

J. M. J.

CIRCULAR LETTER NO. 33

OF THE

Very Rev. SUPERIOR GENERAL

OF THE

Congregation of the Holy Cross.

NOTRE DAME, INDIANA, DEC. 22, '91.

REV. FATHERS AND DEAR CHILDREN IN JESUS CHRIST:

On the near approach of the great festival, which for nineteen centuries has been the occasion of incomparable joy in Christian families throughout the world, I cannot delay in conveying to you my warmest wishes for a happy Christmas. — Never in my life did I feel under such obligations to our loving and devoted associates; for I am fully convinced that it is to their fervent prayers I owe my providential recovery. To doubt it would be sheer folly, and show nothing less than a total want of faith.

But to give full expression to my gratitude for such a blessing is absolutely beyond my power. Happy Christmas! Happy Christmas to each and to all who have contributed to this consoling result will be to my last breath the incessant aspiration of my soul.

Experience has taught us all that whenever a calamity threatens the peace of a family religious hearts turn to God and the result is that the dreaded evil is avoided and the blessings of Heaven multiply themselves all around more abundantly than ever before. The spirit of prayer reigns supreme, and God is pleased to acknowledge and reward it. Hence the unprecedented favors bestowed this year on all our establishments. What an encouragement to persevere in the closest union with God!

On my part, for the past four months, I have lived in perfect union with each one of our dear family, praying from morning to night for the accomplishment of God's holy will. Once more, I thank you all for your boundless charity. Let us meet joyfully at the crib of the Divine Child, with Mary and Joseph, and there express our best wishes and offer our fervent prayers for a happy Christmas for our devoted friends.

E. SORIN, C. S. C.,

Superior General,