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Bishop Fabrizio Borgia (42)

San Angelo

August 8, 1750

J.C.P.

Your Excellency,

In your esteemed letter you repeatedly refer to me as your friend. I honor your singular prudence with regard to assigning the mission in spring. As for all the rest, accordingly, I offer you my humble act of thanks, in proof of which I will not miss praying the Divine Goodness, along with my poor religious, for your pious intentions, especially for the sickness you tell me of your worthy nephew. I assure you that for that reason I would gladly go by way of Velletri in order to pay my respects to Signore Cavaliere, your brother, if it did not lengthen my journey by at least two days, in addition to the bad air and the troublesome trip which I will be making to Ceccano in order to be in Rome at the beginning of November because business obliges me to be there soon.

Letters received last night are changing my trip to Marca, where I was going to conclude the business for the foundation of a Retreat, dedicated to the Sorrows of Mary and situated on a hill close to Fiuminata in the diocese of Camerino, about eight miles from the city. I see from these letters unexpected conditions which oblige me to hold off until spring in order to consider the affair more maturely on the spot in regard to the site and the rest, etc. I adore in this happening the Divine Providence that so disposes so that I can deal with greater diligence and attention other affairs for the glory of God.

In the report you can understand something of the Retreat, the site, and the diocese. I have no further information on this. Would that I had the good fortune to serve in some small way the archbishop of Fermo, your worthy brother, but there was no way open for such a good fortune and consolation. Since that zealous pastor is well provided with zealous evangelical workers, I am very happy over that. Meanwhile, I ask ever more the charity of your strong protection, and humbly prostrate at your feet I beg for your holy pastoral blessing, and with profound reverence I end by kissing your sacred vestments, and I am,

Your humble, devoted, obligated servant,

Paul of the Cross