news, and believe us always very tenderly and sincerely in our Lord, dear Mr. Perret,

All yours,
Eymard, Superior

Jan 10	Conference Servants: Delays. The spirit of the Servants of the Blessed Sacrament.
Jan 10	Conference Servants: Death to self - self-denial.

TO FR. ALEXANDER LEROYER, SSS
(I 16/54)

Adveniat Regnum tuum

Paris, January 10, 1864

Very dear Colleague,

Finally, I can write to you. I believe that in your charity, you excused me because of the numerous New Year's visits; and in fact I was busy, I am beginning to breathe a little.

Thank you so much for your kind and eucharistic wishes: *quid mihi est in coelo, et ab Eucharistia quid volui super terram!*⁶ Ah yes! May the eucharistic kingdom of our Lord come and may we be its first disciples and ardent apostles. No more individualistic pursuits, no more efforts wasted⁷ outside [the scope] of our great mission.

⁶ "which is mine in heaven, and without the Eucharist what can I desire on earth?"

⁷ Literally: work wasted.

Pilgrims for the Cenacle

All for the service and glory of the Master: we should summarize the Society with these words: a devoted love for the service and glory of our Lord Jesus Christ in the Most Blessed Sacrament of the altar, according to the spirit and laws of the Holy Roman Church.

Thank your religious in my name for their good wishes, I presented them all to our Good Master so that he might bless them and confirm them in their holy vocation.

As for the Bardet house, go no further: you have done all you can. Offer no additional compensation; our Good Master must want this unforeseen delay which is quite contrary to our expectations, since I had been told that the house was or would be free.

The Ladies were ready,⁸ they will prepare themselves that much better; if I have two free days during the month, I will try to go visit⁹ the two houses that were bought, to see how we could make a temporary chapel.

As for Brother Joseph, it is really long and a bit hard to deprive him of the offices, especially perhaps for six months. Because who will stop people from talking, especially evil tongues? we shouldn't worry about it.

I'm writing a few words to Brother Chave. As for Brother Alphonse's breviary, it is better to wait, for that poor child is coughing a great deal; we had hoped a little, but alas! there isn't much hope that he will get better.

This morning I received a note from Reniquet, I am sending it to you for your examination. I wasn't expecting this debt: besides, I had asked you not to draw any expenses on us without telling us in advance. As Procurator General, Fr. de Cuers might very well not be in agreement. I had promised to pay for the cupboard, send me the bill and I will have it paid.

Since the house of Angers is almost entirely funded by Paris, we need to determine our expenses carefully, even those for worship, to be able to face everything, especially now when we have great expenses.

Believe me in our Lord, dear Father,

All yours,
Eymard

1337

CO 1337

TO VIRGINIE DANION
(IV 19/36)

Adveniat Regnum Tuum

Paris, January 10, 1864

Mademoiselle in our Lord,

May our Lord guide you and give you all the gifts of his love! May you lead all hearts to love, serve and adore him! May your thanksgiving cover the world like the eucharistic gifts!

These are my wishes; and yours! you accept them and forget them;¹⁰ is it possible that you don't have enough time to give me news about yourself?

Are you ill? Our Master has such need of workers. Are you on the cross? But love can bear it, and keeps working even when crucified. Courage! I'm a bit upset with you for such a long silence; however, I still continue to say your Mass every Tuesday and have a great love for your Work of thanksgiving.

⁸ Servants were ready for their foundation in Angers.

⁹ Literally: see and visit.

¹⁰ He was expecting to receive New Year's wishes from her.

Pilgrims for the Cenacle

I am recommending [to your prayers] a long and difficult journey which I will undertake at the end of the month for the glory of the divine Eucharist.

I really hope the good Lord will bless it.

I bless you myself in this good Master.

All yours in the divine Eucharist,
Eymard

1338

CO 1338

TO MR. JOSEPH-AUGUSTE CARREL

(V 15/24)

Adveniat Regnum Tuum

Paris, January 10, 1864

Dear friend and brother in our Lord,

I was upset with myself when your letter arrived as I had my pen in hand to write to you! Therefore, I no longer have the priority of written wishes, only those of prayer, because, at 4:30 a.m., I was presenting you to our Lord with your whole family which I love as my own and which I bless every day. May our good Master always be the Head of your home; his holy law, the sovereign law; his holy love, the source of all love. You are certainly the happiest father whom I know!

And so, I never cease asking the good Lord to give you that [gift of] surrender to the divine and fatherly Will of God over you and over your loved ones.

Please offer my fondest sentiments of devotion to your whole family.

All yours in our Lord,
Eymard, S.

P.S. Warm fraternal greetings to Fr. Jacquet, and to good Fr. Barnola. Please send me a copy of my poor photograph, [I want] to see what I look like.

1339

CO 1339

TO MME. ANTOINETTE DE GRANDVILLE

(IV 53/104)

Adveniat Regnum Tuum

Paris, January 11, 1864

Madame and dear sister in our Lord,

Thank you for your wishes, your prayers, your spontaneous thoughts. I am late with you; I made up for it in the presence of our Lord early in the morning on New Year's day.

What I wish for you is strength; be strong to confront your weaknesses, your worries and especially your frustrated self-love at being so brusque and impatient; that is your cross, your humiliating side. Accept the humiliation of it and especially the patience. Just don't be fond of your faults: that's all the good Lord is asking of you. I am satisfied with your efforts; always continue this way. Go like a beggar to our good Master.

Pilgrims for the Cenacle

May our Lord become your divine guest. Oh! Then, I would even be happier to go see you, for you would be very rich.¹¹ Don't be in too great a hurry to decide on a confessor; wait to see who will be named. I agree with you, but he must also deserve your trust, spontaneity and [meet your] needs.

My very deep respects to your dear sister.
I bless you in our Lord in whom I am

All yours,
Eymard, S

1340

CO 1340

TO JOSEPHINE GOURD (SR. JOSEPH DU SS)
(V 53/76)

Adveniat Regnum Tuum

Paris, January 13, 1864

Madame and dear daughter in our Lord,

I am writing to thank you for your wishes; they are what I hope for; but there is so much to be done [yet] to become a real instrument of God!

Oh! How deeply I feel my faults and weaknesses! I am like one who wants to walk and cannot. I have such a great need for God's mercy!

As for you, let yourself be led by the current of divine Providence. Everything that happens around you is from God and for your greater good. God does everything for the best.

I would really like to have you here. My hope is that you will come in God's own time and moment.¹²

Yes, have confidence for this dear soul.¹³ God is working on it; it is in the throes of battle. Pray in union with your mother, the Society of the Most Blessed Sacrament.

Oh! When will the beautiful moment come when God will be in your three hearts, making them one in his divine love.

I bless you.
All yours in our Lord,
Eymard, Superior

One of these days I will write to Miss Stephanie. I am leaving tomorrow for Angers for 4 days. I wanted to bless you before leaving.

Madame Gourd

¹¹ He hopes she will have permission to keep the Sacrament at home.

¹² To join the Servants of the Blessed Sacrament.

¹³ Her husband(!)

1341

CO 1341

TO MME. TAMISIER, TOURS
(VII 1/2)

Adveniat Regnum Tuum

Paris, January 13, 1864

Madame,

God will bless you for giving him your good and dear daughter.¹⁴ She is fine; she is happy. She seems to have found her center of life. Her heart is blossoming under the beautiful sun of the Eucharist. It also seems to me that her health is better. So then, she is more peaceful and happy! We will see whether God will grant her the total grace. She is very loved by the Ladies. Her singing is a joy for us in the chapel.

And so, thank you, Madame, we will take good care of her and we will respect God's freedom in her.

Also accept my best spiritual wishes in our Lord. May his kingdom come!

You are suffering from everything that is being said. I understand it, but don't let yourself be influenced by this passing wind. The Holy Will of God will scatter all these clouds.

Goodbye dear Madame,

All yours in our Lord,
Eymard

1342

CO 1342

TO COUNTESS D'ANDIGNE
(V 17/52)

Adveniat Regnum Tuum

Angers, January 19, 1864

Madame,¹⁵

I cannot leave Angers without writing you a few lines. There is nothing new for the Ladies;¹⁶ it's impossible to begin now. The houses that were bought will not be available before the month of May: one of them for sure: the Bardet house; the other will be available only around the feast of St. John. I wanted to buy the middle house, belonging to Mr. Ruisson, a house which is worth 18,000 francs at most. He wants 30,000 for it, saying very simply that he wants us to pay for the convenience. It's a little expensive! I am being advised to wait, that no one would go as high as the price I am offering.

Before coming, I told our Sisters: "You are not quite ready, that is why God is making you wait. He doesn't want to come to Angers until everything is ready: A King does not improvise."

Well, Madame, I had them tell you to serve our Lord with joy; you must. What is better than to serve him with love? Love produces joy and dedication: is anything better? You are in God's graces as in the Ocean: thanksgiving ought to be your continual sentiment. So always consider God's wonderful kindness over you, his fatherly hand, which is so attentive and always so gracious even in the smallest sacrifices he asks of you. Look at everything through this divine prism, and

¹⁴ To be a religious.

¹⁵ Taken from a copy, not the original.

¹⁶ The foundation of the Servants of the Blessed Sacrament in Angers.

Pilgrims for the Cenacle

everything will be colored by it! Remember that natural sadness kills the body and the mind; spiritual sadness, the heart and devotion. I know that there is a wholesome sadness, but I don't wish you even that one. I prefer to know that you are on the Heart of Jesus with St. John, than at His feet with Magdalen.

And so, in order always to be happy with our Lord, flee from yourself. The sight of yourself agitates you, consider yourself as a stranger except in God.

So be very simple, have a simplicity which looks at things in the goodness of God. Oh! how lovely everything then becomes! Goodbye, Madame, I am running out of paper. It is late, I bless you.

Tomorrow night, Tuesday, I will be in Paris.

Jan 22	<i>Conference Servants: The eucharistic death.</i>
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1343

CO 1343

TO BISHOP VALERGA, PATRIARCH OF JERUSALEM
(VI 1/3)

Paris, rue fg. S. Jacques 68, January 22, 1864

Your Excellency,

I am sending Fr. de Cuers, a professed religious of our Society of the Most Blessed Sacrament (canonically approved) to Jerusalem, to take the necessary steps for a foundation of a house of Adoration on Mount Sion at the very spot, if it is possible, where our Lord instituted the Most Blessed Sacrament of the Altar.

We know that, humanly speaking, the matter is difficult - perhaps impossible - but with the blessing of the Vicar of Jesus Christ, the help of Your Lordship and, above all, with the grace of God, we hope against all hope.

And so, Your Eminence, I do commend to your zeal and piety, so well known in the Church, this devout project and the Priest I am sending to Your Lordship, whose most humble and obedient servant I am confident to say that I am in our Lord,

Pierre Eymard
Super. of the Society of the S.S.

Jan 24. Departure of Fr. de Cuers and Brother Albert Tesniere for Rome.

1344

CO 1344

TO MME. LEPAGE
(IV 1/26)¹⁷

Adveniat Regnum Tuum

Paris, January 24, 1864

Madame,

I thought I might see you around New Year's Day, but I see that I must give that up. However, I would have been very happy to see you, and to hear you tell me about your dear family and your holy spouse whom Heaven jealously snatched from you. He certainly owes you something, as you must have added to his crown. True friendship lasts forever. Such profound blows must have shown you the vanity of all passing things! Of every transient joy! Oh! How blessed we are to know our Lord and to find everything in him!

Your mission is surely not completed. You must still complete what has been started in your family, and which I hope you will see, for God's glory.

Remain always an apostle of the God of the Eucharist; it's a mission of fire near those who are cold, of light for those who do not believe, of holiness for the soul of the adorer. Jesus said: "I am the bread of life."

How good is the good Lord to have made us know, love and receive the divine Eucharist! What more can a hungry soul desire?

I recommend to your love for our Lord a great project which we have for his greater glory.

1345

CO 1345

TO THE SECRETARY GENERAL, ORLEANS CO.¹⁸
(VII 1/1)

Paris, January 24, 1864

Mr. Secretary General,

It is my honor to send you herewith the Statutes of our Society: a copy in conformity with the one which is filed with the minister of Worship.

I understand the justice and wisdom of your request, Mr. Secretary General. In fact, to enjoy a favor, we must fulfill its conditions and we believe we fulfill them well, because our Work for the First Communion of adult workers is constantly increasing, and by means of the children we are trying to help their poor parents and to legitimize their marriages, which are too frequently illegitimate, also. Therefore, I hope that you will let us retain the charity of our half fare and that we will always be happy to be in your debt.

It is with sentiments of profound respect...

¹⁷ This is the first of twenty-six letters addressed to Mme Lepage from Rennes.

¹⁸ Orleans Co. – a railroad company.

1346

CO 1346

TO COUNT JEAN RAYMOND DE CUERS (FR. DE CUERS SSS)
(I 132/181 VI 2)

Adveniat Regnum tuum

Paris, January 25, 1864

Very dear Father,

I am sending you the letter of His Excellency Disraeli. Today, this kind ambassador waited to hand over his letter to me personally; he reached out to shake my hand very kindly.

Really, dear Father, our Good Master does everything so well that we have reason to hope in his all-powerful goodness.

If we had come to the Blessed Sacrament only to accomplish that one beautiful mission: to give back the Cenacle to our Lord, it seems to me that, beyond that, nothing is left but the “*Nunc dimittis*.”¹⁹

Be strong then, dear Father, and have confidence. I am not saying that our Lord is for us and with us; but that everything is for him and for his greater glory.

We are constantly praying for you. I accompany you in all your ways.

If you have time, go see Fr. Basile at the Passionists, ask him for a petition for the Congregation of Rites, to obtain permission to say Lauds separately from Matins, presenting as a reason:

1. that we must stand before the Blessed Sacrament. It would be a relief.
2. it was done in the past. (cf. Martne)
3. That we will say Lauds “*summo mane*,”²⁰ etc. Good Fr. Basile will do that willingly for you.

If you see the priest from Marseilles in Rome, ask him to have bound the work which he brought for Cardinal Antonelli. Ask him also to re-copy my letter on good paper.

I bless you, and your dear companion.

All yours in our Lord,
Eymard S.

1347

CO 1347

TO COUNTESS ADELE DE REVEL DE NESC
(VII 12/17 VIII 26)

Paris, January 25, 1864²¹

Mademoiselle,

Your letter brought me a joyful moment. I am keeping it to reread it. I will not leave for Marseilles yet; I have just sent Fr. de Cuers ahead of me, so that if I am to go, it will only be in a month or a month and a half; but I will be sure to let you know, because I would be happy to see you again and to speak with you a little. I am getting older, I am already in my fifty-fourth year. You laugh, and yet I don't expect to get old bones in this world. I admit that I don't want to die; I see so many things that still need to be done! I would really like to leave like David, bequeathing peace to Solomon.

¹⁹ “Now you can dismiss...”

²⁰ “Very early in the morning...”

²¹ The content indicates this letter was written in January, not June, as printed in French. Troussier.

1348

CO 1348

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

(I 133/181 VI 2)

Adveniat Regnum tuum

Paris, February 1, 1864

Very dear Father,

I am sending a letter with this mail to tell you that we are following you step by step with our hearts, wishes and prayers; we hope that our Good Master will hear them.

Tomorrow, on the feast of the Presentation of our Lord in the temple by his most holy Mother, we will present you very specially to Jesus and Mary themselves.

I think that you must have received the letter I sent you from Ambassador Disraeli; to add the stamps, it was too late when I received it on Monday. So here is what I am asking you to do: you are at the source of good insights and reliable information; please find out whether Rome would approve the distinction which we made between triannual vows which the Society could dispense, and perpetual vows reserved to the Holy See.

The Sacred Congregation of Regulars, by a decree given July 17, 1858, to the Trinitarians, and March 19, 1857, to the Dominicans, declares the following:

1. *Vota simplicia, perpetua erunt ex parte voventis, utpote quae tendunt ad emittenda deinde vota solemnia, in quibus perfectionem et complementum accipient.*

2. *Eorundem votorum simplicium dispensatio reservata est Romano Pontifici cui professi gravibus urgentibus causis preces porrigere poterunt.*

3. *Verum eadem simplicia vota solvi etiam possint ex parte ordinis in actu dimissionis Professorum, ita ut data dimissione professi ab omni dictorum votorum vinculo et obligatione eo ipso liberi fiant.*

4. *Superiores Regulares ad quos spectat concedere poterunt huiusmodi professis litteras dimissorias dumtaxat ad primam tonsuram et ad ordines minores.²²*

Would they grant us simple vows for three years, which would be perpetual on the part of the one making vows, but temporary on the part of the Society? First question.

But should we define vows in this manner, we would need to know whether, during these three years, we could call forth our subjects only to the four minor orders; in that case would we not be binding ourselves? exposing ourselves to losing many subjects who would not want to wait four years to be ordained? I say four years, including the novitiate year; these are great difficulties.

2. Some say that to admit candidates to perpetual vows immediately after one year of novitiate, would be to expose ourselves to receiving vocations who have not been sufficiently tried; however, we must make a choice. I don't think Rome will approve temporary vows as we have conceived them; as Rome sees it, these are not canonical vows. Inform me on this point.

3. There would be a third way; that is to require two years of novitiate as many communities do.

²² 1. The simple vows will become perpetual on the part of the one making the vows inasmuch as they prepare one for the time when they will pronounce solemn vows in which the vows will become perfect and complete.

2. A dispensation from these same simple vows is reserved to the Holy Father to whom the professed can ask for an extension for serious and urgent causes.

3. It is true that the same simple vows can also be dispensed by the Ordinary in the act itself of dismissing a professed religious so that when a professed is dismissed he becomes free of every bond and obligation of the vows made to that Ordinary.

7. Regular Superiors, to whom it is granted, could give dimissorial letters of these same religious up to first tonsure and minor orders.

Pilgrims for the Cenacle

By setting the principle that perpetual vows would not be made until 21 years of age, some, by that fact, would have a longer probation. As it is, the simple Brothers cannot be admitted before 20 years of age, according to the apostolic Constitutions. Dear Father, please don't leave Rome without seeing a few key people who would be informed about this matter: Msgr. Chaillot, or Msgr. Pregliati, Secretary of the Congregation of Regulars, or someone else. I am at a standstill on this question.

Brother Albert's mother is doing well, I see her from time to time.
Everyone is the same as usual, we are waiting for news from you.
Goodbye, dear Father, dear Brother Albert.

Affectionately yours in our Lord,
Eymard S.

Mr. Baudry came a few days after you left, and he graciously gave us the amount. I'm sorry that I still cannot put on the stamps: the post office is closed.

To Rev. Fr. de Cuers
religious of the Blessed Sacrament
at St. Brigitte's, Piazza Farnese
(via Marseilles) Rome

Feb. 2. The two travelers were received by the Pope after the Angelus. Father de Cuers presented the petition from Father Eymard.

<i>Feb 2</i>	<i>Conference Servants: Vows. Purification, vow of obedience, the cord, the name.</i>
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1349

CO 1350

TO BISHOP CRUICE', (MARSEILLES)
(VI 1/1)

Paris, February 2, 1864

Your Excellency,

It was said of our Lord that he was good. Our whole Society, and especially our house in Marseilles, are happy to say the same about you, Your Excellency. And now here I am again, to put before you our desire to receive, from your generosity, two dimissorial letters following on the Tonsure in the name of Most Rev. Guillaume Angebault, Bishop of Angers, for two of our professed religious in theology and from Marseilles. They are: Henri Billon and Joseph Chave.

They will be, Your Excellency, two good adorers who will be encouraged by your warm and zealous devotion to come before the Most Blessed Sacrament, and who will pray continually for their good Bishop and for the dear city of Marseilles.

May Your Excellency always bless and have a paternal love for us in our Lord, in whom I am happy to be,

Your most humble and most grateful servant,
Eymard, Sup. Soc. SS.

TO HIS HOLINESS PIUS IX²³
(VI 1/2)

PROJECT FOR THE FOUNDATION OF JERUSALEM²⁴
MOST HOLY FATHER,

Pierre Eymard, Superior of the Society of the Most Blessed Sacrament in Paris, humbly prostrate at the feet of Your Holiness, submits that: for many centuries the Cenacle has been in the hands of infidels, for the punishment and humiliation of Christians; and yet it is the most venerable and the holiest church in the world! There, was the first altar, the first tabernacle of the Holy Church of Jesus Christ. It was from there that [the Church] went out, holy and powerful, to win the world for the Savior. It would be timely indeed, Most Holy Father, to regain possession of our father's house, to place our Lord back on his throne of love, and to render to him solemn and perpetual worship of adoration in the very place where his boundless love instituted the adorable sacrament of the Eucharist. The dogma of the Immaculate Conception should naturally lead to the eucharistic reign of our Lord; such is our confident hope; and the reclaiming of the Holy Cenacle must be its precious fruit.

In former times there were Crusades for the Holy Places. The Society of the Most Blessed Sacrament, canonically approved by a Decree of the Sacred Congregation of Bishops and Secular Clergy, dated June 3, 1863, desires to undertake this crusade for the Holy Cenacle, to buy it back from the Turks. Since it is willing to consecrate to this eminently Catholic work, its property, personnel and life, and to establish solemn and perpetual worship of adoration there to pray night and day for Your Holiness, for Holy Church, for the reconciliation and conversion of the world, for the triumph of faith and love for the Most Holy Sacrament of the altar.

It is to this purpose, Most Holy Father, that we are sending [one of our Religious] to Jerusalem; and first, to Rome, that he may lay at the feet of Your Beatitude our project and our hope, confident as we are that with your blessing we shall succeed. Therefore, this humble petitioner begs Your Holiness, if you see fit, to recommend Fr. de Cuers, his representative, to Bishop Valerga, Patriarch of Jerusalem; and should you find it opportune, to support our request to the Administrators of the "Holy Door" for a decree of sale.

Mr. Drouyn de Lhuis, Minister for Foreign Affairs, has already recommended us in this matter to the French Consul in Jerusalem, Mr. de Barrere.

It is a great work that we wish to undertake! But, if your Holiness is with us, we have our Lord Jesus Christ, for Whom all is easy and possible.

And this petitioner will pray the Lord etc...

Feb 5	<i>Conference Servants: Recollection and sensibility.</i>
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²³ This petition was drawn up in Paris in January 1864, but presented to the Holy Father by Fr. De Cuers on February 2nd.

²⁴ This copy was made from the authenticated copy of the Sacred Congregation of the Propagation of the Faith. It is slightly different from the text quoted in Troussier, vol. II, pp. 422-423.

1351

CO 1352

TO MR. BESSIERE
(VII 1/1)

Adveniat Regnum Tuum

Paris, February 9, 1864

Dear Sir,

I am sending you this letter in its first draft.²⁵ Cut, eliminate, take away whatever you will and especially put it in correct French, because I hardly have time to elaborate this thought. As to its form, it is like rough minerals emerging from their geological source.

I am also sending you the design for our seal... please return it to me. I am sending two; choose one.

I regret that I don't have time to come see you at this time. I will make up for it later.

My respectful regards to Mr. Buffet.

All yours in our Lord,
Eymard, Superior

Mr. Bessiere

1352

CO 1353

TO MISS MARGUERITE GUILLOT (MOTHER MARGUERITE DU SS)
(II 232/395 VI 2)

Paris, February 12, 1864

Read the [enclosed] letter carefully, my daughter. See whether it might not be too strong, and what effect it could have.²⁶

We are certainly praying for your beloved sister Jenny and for your aunt. You must see what is not proper in your sisters, in order to [help them] get rid of it, and their faults in order to correct them. Mother: it is the heart which gives orders; Servant of the servants: gentleness is at work, charity guides the will, and prudence decides everything. We must be very careful not to let ourselves be affected by the faults of those who are close to us, because it ordinarily creates an obstacle to peace or wise decisions.

We need to do as God does; be very patient with individuals, usually make general admonitions, and always soften corrections, because we are dealing with slow minds, limited will power, selfish hearts, and sick nerves. We must perform a maternal comedy. It's almost funny, but that's how it is. I bless you in our Lord.

Eymard

²⁵ We do not have the letter he was referring to, nor know its contents. It may have to do with efforts to purchase property in Angers. cf. next letter.

²⁶ cf. note on previous letter to Mr. Bessiere Feb. 9, 1864, and letter to Mme d'Andigne Jan. 19, 1864.

1353

CO 1354

TO MME. ANTOINETTE DE GRANDVILLE
(IV 54/104)

Adveniat Regnum Tuum

Paris, February 12, 1864

Madame in our Lord,

I'm still indebted to your charity. You were worried about my cold; it was the beginning of the flu which made me sick only for one day and night, then I [was able to] get up and I have been working as usual.

I was happy to see you at least for a few hours, and I hope that our dear Master has blessed and is still blessing your good dispositions. Feelings are like thoughts: they come and go; we must feed them, restore them to grace and virtue; they need to be watered constantly, like a new plant.

Every day is new: add oil to the lamp of charity every morning: dismiss fear, agitation, worry: that's all like blinding dust, or like an upsetting and weakening fever.

Be firm with yourself. Good bye. I bless you in our Lord. My respectful regards to you, dear sister.

All yours in our Lord,
Eymard, S

1354

CO 1355

TO THE SECRETARY, CHANCERY OF PARIS
(VI 1/1)

Paris, February 12, 1864

Dear Secretary-General,

It was only a few days ago that I was able to have precise information about Fr. Croustillot, rue St. Sulpice 86. He is a priest, and he lives with a 22-year-old woman - an ex-nun whom he met and led astray at St. Joseph Hospital. I saw him, poor wretch. I pointed out to him as strongly as I could the consequences of his behavior, and I urged him to go into a monastery at Pierre-qui-vire. He promised me he would, but will he?

It seems that he is very unhappy, and asks me for help. He signs as a business agent.

This is where his passion for strong liquor has brought him. However, I shall try to get him to go to a penitential monastery.

Kindly accept, Fr. Secretary-General, the most respectful and dedicated sentiments of

Your very humble servant,
Eymard

1355

CO 1356

TO FATHER X²⁷
(VI 1/1)

Adveniat Regnum Tuum

Paris, February 12, 1864

Dear Friend,

I have just written to the Prior of the Benedictines at La Pierre-qui-vire - he is a friend of mine. I am asking him to receive you, and he will receive you, I hope. They have a house in Belgium also. You will be happy there; they have studies there also. I await his reply and then I shall go and see your Bishop at once. So - [have] trust and confidence. I bless your religious sentiments, you are choosing the better part. It is the surest way. I am still counting on the grammar; please bring it when you come.

My respects to the Very Rev. Fr. Abbot,

All yours in our Lord,
Eymard

1356

CO 1358

TO FR. BERNARD, OSB²⁸

Adveniat Regnum Tuum

Paris, February 13, 1864

Very dear and esteemed Father,

I am writing to recommend a good priest to you. I know him well; he is devout, studious, and will be very helpful to you if you have any young men who need instruction,²⁹ ...Latin and other studies. He was a teacher for a long time, then a parish priest; he has been aspiring to the religious life for many years but was always held back. He is now free. The concerns of pastoral ministry have been a great trial to him. I recommend him to you, despite his 50 years he enjoys excellent health. I have written³⁰ to ask the Bishop of Versailles for testimonial letters.

Dear Father, I would appreciate a prompt reply.

²⁷ Cf. preceding and following letters.

²⁸ Prior of La Pierre-qui-vire

²⁹ The blank spaces correspond to illegible words in the manuscript copy.

³⁰ The 2 underlined words are doubtful.

1357

CO 1357

TO MISS AGARITHE MONAVON
(V 9/9)

Adveniat Regnum Tuum

Paris, February 13, 1864

No, No, Dear Mademoiselle, you have not hurt me. My pen must have expressed my feelings poorly. It is with joy that I will see you in Paris if I am here when you come in April and May, because I am never sure of myself. I am the good Master's errand boy like a servant [who] never knows what will be commanded: that is my situation.

I understand that paper cannot transmit certain sorrows. Well! You will tell them to me [in person], and I will listen to them and share them deeply in our Lord.

Pray for me at this time. I have an important project for the glory of our Lord in the most Blessed Sacrament.

In this good Master,

All yours,
Eymard

1358

CO 1359

TO ARCHBISHOP CHALANDON, (AIX)
(VI 1/1)

Paris, rue fbg St. Jacques 68, February 15, 1864

Society of the Most Blessed Sacrament

Your Excellency,

We have had Fr. Eugene Decombis here on retreat from your diocese. Born in Grans, in the Region of Salons, on December 13, 1829, he did his philosophy in 1848 at the Major Seminary of Aix, and since then he has taught at Ste Croix in Aix and in several other institutions. This young man asks to enter our Congregation. Without being quite certain yet about his religious vocation, we have seen that he is well-disposed and has good will. Therefore, I do not hesitate to beg Your Excellency to give your blessing to his holy desire and provide us with the testimonial letters needed for his admission to the novitiate.

I am happy to commend to your devotion, Your Excellency, our little Society which has been approved by His Holiness.

With deepest feelings of veneration I do not hesitate to call myself, Your Excellency,

Your most humble servant,
Eymard, Sup. of the Society

1359

CO 1360

TO THE PARISH PRIEST OF ST. GERMAIN-EN-LAYE
(VI 1/1)

Society of the Most Blessed Sacrament

Paris, Rue fg S. Jacques 68, February 15, 1864

Dear Vicar-General,

We have had Father Decombis here on retreat. He has been a teacher in an ecclesiastical establishment in your parish. Father Vicar-General, I come with confidence to ask you for some confidential information about this gentleman. It would serve also as testimonial letters for his admission to our novitiate. Has he a good record from St. Germain? Do you know of anything in him which might be an impediment for the priesthood and the religious life?

Please accept my deep gratitude and profound respects in anticipation for this important service.

I am, in our Lord, Father Vicar-General, your most humble servant.

Eymard

Sup. of the Society

1360

CO 1361

TO FR. ALEXANDER LEROYER, SSS
(I 17/54)

Adveniat Regnum tuum

Paris, February 16, 1864

Dear Father,

Finally we have news about our travelers: they had a good trip and saw the Holy Father on February 2nd at 6:00 p.m. They had a fine audience and were promised a letter of recommendation; the petition was referred to the Propaganda to be studied, since it belongs to its jurisdiction. Father expects a letter permitting him to leave around February 21st: he is happy and hopeful.

The little boy from Angers arrived, happy and joyful: he has good will.

I will see whether I can send you some of our surplus, though we still need it. For though we have enough candelabras for the great feasts, we are poor for ordinary days. I would prefer to send you the money to buy some, if I had some, but this trip leaves me a bit dry, especially if I needed a second one; I gave all your messages to Brother Eugene.

Impossible to buy Mr. de Russon's house at that price, we can do perfectly without it, after all. If he wants to take advantage of our desire for it, he is wrong; as for the alley, we will manage without it.

So, I'm no longer thinking about it or wanting it; good Mr. de Russon wanted a nest egg, by selling it for 30,000 francs and taking the doors and windows; fortunately, I had been warned about such a possibility.

Everything is the same as usual, I sent Brothers Marius and Charles to Marseilles; they really needed that help.

As for the Masses to be said, I am saying only those for which I have money on hand. The matter of Brother Henry's aunt is delicate, but it would be even more delicate to sell titles and request prayers for the deceased. People who think that priests may make advances on their stipends are quite mistaken. That is my policy.

Pilgrims for the Cenacle

Goodbye, dear Father.

All yours in our Lord,
Eymard

1361

CO 1362

TO MME. CAROLINE SEMICHON
(VIII 1/1)

Adveniat Regnum Tuum

Paris, Feb. 16, 1864

Madame,^{31 32}

I willingly accept the dates indicated by your Pastor for your retreat of adoration. I will arrive there on Saturday, March 5th. I understand that for the greater good, the blessed hospitality of the Pastor is preferable. You will not be hurt, Madame, since you want what is best.

So, please accept for you and yours, the respectful and devoted sentiments of

Your humble servant,
Eymard

To Mme. Caroline Semichon
at Neufchatel (Lower Seine)

<i>Feb 19</i>	<i>Conference Servants: Sanctification of actions, the personality, a word about confession.</i>
<i>Feb 21</i>	<i>Conference Servants: Good will, watching over the heart.</i>
<i>Feb 23-28</i>	<i>Adoration Retreat at the Parish at Dreux.</i>
	<i>Opening: Our need for a retreat.</i>
	<i>2nd Day: Sermon: Love is the principle.</i>
<i>Tue.</i>	<i>1st Conference: Trust is the foundation.</i>
	<i>Sermon: Trust through Jesus Christ, Attributes of love.</i>
<i>Wed.</i>	<i>Meditation: Love is the Principle.</i>
<i>Thu.</i>	<i>Purpose of the Eucharist.</i>
	<i>Summary: Fruits of the love of Jesus.</i>
<i>Fri.</i>	<i>Meditation: Attentiveness of love.</i>
	<i>Conference: On recollection.</i>
	<i>Sermon: Priesthood.</i>
<i>Sat.</i>	<i>Meditation: Attentiveness of love.</i>
	<i>Conference: On simplicity.</i>
	<i>Eucharistic reign of Jesus Christ, "Christus vivit, Christus regnat, Christus imperat."¹</i>

¹ "Christ lives, Christ rules, Christ commands."

³¹ Attached to this letter was one addressed to F. Eymard with the following message:

Mme Semichon asks Rev. Father Eymard to sign this letter so she may know if the crosses were given to him.

(signed in pencil) Eymard

³² Together with the original of this letter, two letters of Miss Tamisier to Mme. Semichon were given to SSS Archives in 1984.

1362

CO 1363

TO FR. ALEXANDER LEROYER, SSS
(I 18/54)

Paris, March 2, 1864

Dear Father,

1. I am really behind with you: excuse me, I've just arrived from Dreux, where I organized adoration. Sunday I brought and left ... at Mr. d'Alvimare's (Eure and Loir), for two weeks. I am sending him your note.
2. I'll send you our two large candelabras; I had told Brother Eugene, he didn't have time to send them to you.
3. Under no condition should the Ladies take boarders.
4. I'm happy to see your two proteges become clerics.
5. Ask Mr. Bardet to wait at least until the month of April or May, when the Ladies will be in Angers. If necessary, I'll write to him, I would be extremely upset; I think his notary must be pushing for that, but he may pay a high price for it. If that is so, I'll surely refuse, I have the right to do so.
6. I'm pleased about the good news regarding the Bishop of Angers.
7. Tomorrow, on the third, they will arrive in Jerusalem; pray a great deal. Good news.
8. Fr. Champion gave you too early a date for Fr. Audibert's departure: my firm decision is that he make a canonical novitiate. However, we will see if we can loan him to you for a few days.
9. I'll write to good Fr. Carri one of these days: I was sorry and cross that he didn't consult you.

In our Lord, dear Father,
All yours,
Eymard

Mar. 3 - Arrival of Fr. de Cuers in Jerusalem.

1363

CO 1364

TO MISS MARGUERITE GUILLOT (MOTHER MARGUERITE DU SS)
(II 233/395 VI 2)

Paris, March 5, 1864

Dear daughter,

...[7 lines erased].

2. I keep forgetting to tell you that the novices and professed are not obliged to render an account of their inner lives nor of their consciences when they are in direction with their Superiors; consequently, we must be careful to let them know that rule. It was removed from our Rule in

Pilgrims for the Cenacle

Rome because I had included it. I also saw that it was explicitly erased from other Rules as well, giving Superiors only the right to ask whether the external Rule is being observed. If the sisters want to talk about it, they are free to do so, but we should avoid asking them about it. Rome has taken away this religious right from all of us.

3. ...[28 lines erased].

Goodbye dear daughter, let your natural self die, be totally spiritual. Seek only the greater good. Please avoid whatever could hurt anyone ...[2 lines erased].

All yours in our Lord,
Eymard

Mar. 6-13: Retreat of Adoration at Neufchatel - he organized 46 men and 130 women for adoration.

1364

CO 1365

TO FR. ALEXANDER LEROYER, SSS
(I 19/54)

Paris, March 15, 1864

Dear Father,

I have just come from Rouen, and I am hurrying to write to you. I have just come from the notary for the power of attorney to buy the Bardet house. I can have it only tomorrow, Wednesday, at 4 o'clock in the evening, because of the authentication; so, it will only reach Angers Thursday morning. Therefore, please let Mr. Bardet be patient one more day; please urge him to do so in my name.

I am astounded that the plan for the contract was done without me: what I want is a tontine (group) contract, and not a personal sale; I'll send the form tomorrow.

Until Thursday morning.

Tomorrow night you will receive a more detailed letter.

All yours in our Lord,
Eymard, S.

To Reverend Father Leroyer
Superior of the religious of the Most Blessed Sacrament
at the Carmelites
(Maine and Loire) Angers

TO FR. ALEXANDER LEROYER, SSS
(I 20/54)

Paris, March 16, 1864

Very dear Father,

I am sending you Fr. Audibert with the necessary authorization for the two deeds for the Bardet and Soland houses. I chose to do it through him, to spare you any unpleasantness or embarrassment.

We will make the deed of sale with a tontine (group) deed. Tomorrow morning, Thursday, you will receive the authorization by mail; it was delayed by the authentication [required] from the court house.

Mr. Bardet will have caused us unnecessary expenses if he had the deed registered and undersigned privately in his impatience to have it over with, since these sales cannot be based on me. Besides, the time needed for a forced registration hasn't expired yet; I could make claims as well.

I told Fr. Audibert about it: I want to have some time to finance the Bardet house, since I must pay cash for Mr. de Soland's house.

Surely, Mr. de Russon's house would make it complete, but the Ladies will have more than enough; besides, when we have to pay 70,000 francs, we must consider our limitations.

As for me, I assure you that I don't want it, and it's over. I saw the advantage of that purchase as clearly as anyone, but there is a limit to everything.

They say that Mr. de Russon is even thinking of increasing the price on his house: let him do what he wills, but his expectation of the neighborhood going up may be illusion. I persist in my first idea of having the church at the carpenter's place; we would then be free of any compensation.

Do not hurry to abandon or change the Gothic form; let's wait for the decision, since the Congregation is going to study the question [based] on the report from Malines.

Send me Fr. Carri for the workmen's Easter duties. I will send him back to you Monday or Tuesday of *Quasimodo*.³³ Fr. Chanuet will be involved with the First Communion of the children he prepared: it's only right. Besides, in the Society we have a mission of obedience and nothing more; the works belong to the Society and not to the members: Fr. Carri really devoted himself to them, he deserves much from the Society.

God has blessed a retreat of adoration which I have just preached at Neufchatel. I organized the service. I left 46 men adorers and 130 women adorers, led by the Clergy.

Our travelers arrived in Jerusalem on the third. I am waiting for fresh news: pray a great deal.

The Bishop was so delightfully kind and fatherly toward the Ladies.³⁴ It was a very happy feast for us! May God preserve him for us!

All yours in our Lord,
Eymard, Superior

³³ Sunday after Easter.

³⁴ Visit of Bishop Angebault of Angers to the Servants in Paris.

1366

CO 1367

TO MME. X
(VII 1/1)

Paris, March (or May) 16, 1864

Madame,

I arrived only last night. I am hurrying to thank you for your good letter and for the precious information you give me about Mademoiselle your niece. Good Mme Bucheron will be very happy about it. Madame, I've never met a more beautiful soul than this deeply Christian mother! [She is] so dedicated and so modest about her good deeds. Her daughters must inherit such a great heart and such enlightened piety. I know that Mr. Jules' sentiments are very honorable and religious. I know his respect for religion, his open religious loyalty. It didn't occur to me to ask whether he is practicing. He must do so quietly and fearlessly. If he doesn't, I will answer for him, he will do it.

Your niece will be happy with Mr. Jules, I have no doubt. I have rarely met such rich and kind personalities. What I know about him is worth a whole life.

Madame, let me send you a little example of it, and then you can judge for yourself.

In our Lord, Madame,
All yours,
Eymard

1367

CO 1368

TO FR. X³⁵
(VI 1/2)

Adveniat Regnun Tuum³⁶

Paris, Rue fg St. Jacques 68, January 21, 1864³⁷

My dear Father,

I received the letter which you did me the honor of writing to me on the 16th of this month, in which you express your desire to enter our Society. Before I ask your worthy Bishop for his reference, I ... by yourself ... as well ... and on the motives which have led you to the religious life and especially The first objective ... We also have the Holy Ministry, but it is mostly limited to the Holy Eucharist, like retreats of adoration, 1st Communion, etc.

To belong to our Congregation, we ask only two conditions: the ability to follow the rule, and to bring to us the dignity of the priesthood.

I do not need to tell you, Father, how excellent and joy-giving is this eucharistic vocation. Your request is enough to show me that you desire it.

I am, in our Lord, Father, your respectful and devoted servant.

Eymard, Sup.Soc.SS.

³⁵ Perhaps Fr. Caret cf. the following letter to Bishop Lavigerie. (cf. Doc. 1368)

³⁶ Preceded by illegible words

³⁷ Perhaps March

1368

CO 1369

TO BISHOP LAVIGERIE, (NANCY)
(VI 1/1)

Paris, March 30, 1864

Society of the Most Blessed Sacrament
rue fg S. Jacques 68

Your Excellency,

Fr. Caret, from your fine city of Nancy, has told me of his desire to enter our Society. May I request some personal information from Your Excellency.

1. Is he and is his ministry honorable? We cannot receive anyone who has the slightest blemish.

2. Does he have a good community spirit?

3. Do you know, Your Excellency, the principal motive for his desire for religious life?

I do hope, Your Excellency, that you will kindly give me a confidential reply. When I bid you farewell in Rome, you promised us your good will. I thank you for it in advance, and our good Master will be your debtor.

It is with feelings of the deepest respect that I feel the assurance to call myself in our Lord,

Your most humble and devoted servant,
Eymard, Super.

<i>Apr 1</i>	<i>Ret.Ser: Gentle humility and love.</i>
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1369

CO 1370

TO MARIETTE GUILLOT (SR. ANN-MARIE DU SS)
(III 17/21)

Paris, April 2, 1864

Dear daughter in our Lord,

Don't worry: it is only a threat and nothing more. Go to Mr. Giraud, judge at the Tribunal, 57 rue Saint Joseph. He will give you good advice; give him my little note.

I deeply felt your fears and troubles, though I didn't write to you as I would have liked, somewhat for lack of time, waiting in vain for more free time, a thousand things to do, and also, a little laziness.

Alas! I am always late with everyone, even with the good Lord.

So, now your poor aunt has died and your dear sister is feeling better. Then other crosses have come, that is our life when we follow Jesus Christ, our good Master. Don't be discouraged: someday rest and peace will come. You have two families: the one in Paris is entirely dedicated to you and loves you. God wants you to stay a little longer in Lyons.

Your presence is still needed ... Be there as if you were on mission from the Blessed Sacrament.

Pilgrims for the Cenacle

Have courage then, dear daughter; you are ever present to us and very dear in our Lord, in whom I am

All yours,
Eymard

P.S[5 lines erased].

1370

CO 1371

TO FR. ALEXANDER LEROYER, SSS
(I 21/54)

Paris, April 5, 1864

Dear Father,

I am sending Fr. Carrié back to you, he is happy to return there. He has already improved a lot; take care of him, let him hear some confessions; that would be a good change and would attach him to the house.

He is bringing you 200 francs. That is all I can send you at this time, since Fr. de Cuers is not here to draw his pension.

I am sending you one of my best Brothers, Brother Antoine. You would do well to assign him exclusively to the sacristy: he is skilled and devout, and he will take good care of your things. He is a tailor.

Fr. Bouix told me that we can use Gothic vestments, that Rome doesn't condemn them at all, but would say nothing more.

Nothing new from Jerusalem. Father tells me that the Cenacle is a stronghold of the devil, that it will need to be besieged in every way, but that prayer will overcome everything. They are fine.

I sent your crosses through Brother Henry, I believe, but I am sure I gave them to be taken to you; could he have forgotten them in his suitcase?

Spread the love and service of our Lord, and you will be good adorers.

All yours in our Lord,
Eymard

P.S. - Don't overwork Fr. Audibert. Take care of him.

1371

CO 1372

TO FR. CYR AMAND CHAMPION
(I de C 134/181)³⁸

Paris, April 13, 1864

Very dear Father,

Here enclosed you will find the two declarations needed to withdraw the amount in question; I hope that they will no longer hold back on the two deeds.

Take care of yourself, Father, go out to rest a little, you must be tired. I hope I will not have to leave you alone for the feast of the Blessed Sacrament, as I feel that would be beyond your strength.

Thank you for your last letter. Nothing new here, we are still waiting for some news from [Jerusalem]. I fear that Fr. de Cuers let himself become discouraged too quickly to face the question of the Cenacle head on. He must have let himself be too depressed by the impossibilities.

Let us pray much. - Yes; Emmaus, but as a last consolation: we must try the impossible and hope for everything.

Very dear Father, I am very united and tenderly loving in our Lord,

Eymard

1372

CO 1373

TO BROTHER MARIE RATONS, SSS
(VI 2/7)

Adveniat Regnum Tuum

Paris, April 16, 1864

Very dear Brother Marie,

Your letter pleased me greatly in our Lord, as did your obedience. So now you are in Marseilles, as [you were] in Paris, with the Blessed Sacrament and for the Blessed Sacrament. If anything outward has changed, may your piety, your spirit of penitence and love not change. A religious of the Blessed Sacrament belongs to no particular region or house. He is part of the court of the Great King and follows him everywhere. Take care, dear Brother Marie, not to give way to sadness - nor let the desire for penance lead you to value your holy vocation less - that would be a temptation. There are some penances which may be done without permission - I mean those which come from everyday life; but penances of fasting, cords... not beyond once or twice a week, - going without sleep, or not sleeping on a mattress.

Well, dear brother, have courage; see good Father Audibert and be open with him. I thought I would have time to write a letter to Brother Charles - I'll write to him later.

Affectionately yours in our Lord,
Eymard

³⁸ Although this is not one of the letters addressed to Fr. de Cuers this letter 134/181 was found in the files with his correspondence. In the chronological listing, this letter is shown as being addressed to Fr. Champion.

1373

CO 1374

TO MME. ANTOINETTE DE GRANDVILLE
(IV 55/104)

Adveniat Regnum Tuum

Paris, April 19, 1864

Madame in our Lord,

You are the only one to whom I would write; I am ill with the flu, coughing, etc. which saps my strength for anything else. May God be blessed! I must admit that in the midst of all my work I said: If Nantes were not so far! But it's too far. We are few priests and some are ill. But then, I am not any worse.

I'm glad you were able to follow the retreat of Fr. P. de Pontlevoy. We must always welcome God's passing graces. It's a good resolution to be more punctual!! Hold to that. - Life comes first. Then a religion based on ordinary duty is best. We shouldn't let ourselves complain about our duties even one day because we will be tempted to do the same the next day. So dear daughter, pay your debts and engage in a free trade of love with our Lord.

I was very happy to see that you were pleased with Fr. Rich, and I urge you to continue. I am pleased with the freedom he is giving you and the punctuality he is requiring. I plan to go to Angers around May 15th when the house for the Ladies will be ready for repairs. Surely, if the good Lord allows, I hope to bring you a greeting from our Lord.

Don't worry about me. The pain in my side seems to have passed; I still have some fever and whooping cough, and I'm not bedridden although I am tempted to be. However, I must shake off this illness. God is helping me!

I bless you wholeheartedly in our Lord.

Eymard, S

1374

CO 1375

TO VIRGINIE DANION
(IV 20/36)

Adveniat Regnum Tuum

Paris, April 21, 1864

Mademoiselle and dear sister in our Lord,

I've just received your letter and its contents. I am and will be faithful to my commitments for thanksgiving. I like to say your Masses; first of all it saves you from needing to send directions here, and then it is a bond of union in the service and for the glory of our good Master. I was complaining about your silence; every day I wanted to break it and find out why. Do you want to become a recluse? Before you do so, at least come to see us in Paris. Are you tied to your duty, to your village, your Works? In that case, may we come to see you? I often [thought] about it in order to share my hopes with you, but can it be done on the way to Angers? Answer me yes or no about that because it's also necessary that you should be free.

I have a great plan: It is to regain the Cenacle! To put the Most Blessed Sacrament back on a beautiful throne at its holy Birthplace. I have already sent two of my religious to study the question, submit it to the Holy Father, handle the question of law and the question of fact. It is already being studied; the Patriarch of Jerusalem is in our favor, the Holy Father is studying it and seems well disposed. There are two major questions to be resolved:

Pilgrims for the Cenacle

1. The question of the Franciscans who have exclusive ownership and privileges in the Holy Land;

2. Purchase from the Turks because it's a mosque.

We wanted to buy the ruins of the Church of Emmaus, but the Franciscans opposed it; they don't do it themselves and won't let others do it. It will come in its own hour and time, but we must pray and suffer: these are the two arms of faith.

I would really like to establish a fourth house for retreats, like a eucharistic Carthusian house, for vocations which are exclusively contemplative. I am praying and looking for this heaven of adoration. At the end of May, at Corpus Christi, I will found a convent for the Servants of the Blessed Sacrament, whom I have been preparing here for seven years. The Bishop of Angers wants them and is happy to receive them, I will give them to him. The house is already bought.

I've just finished our Constitutions. Now I would like to prepare a Manual of adoration; the Office of the Blessed Sacrament is already printed. Since thanksgiving is your mission, give me everything you have that has been printed, and also send me a few meditations on the Eucharist. So get to work at the feet of our Lord as soon as possible. The world is hungry and is dying of hunger, alas! very often in the arms of priests who are without love.

Two weeks ago, Bishop Maupoint, whom you know, came here to confirm our workers; he really impressed us.

I'll be here until May 16th when I will go to establish the Ladies at Angers.

I bless you in our Lord, and I am in his mutual service,

All yours,
Eymard, Superior

1375

CO 1376

TO FR. ALEXANDER LEROYER, SSS
(I 22/54)

Adveniat Regnum tuum

Paris, April 25, 1864

Dear Father,

Joseph is asking for a certificate to obtain permission from the General to travel to Angers. It's a formality which will save him the trouble of doing it later.

I am sending you the one³⁹ which belongs to Miss Guillot. It is absolutely necessary to have her signature legalized by the police commissioner as soon as possible; if there are any difficulties, please prepare one like it.

I will remember your clasps.

Please keep for me any surplus of Mass stipends which you may have (even for 1 franc).

The Jerusalem affair is progressing according to the chain of command:⁴⁰ the Patriarch answered in our favor at the Cenacle; he wants Fr. de Cuers to bring his letter of reply to Rome to sustain it. There are two major questions in this affair: the question of right, the one which would give us the religious right and place of the Franciscans: that is the principal one - and the question of fact, that is, the purchase.

First of all, we must establish the first one: things are going well; the question of Emmaus has vanished, and I'm not sorry about it. The Franciscans vetoed it, even against the Patriarch's wishes; then the Patriarch placed an interdict upon the place. Everything will come to us in its own day and time.

³⁹ The certificate.

⁴⁰ Literally: hierarchically.

Pilgrims for the Cenacle

Goodbye, dear Father.

All yours in our Lord,
Eymard

P.S. -- Fr. Champion is not too well. I am sending him Fr. Audibert as a helper, it seems that he really needed him. A blood clot partly paralyzed his left arm; he had spoken to me about Miss Fabre, and I had answered favorably.

1376

CO 1377

TO MME. ANTOINETTE DE GRANDVILLE
(IV 56/104)

Adveniat Regnum Tuum

Paris, April 26, 1864

Madame and dear sister in our Lord,

Thank you for your kind invitation. I would be at home with you, but at this time I'm having our Rules printed and I must be here. Then, I also received several candidates and they need to be initiated into their new life. My little discomforts won't prevent me from working; I'm doing better, I have coughing spells only from time to time.

I'll let you know when I'll be in Angers. It would be a comfort for me if I could go to greet you in our Lord.

I'm always very pleased to know that you go to see Fr. Rich. Don't worry about what or how much you should tell him or what you should refrain from saying. All I can tell you is not to worry about it and if it worries you, disturbs your peace, your freedom, then forget the whole thing and limit yourself to a simple confession, except to say whatever comes to your mind at that moment under the influence of grace and simplicity. That is a good rule for you to follow and it will give you peace.

Oh yes! How I wish that you would have a life which flows from our Lord! a light which emanates from his Love!

A purity which is born from holy humility!

A devotedness which is more faithful to duty!

A virtue which stems from freedom more than from austerity!

These are my wishes. May our good Master give you a hundredfold. I bless you in his divine love.

All yours,
Eymard, S

Madame de Grandville
8 rue Saint Laurent
Nantes (Lower Loire)

TO COUNT JEAN RAYMOND DE CUERS (FR. DE CUERS SSS)
(I 135/181 VI 2)

Adveniat Regnum tuum

Paris, May 3, 1864

Very dear Father,

May God be praised and thanked! You have arrived and are still full of courage to leave again; your every step will be and has been counted; each one will buy one stone of the Cenacle.

I am really sorry that you haven't received any of my letters: one is waiting for you in Rome, I am surprised that you didn't receive the one I sent you in Jerusalem, because I wrote to you immediately upon receiving the one of March 19th.

I think as you do, that we must push this effort to the limit. You are more informed than I, you have seen everything, heard everything, you will be stronger in Rome.

My first reaction to your proposal to begin right away in Jerusalem, at any place whatever, was that this does not suit me too well. Let's begin by making a real siege on the Cenacle. To wait for years, struggle step by step; I must admit that, for the moment, this doesn't suit me too well.

First of all, I want you to treat the question of the Cenacle. That is why I sent you to Rome and to Jerusalem, that is the request we made directly to the Holy Father; we need a straightforward decision, either a yes or a no.

The Franciscans have the ancient privilege; they haven't done anything for the Cenacle, they let the surrounding land escape Catholic ownership: it would be ridiculous on their part to contest this ownership with the Americans, etc. They⁴¹ will never succeed in accomplishing anything except to prevent Catholics from settling on ruins they own but cannot restore. Would the Holy See allow us to work for its redemption for the purpose of adoration? that is what seems clearest to me.

If you treat only the general question of some foundation in Jerusalem, on another piece of land, no doubt even to obtain that would be a triumph. In general, I think we should ask this question only if there is no other hope, because, if it were settled in favor of a foundation, God will manifest his holy Will for the time and place. So then it is a question of power, of new rights which you will present in Rome. You know that Rome likes to see, hear, and conciliate differing parties whenever possible. In the end they settle matters when there are no more alternatives.

Please send Brother Albert back to me; his poor mother is not well; it worries me: I can see that her son is a great part of her illness, which became very serious at one point. This poor woman is losing her head over her Albert: I am really annoyed.

We are being offered to buy, at a low price, an old convent of Gnovfains in the surroundings of Poitiers. There is a church, a convent, a stream, 26 acres of land with a single tenant: quiet, isolated, an excellent place for the formation of men, for those who have the attraction and need of a more recollected life, at least temporarily. We must admit that our three houses in practice are too active for a novitiate, for studies, for a life of retreat. I have been wanting this model house for a long time, where we would form good and solid adorers, even for the Cenacle.

I am asking God for this house with my whole soul; I feel the need of it. Sr. Michel said that we needed a house of prayer: here it is.

I believe that the price of this vast property would not exceed 50 to 60 thousand francs. Please say a word about it to our Priests in Marseilles and tell me your feelings.

Nothing new, I have had a bit of flu; I am feeling better, even well.

Please inquire in Rome what documents we need to petition the Sacred Congregation of Bishops and Regulars for the faculty to establish this new house. You are at the source of information, you can find out. Fr. Freid, our friend, the Superior of the French Seminary, or the

⁴¹ Probably referring to the "Americans."

Pilgrims for the Cenacle

Head of Protocol can tell you. May God accompany you, bless you, and bring you back happy!
Ask for the money that you need, I will repay it.

All yours in our Lord,
Eymard

As for the petition to the Holy Father, I don't know what else I could say: tell him about your mission. God holds hearts in his hands, it is in his name that we are casting the net.

1378

CO 1379

TO FR. MICHEL CHANUET SSS
(I 7/29 VI 2)

To Rev. Fr. Chanuet,
Master of Novices

Accipe, carissime frater in Christo, hanc vitae nostrae eucharisticae legem et formam; simplici corde lege, amoris virtute serva et aliis fortiter commenda, et erit tibi lux et vita.⁴²

Parisiis, 4 Maii, 1864
Totus tuus in Christo,

Eymard, Sup. Soc. S.S.

May 5	<i>Conf.Ser: Blessing of the sacred vessels, the altar linens, the vestments, the holy habit.</i>
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1379

CO 1380

TO MME. NATALIE JORDAN (NEE BRENIER DE MONTMORAND)
(IV 51/75)

Adveniat Regnum Tuum

Paris, Ascension, 1864⁴³

Dear Madame in our Lord,

I will be here in Paris until May 13th or 14th. I will go to Angers for a few days, perhaps until the end of the month.

I am going to establish the new adorers whom our Lord gave me to form;⁴⁴ therefore, I am going to light a new divine fireplace; Heaven grant that it may never go out!

⁴² "Receive, most beloved brother in Christ, this rule and the way of our Eucharistic life, read it with a simple heart, live it with a generous love, commend it strongly to others and it will be light and life for you.

Paris, May 4, 1864

All yours in Christ"

⁴³ Ascension Day was May 5, 1864.

⁴⁴ Foundation of the Servants of the Blessed Sacrament.

Pilgrims for the Cenacle

So it is with pleasure that I will see your dear niece, whose simple obedience I do admire for it must make her very pleasing to God. You are right to respect her moral intuition. On the other hand we must have pity for the cause of the trial which has so little respect for what God himself respects; wicked people do not dare violate and the devil cannot win over by assault, but the good Lord is sanctifying his beloved child by that means.

So you are at Calet in the charming countryside where my mystical rock is located, from where I contemplated such a pure and beautiful Heaven! It is one of those nights which I will never forget.

Take advantage of this dear silent solitude to come closer to God, to enjoy God, to lose yourself a little in the harmony of his heart.

I envy you this gentle rest, I am in the midst of the floods in this ocean called Paris, where I take hold of God on the run and rest a little when I adore him.

Be at peace; I still keep you as my eldest daughter even if I don't tell you so very often; but you are also silent and mute.

In our Lord then,
All yours,
Eymard

Greetings to your good Pastor.

1380

CO 1381

TO THE BLESSED SACRAMENT COMMUNITIES⁴⁵
(VI 1/2)

Adveniat Regnum Tuum

Paris, Ascension 1864, [May 5th]⁴⁶

Very dear Fathers and Brothers in our Lord,

Eight years ago today, we came to Paris to found the Society here, and, since that time, what graces and blessings [we have received] from God and Holy Church!

Yes, the Society comes from God: its existence without human support is proof of it; its foundation in Paris without supporters, unknown as we were, proclaiming a life of adoration where only works of exterior zeal were given the right or confidence to introduce themselves.

Well! the Society was received and approved by Archbishop Sibour and his Council on May 13th 1856; two years later, on January 5th, it was praised in a Letter from His Holiness; and, finally, on May 8th 1863, on the Feast of the Apparition of St Michael the Archangel, the Supreme Pontiff, upon the proposal of the Congregation of Bishops and Regular Clergy kindly granted the Society absolute and perpetual approval. A blessed day! on which, my Brothers, we must present a profound thanksgiving to God. It is a family feast, since it is the day of our birth in the Church, just as the death of a saint is his birth in Heaven. This blessed approbation made us Religious of Holy Church! Our Society has a place of honor in this beautiful garden of grace and evangelical vocations. Although we were the last to appear, we have a place at our Father's family table; and with what spiritual graces, what unexpected favors the Holy Father has endowed the Society! His Society, for it was his heart which encouraged the idea from the first, guided its first steps, and has now given it its canonical franchise.

⁴⁵ A circular letters to the Communities of Marseilles and Angers.

⁴⁶ "In 1856, the Feast of the Ascension was May 1st; in 1864 the Ascension was on May 5th. Father was therefore recalling the anniversary of the Ascension, not the exact date of the month." Note from Father Tenaillon.

Pilgrims for the Cenacle

To show gratitude for so many graces, let every priest, on May 8th, say Mass in Thanksgiving for the Supreme Pontiff and for all those who worked for its approbation as well. On that day, let the Brothers receive Holy Communion for this intention, and let all adorations be like a sheaf of praise, thanksgiving and love for the greatest of all blessings.

In our Lord I am deeply united and devoted to you,

Eymard, Superior

1381

CO 1382

TO MR. GOIN⁴⁷
(VII 1/1)⁴⁸

Paris, May 11, 1864

Sir,

It is my honor to ask you to sell me the following: 17 bonds of La Seine, 16 of the same Orleans, 2 of the same Line of Italy, 4 on the Public Debt 3%.

Please receive the expression of my gratitude in advance.

Father Eymard
rue fg St. Jacques 68

May 13th or 14th. Departure for Angers to prepare the foundation of the Servants.

1382

CO 1383

TO MISS MARGUERITE GUILLOT (MOTHER MARGUERITE DU SS)
(II 234/395 VI 2)

Adveniat Regnum tuum

Angers, May 16, 1864

Dear daughter in our Lord,

I bought your charming house. You will have a lovely chapel with everything that is necessary and suitable. I'll arrange a nice refectory; I ordered six beds, the chairs are ready. You'll have plenty of water. The good Lord is really spoiling you! These are his gifts to you.

Tonight they will tell me the price for gas heat; you will also need an oven, it is better to buy it here. There are some very good ones, and no more expensive, even less: for 300 to 400 francs you can have one that is adequate for thirty to forty people. Our former tenant has some of every kind; better to use him, he is a very honest man. He has a little building enclosed in the property. I want to buy it from him, you will need it; it won't be expensive, he can't use it. More details tomorrow. Think about the following:

1. Purchase a host-iron at Picard's, rue de Sevres, or at the parish Credit, or elsewhere; it should cost about 40 to 50 francs.

⁴⁷ Change agent.

⁴⁸ This letter is taken from a copy, not the original.

Pilgrims for the Cenacle

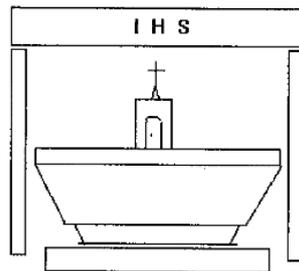
2. Lamp globes without shades.
3. Biretta.
4. Missal strings.
5. Have the chalice consecrated.

6. I am sending you a receipt for Mr. Cavalie, rue d'Enfer, at the Institution of Saint Thomas Aquinas, near the Carmelites (three houses down).

Buy white damask cloth right away, for the altar canopy and to hide the windows behind the altar. I don't want to have them blocked.

Width of the canopy: 1 meter 50 centimeters, length: 2 meters 70 centimeters, make it like this square, with silk fringe. The hanging part should not be more than 25 centimeters. You could put the monogram IHS in the middle, the one I gave you from Miss Larousse.

Besides that, have a hanging strip in back, 3 meters 50 high and 3 meters wide with a tape on each side. Here is the plan:



Hurry up. As soon as the chapel is ready, I will have you come, probably Sunday night. I bless you.

All yours in our Lord,
Eymard

Go on Friday to withdraw the note.

1383

CO 1385

TO MISS MARGUERITE GUILLOT (MOTHER MARGUERITE DU SS)

(II 235/395 VI 2)

Adveniat Regnum tuum

Angers, May 17, 1864

Dear daughter in our Lord,

We are working very hard, I hope that we will be ready on Monday at the latest.

I wrote to Fr. Chanuet to obtain half fare for you on the West railroad, or if refused, on the one from Orleans.

Come on the one that grants it; please, take second class: that is a favor which God will grant you. It will be easier to have three compartments for twenty-two.

Keep Miss Larousse's embroidered IHS to put here on the back of the curtain, and don't put it in the middle of the canopy on the inside: it would be too big, and it will be better where I am telling you.

Don't worry about the wood, we will do it here, you have the measurements ... follow those measurements.

Pilgrims for the Cenacle

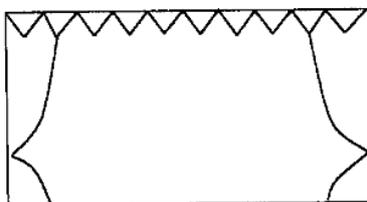
It seems to me that in order not to be too conspicuous here, the best thing would be to come in separate groups, leave Monday morning, and arrive at night on number 14 and not 30. On Tuesday, the others would come the same way, or they might travel overnight from Monday to Tuesday, which would be more difficult, or Tuesday morning. I do recommend that you form two groups because you will draw too much attention otherwise. Write to tell me what you will do. However, unless you receive another note from me, leave Monday morning only, not Sunday night; that would be too soon.

I bless you in our Lord,
Eymard

P.S. I am reopening my letter to ask you to make two white curtains to separate the sanctuary from your choir, that would do nicely.

You only need one width of white damask cloth. The height is 3 meters 20 centimeters; put a fringe on it.

In addition make a valence to join them, about 4 meters long. Here is my idea:



To Miss Guillot
rue fg St. Jacques 66, Paris

1384

CO 1384

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

(I 136/181 VI 2)

Adveniat Regnum tuum

Angers, May 17, 1864

Very dear Father,

I am sending you the two forms from the Orleans Railroad: Everything has been settled with that generous Company; you should add the name of your station of departure, and above that, the date of departure. Ignore the date I put there, it is the date of the order.

I will be very happy to receive you in Angers and we will work together on the memorandum from Rome. We will see what is the best thing to do.

I am here for two things: the first, to read and explain the Constitutions; the second, for the foundation of the Ladies for Thursday, Corpus Christi. I could add a third one: to breathe a little more freely.

Fr. Leroyer will leave here sometime between now and the eve of Corpus Christi for Paris, where he will preach the retreat for the adorers over the course of four days. I'm very pleased that he will be heard and enjoyed.

Finally, dear Father, we will be seeing you. May God be praised! and we will hear you speak about Jerusalem and Rome, those great cities of our Lord!

If you find a good angel Raphael on the way, Morey is not very far from Paris for Brother Albert; but then, do for the best.

I'm fondly united to you in our Lord.

Eymard, S.S.

1385

CO 1386

TO MISS MARGUERITE GUILLOT⁴⁹ (MOTHER MARGUERITE DU SS)
(II 236/395 VI 2)

Angers, May 18, 1864

Dear daughter in our Lord,

We are working as hard as we can; I hope that we will succeed in getting the essentials done.

Please pay Mr. Oddou who will give you a note from me, the amount of a thousand francs which I received here for him, and for which I will repay you. It comes just at the right time. I saw in your contract with Dubois that we were to give him 300 francs here to transport our belongings from the train. The things have not come yet, we are waiting for them.

I bless you, Sr. Benoite, and all your daughters, in our Lord.

Eymard

1386

CO 1387

TO MISS MARGUERITE GUILLOT (MOTHER MARGUERITE DU SS)
(VI 1/2 II 395)

Angers, May 18, 1864

Miss Guillot
rue faubourg St. Jacques 66

Dear Mademoiselle,

Please give to Mr. Oddou Henri, the bearer of this note, the sum of one thousand francs in return for the same amount which I received here, and which I shall pass to you.

Signed: Eymard

Received from Miss Guillot the sum of one thousand francs.

Undersigned: Odon

Paris, May 19, 1864

⁴⁹ Supplement to letter 236.

1387

CO 1388

TO MISS MARGUERITE GUILLOT (MOTHER MARGUERITE DU SS)
(II 237/395 VI 2)

Angers, May 19, 1864

Dear daughter in our Lord,

Your belongings just arrived at eleven thirty; everything seems to be in good condition. They will be opened at three o'clock, we will take good care of them. Make the back curtain wider than I had first said, because we won't be able to do anything for the moment, neither paint nor wallpaper. The curtain behind the altar needs to be approximately 4 meters 80 centimeters wide in order to cover the back wall entirely.

Your arm chair is at Poujol, rue Grenelle, St. Germain 42. I don't think that your lamp has a heart-shaped light fitting like ours. Look for and buy one that has a white cord for that.

Last night I saw the Bishop. He promised me to come Thursday at 7 o'clock in the morning to say holy Mass for you and expose the Blessed Sacrament. God couldn't grant you anything nicer.

Dear Sr. Benoite, this is for you: be sensible and don't worry, you must earn the graces that are waiting for you here, very great ones. You will have a lovely chapel, very calm and peaceful.

I bless you in our Lord, you, Sr. Benoite, your good Mother, and all your sisters.

Eymard

1388

CO 1389

TO MISS MARGUERITE GUILLOT (MOTHER MARGUERITE DU SS)
(II 238/395 VI 2)

Angers, Friday, May 19, 1864⁵⁰

Dear daughter,

Everything arrived and is unpacked. The young man was very careful, nothing was broken, we haven't noticed anything missing.

So we gave him and the others who worked with him 50 francs as a tip: it was well deserved and earned as they put themselves to a great deal of trouble. We gave the 300 francs required to transport your belongings from the train: now we only need to subtract what you had paid in Paris. There is still a lot of work.

Everything needed for the Lord will be ready, and the principal things for you.

See you Monday night. I will go meet you at the train.

I bless you.

Eymard

Send for an altar stone right away, it is hard to get here.

Bring a little leftover white silk to decorate the tabernacle.

I've just looked over your affairs and settled your bill with the coachman.

⁵⁰ Date uncertain. In 1864, Friday was the 20th. Troussier.

Pilgrims for the Cenacle

We still owed:

	1200 fr.
city tax	<u>26.25</u>
	1226.25
Given as tips to the coachmen	50 fr.
For the workers	<u>14</u>
	1290.25

The Bishop came this afternoon to see your houses, like a good Father joyfully waiting for his children.

1389

CO 1390

TO MISS MARGUERITE GUILLOT (MOTHER MARGUERITE DU SS)

(II 239/395 VI 2)

Angers, Saturday, May 26, 1864⁵¹

Dear daughter,

I received all your letters, thank you for them. We are still working hard, everything is happening at once.

Don't forget to ask Brother Frederic for the Conopeum that the Mother of the Good Shepherd made for the house of Angers, and to bring it to us.

Write to tell me whether you are coming Monday night around eight o'clock. On second thought, it would be better if you all arrived together; but write to tell me your train for departure and arrival so that we may obtain a bus for you.

I bless you,
Eymard

Miss Guillot
66 rue fg St. Jacques, Paris

1390

CO 1391

TO MISS MARGUERITE GUILLOT (MOTHER MARGUERITE DU SS)

(II 240/395 VI 2)

Angers, Monday 6:30 at night, May 23, 1864

Dear sisters,

Welcome! You are coming at God's call to raise a new throne for our Lord, to enkindle here the first hearth which should diffuse itself until the end of the world. May you be blessed for it!

You have been chosen to be the first ones to begin this new Cenacle, how fortunate you are. You have received the first grace, be faithful to it!

⁵¹ Although dated May 26th, this is most unlikely. Saturday was the 21st and the postmark was the 21st. Troussier.

Pilgrims for the Cenacle

It isn't an Angel or a Saint that you will serve, it is Jesus, the King and God of Angels and Saints. You will always have him and he will be everything for you.

I regret not being able to be there tonight at 8:00 p.m. Fr. de Cuers has just arrived as well as Fr. Champion. I'll come to see you tomorrow morning.

Joseph will do all the errands for you, he has been admirably devoted.

I bless you, while crying with joy to see you finally gathered in the Cenacle before my death.

Eymard

1391

CO 1392

TO MME. ANTOINETTE DE GRANDVILLE

(IV 57/104)

Angers, May 24, 1864

Madame in our Lord,

I have been here several days surrounded by many workmen; the Ladies arrived last night, rue de l'Hopital, 14, near the Anjou hotel.

Thursday, at 7:00 a.m., the Bishop will come for the first Exposition; if only you could be here!

I expected to have a day to myself to go to Nantes; impossible! I will be staying here until Monday.

I only have time to say that I am, in our Lord

All yours,
Eymard

1392

CO 1393

TO MISS MARGUERITE GUILLOT (MOTHER MARGUERITE DU SS)

(II 241/395 VI 2)

Angers, May 25, 1864

Please send me the big book, I must do the "acts"⁵² over again.

I forgot to put the date of entrance into the house, for each one. Ask each one, and send it to me tonight, I need it.

Don't forget the little table for the cruets, etc. on the Epistle side. Prepare water and salt for the holy water, find your Roman Ritual, if it doesn't disturb you too much.

⁵² Though not a letter, the above document has its place of interest here, as it is taken from the minutes of the Inauguration and vows:

1st Foundation of Angers

On May 26, 1864, feast of the Blessed Sacrament, after six years of preparation under the guidance of Rev. Father Eymard, Superior of the Society of the Blessed Sacrament in Paris, after having the blessing of Pius IX on Jan. 5, 1859, with the consent and paternal concern of His Excellency Bishop Angebault, the Servants of the Blessed Sacrament made their first foundation in the city of Angers, rue de l'hopital, 14. After the blessing of the chapel, the Bishop celebrated holy Mass in the new chapel at 7 o'clock and did the first Exposition, which is to be continual day and night. God willing that it may be perpetual in this blessed city which welcomed with so much affection and devotion this new-born work. At Holy Communion the first professed sisters renewed their perpetual and triannual vows. Those who renewed their perpetual vows are: etc.

Pilgrims for the Cenacle

Let Sr. Marie look up the blessing for the habits, which she copied for me.
Yes, Sr. Camille will make her vows, tell her also in my name.
I will be up there⁵³ around 5:15 a.m.
I bless you.

Eymard

May 26 Conference Servants: 1st Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.

May 26 - Foundation of the convent of the Servants of the Blessed Sacrament in Angers. They received the religious habit for the first time on that day and began a life of enclosure.

May 28 Conference Servants: Religious life. A means and not an end.

May 29 Conference Servants: Triannual vows, the sacramental presence. Joy and the gift of the spirit.

1393

CO 1394

TO COUNT JEAN RAYMOND DE CUERS (FR. DE CUERS SSS)
(I 137/181 VI 2)

Adveniat Regnum tuum

Angers, May 29, 1864

Very dear Father,

My intention is to do as you did, to go from here to Marseilles via Bourges; that will save time and money and some of my energy.

Therefore, if something serious requires my passing through Paris, send me a telegram immediately.

We have just returned from the procession to bless the Knoll; it was magnificent, the whole city was there: the Prefect, the Mayor, the Tribunals, the Court, etc....

I expressed one prayer to our Good Master: "I am coming to declare ownership for next year, it is our turn now; you told Moses and Joshua that wherever they would walk, the land would be theirs. Therefore, the Knoll is ours, or rather it is Yours."

Fr. Champion is leaving tomorrow night, he is really much better.

Everything is fine here.

Regards to all.

All yours, dear Father, in our Lord,
Eymard

Tell Fr. Chanuet to inquire about the cost of the Ladies' censer so that they might send the amount. Near the rue du Vieux Colombier.

May 31 - Letter from Cardinal Barnabo to Father to urge him to pursue his efforts for a foundation in Jerusalem.

⁵³ Fr. sent this note from the Father's monastery in the other part of the city of Angers.

1394

CO 1395

TO MISS MARGUERITE GUILLOT (MOTHER MARGUERITE DU SS)

(VI 2/2 II 395)

Lion d'Angers, May 31, 1864

I ask Sr. Marguerite of the Blessed Sacrament, as a true Mother and as a good sister, to receive Madame d'Andigne in the house whenever she goes to see them.⁵⁴ I bless you for it in our Lord.

Eymard, Sup. S.S.S.

Jun 2 *Conference Servants: The schedule (continued).*

1395

CO 1396

TO MME. ANTOINETTE DE GRANDVILLE

(IV 58/104)

Adveniat Regnum Tuum

Bourges, June 3, 1864

Madame in our Lord,

I am writing to you as I travel on the train. I've just read your letter; thank you for the details about Marseilles, I only knew the background.

I'm not going to Marseilles for that, but to visit our house and participate in the feast on the fifth. The Bishop intends to establish a house of women Adorers, but the choice has not yet been made.

I hope to stay in Marseilles until June 12th; then I will be in Paris around the 18th.

I'm happy to know that you are at peace. Be very obedient and recollected and you will always remain so.

Thank you for the greetings from Msgr. Verolles. He is my saint and a friend. Fr. Jacquet, a Marist, is in Lyons and is doing well.

My heartfelt regards to your dear sister.

All yours in our Lord,
Eymard, S

⁵⁴ The sisters had established an enclosure on their foundation day.

1396

CO 1400

TO MISS VIRGINIE DANION (SR. ANNE DE JESUS/SR. MARIE OF THE BL. SACRAMENT)
(IV 21/36)

Adveniat Regnum Tuum

On the train to Marseilles, June 4, 1864

Mademoiselle and dear sister in our Lord,

I couldn't answer you from Angers, I was so busy that I didn't have time.

With God's help, I made a foundation of the Servants of the Blessed Sacrament with perpetual exposition.

On Thursday, the Feast of Corpus Christi, the Bishop made their first foundation and exposition. Now there is one more throne and divine hearth! May its fire never go out!

I've just promised to preach a retreat at Rennes, for the feast of the Nativity. I am hoping that, being so close to you, I will have the opportunity to see you, and to speak about our Works.

I would almost like to scold you a little. You were afraid that I would suggest sacrifices and separations to you. If our good Master willed it clearly, with three definite signs, you would need to say: "Here I am, the happy servant of your love."

But I have no mission of this type. I wanted to see you, to tell you how we are proceeding, what we want to do for the glory of our good Master, what is developing in Jerusalem where I've sent 2 religious to study whether to have a eucharistic foundation at the Cenacle or whether to wait. Rome seems to be pleased with our plan, the Patriarch of Jerusalem wants us, but we need the final word which will give life and fruitfulness: the "*Mitte me*"⁵⁵ from God.

I am going to Marseilles for a couple of weeks, then I'll return to Paris.

I hope that our good Master has healed your patients and has given you back the freedom of your little corner of Mauron. Your letter seemed a bit agitated.

Goodbye, good sister in our Lord,

All yours in His glory,
Eymard, Superior

1397

CO 1398

TO MME. CLOTILDE THOLIN-BOST
(IV 47/52)

Adveniat Regnum Tuum

On the train, June 4, [1864]

Madame and dear sister in our Lord,

I often wanted to write to you and do so when I would be rested and could write longer; I had to wait until I would be on the train.

As you say, souls joined by the same grace and bound by the same law of charity speak and see each other in our Lord; but we need to tell one another so from time to time.

I prayed for the success of your Third Order retreat; for we need only to receive one grace well to renew our hearts and raise up our life in God. That was a very good idea they had at Amplepuis and it would be wonderful to renew it annually.

⁵⁵ "Send me."

Pilgrims for the Cenacle

You are very close to God on your hilltop, surrounded by the silence of the world and with the invisible world. Continue to be happy there in such good company: the only one which is ever gracious and accessible. Let yourself be led by the movement⁵⁶ of each moment's grace; that is the only movement the receptive sail can take, others only disturb it, if they don't come from above.

Grace always means peace and sacrifice, love and zeal, gift and happiness. Let yourself be taken by our good Master and led where he wills by the path that pleases him; it's always the best one, although we cannot always see the outcome. Your children are happy at Joasson; well, so much the better! they will be well behaved and won't have any opportunity for wrongdoing. They will help their good Father. Nowadays we bless those who are called to country living for their pure and simple souls.

Goodby, dear Madame. I am going to Marseilles (rue Nau, 7) for about twelve days.

I bless you. I would be even happier to see you.

All yours in our Lord,
Eymard, S.

Mme Tholin
at Joasson
Amplepuis (Rhone)

1398

CO 1399

TO MME. LEPAGE
(IV 2/26)

Adveniat Regnum Tuum

On the train to Lyons, June 4, 1864

Dear Madame in our Lord,

Your fine letter has been pursuing me; it finally caught up with me in Angers and I am hurrying to tell you that I will be pleased to preach the retreat for the Nativity; on one condition however, that is, that you will be there, because your presence is at least half of my reason for accepting. I am going to Marseilles to go visit our house (rue Nau, 7). I'll stay there about ten days. I will be in Paris around June 18th. I'll write to tell you the exact date. However, I wouldn't want to disturb your trip at all. I deeply regretted that I was absent for your visit. I was in Angers establishing a house of women adorers on the day of Corpus Christi itself; they are called the Servants of the Blessed Sacrament; there are 21 of them.

I am so happy to see this new throne established for our Lord. I hope he will find his delight there.

Goodbye, dear Madame, I greatly desire to see you.

All yours in our Lord,
Eymard

⁵⁶ Literally: Surrender to the wind of grace at each moment.

1399

CO 1401

TO MME. NATALIE JORDAN (NEE BRENIER DE MONTMORAND)
(IV 52/75)

Adveniat Regnum Tuum

On the train, June 4, [1864]

Very dear Madame in our Lord,

I greet you from my coach, you and your beloved family; sorry that I don't have a day to spare on my way down to go to see you at Calet, but I am already late for the feast at Marseilles, on the 5th. If I have a day when I return, I will give you half; I would like to see Chatte again, I miss it; and then your blessed boulder of Caesar's,⁵⁷ or better of Calvary. I am praying for your cocoons; I hope you will have nice ones. May the good Lord hear me. You must be like busy Martha, do try to wed these two dear sisters of Bethany a little more; if Martha's place is more meritorious, Mary's is more delightful.

Your dear nieces must be with you, happy to be with their dear aunt.

So I bless my Trinitarian family wholeheartedly. Has dear Mme Nugues returned from Rome? I would be very happy to see her; no doubt your dear Mathilde is with you! If not, I will go to see her in Lyons.

Goodbye dear Madame, don't forget that I am getting older and I am not getting better. I don't know how to belong fully to God in the midst of winds and waves.

I bless you.

All yours in our Lord,
Eymard

My address: rue Nau, 7, Marseilles
Mme C. Jordan,
at Calet at St. Romans,
via St. Marcellin (Isere)

1400

CO 1397

TO MR. JOSEPH-AUGUSTE CARREL
(V 16/24)

Adveniat Regnum Tuum

On the Bourbonnais train, June 4, [1864]

Very dear friend and brother in our Lord,

Since I cannot go to hug you, I am scribbling my greetings on the train, hoping for better luck on my way back, in about 12 days.

It's a feast for me when I can see the father, mother and children of my first friend in our Lord. I have just set fire to a second eucharistic hearth in Angers; we are preparing a beautiful one in Jerusalem; I am going to see whether the one in Marseilles is starting to die out a little. When shall we go to Lyons? - In God's time! It will always be the [city] of my heart, and you, dear friend, my Bethany.

⁵⁷ Common name of the hill of St. Romans where he received a special experience of the goodness of God as a young curate, and which was near her home.

Pilgrims for the Cenacle

See you soon then! Ever in our Lord, the Host of Praise and love,

Eymard

Marseilles
rue Nau, 7

1401

CO 1402

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

Adveniat Regnum Tuum

On the train, June 4, 1864

Mademoiselle in our Lord,

I was hoping to say hello on my way back from Angers via Orleans and Bourges. Impossible, we only spent 10 minutes at the station. I hope to make up for it when I return. You are now my Bethany, and it seems to me that I am yours. You have all been so good for me! For me, St. Bonnet was the mountain of God, where a difficult task⁵⁸ became so easy and so pleasant for me. Thank you again for your charity.

I love your family as my own. St. Bonnet is my beautiful dream of peace and work! But when and how? I don't know. Our Good Master is not letting me see my future. I like to live from day to day in his arms.

You make me very happy when you tell me that you are continuing your Communion. Always continue them. A bride of Jesus must live by Jesus.

Don't look too closely at what you are bringing to it, but at the love that is welcoming you and giving itself to you. Holy Communion is the virtue of virgins.

Always be kind, gracious, pleasant and dedicated toward your loved ones, especially toward your good and holy mother. What you tell me about your friends would make me sad if I didn't know how generous you are.

My dear daughter, you see how things happen when something is too personal, friendship too social. Don't be too sad about it. It is just that our Lord loves you for yourself and wants you to be entirely his by the repose of the heart. However, continue to be kind to them and do not complain about them, either to them or to God.

Our Ladies⁵⁹ are finally settled: the first exposition was done by the Bishop who spoke very lovely and encouraging words to them.

They began nocturnal adoration only on Thursday, June 2nd. They needed rest so badly. How happy they are! Mme Chanuet⁶⁰ is 10 years younger with the white habit. Don't tell me again that your letters are too long. I will scold you for writing too seldom.

Eymard

P.S. Read me as you can. The train is making my pen shake.

⁵⁸ He wrote the Constitutions of the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament at St. Bonnet.

⁵⁹ The Servants of the Blessed Sacrament.

⁶⁰ Sr. Camille du SS.

1402

CO 1403

TO MME. LEBOURLIER
(VII 1/1)

Lyons, June 4, 1864

Mme Lebourlier,

I am writing to you from Lyons, since I could not do so from Paris. However, I did not forget your major question. This is my conclusion: your marriage is radically null. Consequently, you can get married in Russia as if you have never been married to Mr. Lebourlier in the sight of the Church. You may therefore go to Russia, bringing your baptismal certificate. You would do well to bring the death certificates of your father and mother.

If you want to wait to see me, I will be in Paris around June 20th. I will write to you about my arrival.

What leads me to the conclusion of the nullity of your marriage is: 1) The opinion of the Secretary of the Congregation of the Council of Trent, in Rome, who assured me of it.

2) Three weeks ago I consulted the Promoter of the Bond in Paris. He answered the same thing, that your marriage was radically null in the sight of the Church.

3) I consulted the Vicar General of Angers and several theologians, same answer. However, as Church impediments are not recognized in France, you cannot remarry either civilly or religiously by a French Priest. - You must leave the country, but that is exactly what you want [to do].

Forgive me for having made you wait so long for my answer. It is just that I wanted it to be sure.

If you need to write to me, I am in Marseilles, rue Nau 7, until June 12th.

Believe me in our Lord, Madame, your respectful servant.

Fr. Eymard, Superior

P.S. Excuse my poor writing, I am writing to you while the coach is shaking.

1403

CO 1404

TO MISS MARGUERITE GUILLOT (MOTHER MARGUERITE DU SS)
(II 242/395 VI 2)

Adveniat Regnum tuum

Marseilles, June 10, 1864

Dear daughter in our Lord,

I was very pleased to read your letter of the 7th, and I'm very happy to see that your house is functioning, that you have begun and are continuing perpetual Exposition.

At first, a few sisters may become tired because of nocturnal adoration, but everything will become easier by the grace of their call, as it becomes a habit and they experience the happiness of the divine service. You did understand my idea which is to have the adorers rest once a week, each one in turn, since you have more than necessary. Be broad and indulgent toward those who would really be tired, because otherwise it would only get worse.

Pilgrims for the Cenacle

Yes, receive the Fathers well, especially Fr. Leroyer; the reason that you give me is very true. So it is better to make a slight concession,⁶¹ because after all, the principles of independence are established. There are now only relationships of concern and family ties in our Lord.

Watch out for Mr. de Russon. He is exploiting your hopes, he will ask you for an exorbitant price for that small alley. He is already mentioning that you should pay for the priority. If you can do without it, leave it, you will get better terms.

He is wrong to cause trouble about the wall; the rights are in your favor since it is in your place and on your land. As far as the small part of the wall that he lays claim to, it is so for the top, but you own the foundations since it is entirely on your land. These are annoyances meant to force you to buy his house. He complained that I treated him too offhandedly, it's just that I treated him as he deserved and he saw that he was caught in that final decision. If you need the advice of an architect, speak to Mr. Dussouchet, close by on rue Flore.

You asked about the passageway to be built. It will be easy for you to do it through the drying shed, you have nothing to worry about since both sides of the street belong to you.

There is nothing to it.

Please, my dear daughters, enjoy your happiness; it is a great one. Be very happy to have so many graces, and honor your good Master, in order that he may find his delight among you. I am fine, and I'm following your adorations in mind and heart. Everything is fine here. I hope to be in Paris Thursday.

Pray for me.

All yours in our Lord,
Eymard

P.S. It is clear that there is no change in our relations nor in our heart.

Miss Dalaca is here with the dear mother of Sr. Isabelle, Mme Cadiere; everything is going well, her mother is truly resigned.

1404

CO 1405

TO MISS MARGUERITE GUILLOT (MOTHER MARGUERITE DU SS)
(II 243/395 VI 2)

Adveniat Regnum tuum

Marseilles, June 14, 1864

Dear daughter in our Lord,

The merchant who sells beds lives on rue St. Julien. He is the only one, on the way up on the left; he loaned those you have and was to deliver the others within two weeks.

Take the money for the novenas, put it in the purse for the Master's service, and pray for those intentions every day. Here, we say an Our Father and a Hail Mary after the rosary and after Benediction. We announce them as follows: for special intentions. I presume that you say your rosary in Our Lady's chapel.

You did well to refuse work from the outside; that will cut down contacts. Also, don't accept any charitable work for the outside. Be entirely given to your interior service; do not let them win you over on that point.

Mr. Maingot may be influenced by Fr. Leroyer to have you buy Mr. de Russon's house, there is time: wait.

According to Canon Law and our Constitutions, the Mistress of Novices is Assistant by right and replaces the Superior for everyone. Sr. Virginie is therefore not Assistant, but only Councillor,

⁶¹ A concession from the rules of the new cloister? Ed.

Pilgrims for the Cenacle

called to give her vote in the Council, without any other authority, except what the Superior might give her if the Mistress of Novices were absent, which should certainly be foreseen. Remove the word "Assistant" because that would be confusing. This is your Council: Superior, Mistress of Novices, Councillor.

Since you are always in the house, I don't see what they could ask from Sr. Virginie, except for a few little permissions when you are out of sight.

I had written to Mme. Tamisier not to go to Angers yet, to wait, that you are still too unsettled. I am sorry that they went to the Bishop, it only causes confusion. Let her go to the springs; if they keep after you, it will be a trial.

I don't know whether I am well or not, I hardly have time to breathe. I bless you all very eucharistically in our Lord,

Eymard

To dear Sr. Marguerite,
Superior of the Servants of the Blessed Sacrament
14 rue de l'Hopital
Angers, (Maine et Loire)

1405

CO 1406

TO MISS MARGUERITE GUILLOT (MOTHER MARGUERITE DU SS)

(II 244/395 VI 2)

Adveniat Regnum tuum

Marseilles, June 14, 1864⁶²

Dear daughter in our Lord,

I'm very happy that they gave you the adorers in your part of the city, and the other part to our Fathers; they had spoken to me about that when I was there and I had applauded the idea. So be kind toward the Ladies:⁶³ they will be your helpers as they were also the main reason for your being accepted by the Bishop and Fr. Bompois. I beg and plead with you not to be the active president of the work. Leave that honor and responsibility to the one who is in charge, and her Council as well.

The President is a very fine woman. Be a family to them. Do not accept Mass at eight o'clock; it would be impossible. After spending the night at adoration, we need breakfast. If there were two Masses, that would be fine.

However, if the Bishop wants you to be the president, what should you do? Beg His Eminence to dispense you from that heavy burden, on the pretext of not knowing anyone.

It seems to me that you should open the grilles during the adorations of the ladies of the city in order that they may be able to see the Most Blessed Sacrament; see whether there are any problems, but that would be better than to admit them in the choir with you.

Show a great deal of trust and gratitude toward the Bishop. He is so kind and has a religious spirit; ask him for the book that he prepared for communities.

You would surely not be expected to pay for the furnishings. It⁶⁴ would be better to leave it with the Bishop for poor churches.

Have courage, my daughter; in the beginning we must spend ourselves for the foundation, time for rest will come later.

⁶² Same date as preceding letter. He continues giving practical advice. He may possibly have been interrupted, or had sent the first part with an earlier postal delivery.

⁶³ A group of woman adorers who had been meeting at the Chancery.

⁶⁴ Meaning unclear.

Pilgrims for the Cenacle

Rest a little, as soon as you see that you are tired; put aside human respect.
I bless you, Sr. Benoite, and all of you in our Lord.

Eymard

1406

CO 1407

TO MISS MARGUERITE GUILLOT (MOTHER MARGUERITE DU SS)

(II 245/395 VI 2)

A.R.T.

Marseilles, June 15, 1864

Dear daughter,

In principle, don't disagree with the Bishop, and concede all that you can, as I wrote to you yesterday. The Ladies were the main reason for your acceptance, and will make you loved.

I can understand their desires and request that others besides themselves not be received: you must accept it simply and absolutely, and give them your promise of it for their city. I think it is right and proper.

As for Fr. Leroyer, let him work it out as he can. As soon as he accepts the Ladies, he must accept the consequences. The Bishop couldn't respond otherwise, nor could you do otherwise.

Please tell Sr. B. that what she said doesn't matter...[2 lines erased]...I will write from Paris .
... [2 lines erased].

God allowed it, therefore it is fine.

Mr. de Russon's house is certainly not necessary for you, it would be useful. I see that you have many novices; several fine ones are getting ready in Marseilles, encourage them: they are the seed of the second foundation.

It would be better to buy the house now, but first of all, we must be sure we have the funds, therefore we need to wait a little. So it might be better to wait for the communicating wall until I reach Paris, which will be Saturday night, or Sunday, I hope.

Have courage and trust! Foundations cost dearly, but they will be solid. I bless you all in our Lord.

Eymard

June 17. Departure from Marseilles for Paris.

1407

CO 1408

TO MME. NATALIE JORDAN (NEE BRENIER DE MONTMORAND)
(IV 53/75)

On the train, June 17, 1864

Dear Madame,

I am sad to greet you as I pass at Valence. I must hurry to Paris where a sick person is waiting for me and, perhaps, also great sufferings. May God be praised! and his holy Will. I have been sick over it for the last ten days.⁶⁵ Pray for me. I dare say that I need it at this time; the cross seems very heavy. I would have been happy to go see your dear family and to help them a little. It was a fine opportunity, but I must go to Calvary and not to my good and beloved Bethany.

My best wishes to all.

All yours in our Lord,
Eymard, S.

1408

CO 1409

TO MISS MARGUERITE GUILLOT (MOTHER MARGUERITE DU SS)
(II 246/395 VI 2)

A.R.T.

On the Paris train, June 19, 1864

Dear daughter in our Lord,

I will arrive in Paris tonight, and I will be totally available to you.⁶⁶

Miss Brun's friends told me to urge her not to go to Marseilles, because her father said he wouldn't let her leave, he would rather lock her at home. So, don't let her go.

I barely stopped in Lyons. I saw Miss de Revel, Mme Marcel and Miss Zenaide, that is all; I didn't have time to go see your sister.

May God bless you, have great trust in his divine Providence, be always happy in his holy service, and pleasant with your sisters.

I would like you to be as happy as in Paradise. Make things light and pleasant, so that they may be inclined to do them joyfully.

I imagine that Sr. Benoite hasn't gone⁶⁷ yet. I bless her as well as you and all your daughters.

All yours in our Lord,
Eymard

Madame... gave me 1 kilo of fine incense for you; Fr. Audibert will bring it at the end of the month.

⁶⁵ The illness of Fr. de Cuers.

⁶⁶ It seems that Marguerite had come to Paris from Angers to see him.

⁶⁷ To the springs.

1409

CO 1410

TO MME. CLOTILDE THOLIN-BOST
(IV 48/52)

On the train, June 19, 1864

Madame and dear daughter in our Lord,

My letter will tell you that I had to sacrifice Amplepuis and Tarare. A pressing duty is calling me to Paris. I would have been very happy to see you all! I had counted on it, but illness held me back too long in Marseilles.⁶⁸ Such is life, we must go to Calvary instead of resting in Bethany.

I hope that your dear children will always be responsible and if the eldest comes to Paris, I would be happy to help him.

Your adoration is providing you many consolations, and great glory to our good Master.⁶⁹ It is the work of works, the love of loves, the life of life. It needs to be spread everywhere.

I have just lighted one more fireplace in Angers. The Ladies⁷⁰ whom I had been preparing for the past 7 years have finally been founded in Angers, on the Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ and they have continual adoration. I hope they will be pleasing to our Lord.

My regards to dear Mr. Tholin, to your dear children.

All yours in our Lord,
Eymard

1410

CO 1411

TO ANTONIA BOST
(IV 16/28)

Adveniat Regnum Tuum

On the train, June 19, 1864

Dear Mademoiselle,

I blessed you in passing. I couldn't go see you: a pressing duty was calling me back to Paris. I would have been happy to surprise you, to hear you, to help you.

I have learned that your health is shaken: don't destroy it.

Perhaps you have too much to do. And then, your generosity does nothing by halves, and you give beyond your strength. Sometimes it is forced upon us, but we must always fill in the gap.

Love the good Lord dearly, dear Mademoiselle, love him four times more than another, because he is your great All.

Never rest on a human heart, but on the loving, kind, and pure Heart of Jesus.

Try to keep your mind serene: it is the source of the sun because it is the sanctuary of God.

Goodbye, dear Mademoiselle. You are alive in our hearts.

All yours in our Lord,
Eymard

⁶⁸ Illness of Fr. de Cuers.

⁶⁹ An adoration group.

⁷⁰ The Servants of the Blessed Sacrament.

TO MISS MARGUERITE GUILLOT (MOTHER MARGUERITE DU SS)
(II 247/395 VI 2)

A.R.T.

Paris, June 21, 1864

Dear daughter in our Lord,

I wrote to Fr. Leroyer about your adoration.⁷¹ My thought is still the same, that is: that you should accept what the Bishop is offering you, even to be the president, which no doubt would only be a title of honor; but then, you would be a center. The Bishop is right. It would even have been desirable that you would have had the whole group of the Ladies.⁷²

However, don't accept meetings of outsiders in the novitiate. I am surprised that Fr. Leroyer is requesting this from me for his fraternity. This dear Father considers only the aspect of external zeal!

When you will be in the Soland house, you will have a large room there. Then, you will be able to consider whether you can receive them there: I think that would be possible and even appropriate, especially for the Council meetings of the work.

You must write to the notary, Mr. Neveu. You have his address in the deed. Just the address of Mr. Neveu, notary in Angers, is sufficient for them to come for the 10,000 francs.

You must have the deed of sale for Mr. de Soland before the departure of the little mother⁷³ and include all the perpetually professed sisters.

I am taking care of the money, we will have it before the end of the month.

I will borrow 15,000 francs. How much revenue is necessary for the house and the ordinary expenses? Because you shouldn't stay without money. Didn't you tell me that Sr. Mariette was bringing something?

Before deciding on the point of juncture, it might be well to have both houses, in order to see more clearly.

I do not want Sr. Benoit to go to Marseilles at all for many reasons, especially not alone. The good people of Marseilles are kind, but they shouldn't be sought after.

At this moment I cannot go to Angers, I am overwhelmed with business matters; you don't need me; the notary will visit you in the large room, and read the deed there, that's all, then you will sign it. Kind Fr. Crepon will be there,⁷⁴ it is the simplest thing in the world. The essential thing is to have the money ready and to have the acknowledgement of receipt in the deed.

You may send me your letter by means of good Brother Augustine; that was a poor gift that he gave you.

May our Lord bless you all. Be happy in the joy which is yours, and treat the Master well.

All yours in our Lord,
Eymard

⁷¹ Group of Adorers.

⁷² The group of women adorers of the city had been divided between the priest and the sisters.

⁷³ Name given to S. Claudine of the Blessed Sacrament. (Guillot)

⁷⁴ Their pastor.

1412

CO 1413

TO MISS MARGUERITE GUILLOT (MOTHER MARGUERITE DU SS)
(II 248/395 VI 2)

Adveniat Regnum tuum

Paris, June 25, 1864

Dear daughter in our Lord,

I am hurrying to answer your last letter.

Mr. Neveu must at all costs either make the deed alone or in partnership. For my part, I want to tell you that you are not at all obliged to accept Mr. Dely. I don't know him. The buyer always has the right to choose his notary. Since he dealt with the big issue of the alley, give him the benefit of the deed, that is my advice. After all, if Mr. de Soland also wants his, that can be done, but let yours be Mr. Neveu; the seller never has the right to impose his notary upon you. Yes, at all costs, bring the matter of the alley to a close as soon as possible through Mr. Neveu; have them build the two walls quickly.

I keep thinking that on the 24th, the day of your beginnings, our good Master will resolve the matter in your favor.

I am writing to Marseilles tonight for the money ...[5 lines erased].

I believe that Miss Baillet has sisters, and it was on that pretext that she was sent away; so do not receive her, write to tell her that it isn't possible. Yes, now I remember, they were very happy to get rid of her.

I will be happy when the alley is closed.

Goodbye. I bless you all.

Eymard

1413

CO 1414

TO MISS MARGUERITE GUILLOT (MOTHER MARGUERITE DU SS)
(II 249/395 VI 2)

Paris, St. Peter's Feast, June 29, 1864

Dear daughter in our Lord,

Thank you for your wishes for my feast day on St. Peter's feast. I really would need to be more like him to serve the good Master, especially, his love.

Your letter telling me yesterday that the work of the Ladies had dissolved made me very sad.⁷⁵ I sent a word about it by telegraph to Fr. Leroyer. As for you, surrender yourselves to divine Providence. You had nothing to do about it, and if that should happen, don't reproach either God or man. God willed it so, for the best.

You will not lack for adorers.

You would do well to make as many suitable little cells as possible in the attic.

Later, when the Soland house will be ready to live in, you should even make a corridor through the middle of the first floor, in order to have cells on each side.

⁷⁵The Ladies Adoration group formed by Bishop Angebault.

Pilgrims for the Cenacle

Have the parlor fixed immediately and the room for Brother: that is urgent, and while you are at it, you would do well to make as many rooms as there are windows in the attic. If any room has two, divide it.

About the oven. Don't decide to order one from Paris before trying those in Angers. It's usually the draft from the chimney that makes for a good oven, and since Mr. Trottier is there near you, it would be easier for repairs.

There are larger ones; if I could send you yours, I would do so; but once it has been taken apart, it might not be worth much.

If you get one from Mr. Trottier, you could sell yours, it's only a loan; that would save a hundred francs. Our gentlemen have one in the meantime.

We must wait for vocations, since it is full. However, if you can please the Pastor by receiving his, the one about whom he spoke to me, that would be the appropriate thing to do.

I am taking care of having your Rules printed.

I was wrong to tell you to have the deed done by Mr. Neveu if we buy the Russon house. I had promised that one to Mr. Pelou, his notary.

The money has been requested only for the beginning of July. It's difficult to obtain money right away these days.

Besides, the Soland house is ours, we bought it, we have the deed under private act.

I bless you all, especially the dear traveller. I entrust you to God's keeping.

All yours in our Lord,
Eymard

Be the only signee on the Mayor's letter.

1414

CO 1415

TO MARIANNE EYMARD AND NANETTE BERNARD
(III 128/145)

Paris, June 30, 1864

Dear sisters,

It was impossible for me to go to La Mure; I really had a strong desire to do so, it was a sacrifice for me; but this life is sown only with crosses and trials so that we might be attached to it only as a path to heaven.

I returned quickly to Marseilles, because one of our Fathers was very ill when he returned from Jerusalem. He has been better since yesterday, and he is healed now, at least I hope so.

I am always fine, the good Lord is too good to me, because I am surprised that I can do so much without fatigue.

In the past I couldn't break my sleep without being tired; now, it doesn't bother me. The good Lord is sustaining me and I should be better.

Our house at Marseilles is doing very well and doing much good. The Ladies in Angers are still happy, but at the moment their space is quite limited.

Miss Guillot was a bit tired; she spent herself so much!

We are preparing a beautiful foundation in Jerusalem, we would like to buy the Cenacle someday and have adoration where our Lord instituted this great Sacrament. We can't do it yet; to succeed we shall have to make a foundation for Adoration nearby in the city, during the course of this year. The Holy Father had a beautiful letter written to us to encourage us to do it.

Pray very much for that, because it would be a great grace for everyone.

Pilgrims for the Cenacle

I had never seen a procession as beautiful as the one at Marseilles; it is impossible to imagine! The curate of La Mure must have told you about it. I was really sorry not to have met him.

So, have courage, dear sisters, take good care of yourselves, love the good Lord dearly and have him loved by your daughters.

All yours in our Lord,
Your brother,
Eymard

1415

CO 1417

TO MR. JOSEPH-AUGUSTE CARREL

(V 17/24)

Paris, June 30, 1864

Dear friend,

Don't be upset with me if I wasn't able to go see you. A person who was seriously ill was waiting for me; that is, Fr. de Cuers returning from Jerusalem. It could have been fatal - fortunately, the night before last, he responded, and now he is better.

Jerusalem is progressing! The Propaganda, in the name of the Holy Father, has just opened for us the doors that were closed for all other religions for the last 500 to 600 years.

So then, the Most Blessed Sacrament will enter there triumphantly! I am told that its worship is very pitiful in Jerusalem; everything is dead and speaks of death; we shall go there to show the true life.

I would have been so happy to see you all as a family! As a traveler, I could only bless you as I passed by, but I remain always,

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

1416

CO 1416

TO COUNT D'ANDIGNE

(V 1/1)

Paris, June 30, 1864

Sir Count,⁷⁶

Madame your sister wrote to tell me the painful news about the death of your dear gracious cousin. I was aghast and didn't have the courage to write about it to anyone. I had just received a fine letter from Mr. Gauthier. I am sending it to you, Sir Count, it will tell you two things: their affection for the newlywed and some hope for a second one which I will revive shortly.

How happy I would be, Sir Count, if I could be of some help and success for the second suggestion! Mme Countess kindly wrote to me, allow me to insert my grateful answer here.⁷⁷

Please receive the respectful and ever devoted regards of your humble and obedient servant.

⁷⁶ Taken from a copy, not the original.

⁷⁷ We do not have that letter.

TO FR. HENRI DURAND
(VIII 1/2)

Adveniat Regnum Tuum

Paris, June 30, 1864

Dear Father,

You wrote to me on June 5th to request a day and a time.⁷⁸ I am entirely at your disposal, but please write to me the day before and tell me the day and the time which suits you. I shall be expecting you, and we shall talk about whatever interests you.

In our Lord, dear Father,

All yours,
Eymard

To Fr. Henri Durand
at the Sulpician Seminary

⁷⁸ For an interview? Ed.