

Letter #899 To Sister Agnes Finke in Brede

May, 1850

Dear Sister Agnes,

You rejoice in the Lord that our poor sisters have arrived, and that you have become a candidate. But, dear Agnes, we must now wait and see if we did not rejoice too soon. You will detect in our sisters many imperfections, since we are all poor sinners. If you may work for the honor of God or not depends upon His grace. And furthermore, my Agnes, who knows if you will not find yourself disappointed in your hopes in many ways, should you come some day to our motherhouse, and do not find there what you had expected. This is a common experience in human life.

Therefore, I cannot do more today than to beg you again and again, to bear with our sisters lovingly and to assist them wherever you can. Pray incessantly to the Lord that His Holy Will may be fulfilled in you. I also want to apologize to you and the good Marie, that you went to so much trouble for the reception of our sisters. We had intended to avoid all that. You intimate that various hardships are awaiting our sisters. They did not escape our notice right at the beginning and they will not be wanting, wherever the kingdom of God is concerned. Why, dear Agnes, did you not acquaint us sooner and more in detail concerning them? Perhaps you were not allowed to do so. We are happy in the Lord at the pious resolutions of our dear orphans. May God's grace be with them to put them into practice, and to become virtuous and useful people. Now I greet you cordially in the Lord as also our Sisters Marie and Frances. I am to tell you the same from our Reverend Father, who certainly will not forget you at the daily Sacrifice of the Mass.

Countess Maria also wishes to be included and begs for prayers, that she may with grace from above advance and persevere in her vocation. Let us pray most ardently for one another. Praised be Jesus Christ!

The Poor School Sister,
Mary Theresa of Jesus