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Signore Francis Dottarelli[167]

Presentation

April 12, 1741

J.M.J.

Jesus and Mary be praised.

In reply to your letter, which I received by today's ordinary post, I tell you that due to certain ailments that afflicted me, I have not had the time to write you about fulfilling your pious intentions. I do see that you are holding steady regarding your vocation, which makes me rejoice much in God. So you should have patience to wait for two more mail deliveries. Then I will advise you concerning all the things you ask and of the time for your departure. I think that will be at the end of April or the beginning of May. This fits in with certain good purposes that are known to God. Meanwhile, be faithful to God so that His Divine Majesty will give you the light necessary to walk in the path of perfection. I forgot to tell you that since you are becoming a lay brother, you must be prepared for humble assignments, part of that vocation. I envy those who are thus occupied. If it were my choice, I would exchange willingly with them, and God knows I am not lying. Jesus bless you. Pray for me. I end in haste,
Your true servant in Christ,
Paul of the Cross

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This letter was sent to Toscanella.