



*November 26, 1893*

### On the Season of Advent

#### **Saint Marie Eugenie of Jesus**

Dear Sisters,

I would like to say a few words about Advent, which we will enter into next Sunday, because after all, it is the lifelong pursuit of a Religious Sister to await and desire Our Lord. Our entire life must be devoted to this.

We are never sufficiently united to Our Lord through prayer in our daily lives. Advent comes at the opportune moment to renew us in this life of prayer and rekindle our devotion, while the Church calls for the coming of Our Lord into our souls with all the strength she can muster.

It is He who is desired, He who is sought, He who must be the guide, the regulator, the sanctifier of our entire Religious Life, He to whom we must strive for through desire and love. My power is my love<sup>1</sup>.

This saying, I believe, is from Saint Augustine, and it is truly worthy of him. It was indeed through ardent love that he reached out to God with all his might, with that fervor and power that we admire in him. Do likewise, let it be through love that you constantly call upon our Lord in your life, and especially during Advent.

The feast of Christmas is one of the most beautiful feasts of the year; it will be so for us if it is well prepared, if our hearts turn toward Jesus, so poor, so abandoned, so forsaken, who deigned to be born for us on the side of a road, far from His home, in an uninhabitable place. He did this out of love for us, and if love is our burden, it must make us respond to His with our tenderness, our fervor, and a great desire to see him born, grow, and develop within us.

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<sup>1</sup> Confessions of St. Augustine, Book XIII, Chapter IX