751

John Augustine Rattazzi

San Angelo

May 19, 1751

J.C.P.

Reverend Father,

Your dear letter has given me reason to magnify the divine mercies in your call to this newly born Congregation of the Holy Passion of Jesus our Life. Oh, fortunate you!

Hold it in great esteem and be grateful for it to His Divine Majesty. Prepare yourself with great humility of heart and assiduous meditation on the holy pains of our lovable Savior, in order to receive that abundance of graces and heavenly gifts, which will render you disposed to fight in this poor Congregation under the banner of the Holy Cross and Passion of the Redeemer.

I am writing in great haste and am ill. Therefore, you should write to Father Fulgentius of Jesus: "Viterbo for Orbetello, Retreat of the Presentation." That Father is rector and director of novices, a great servant of God. He will tell you when you should leave, which cannot be until the weather cools. For now the season is too far advanced. I am writing you so that you know you have been accepted. I recommend myself to your prayers and holy sacrifices. Devoutly, I kiss your hands and am,

Your unworthy servant,

Paul of the Cross