Dear Mr. Friend,

Your kindness in coming before the desire of our beloved Sister Mary Joseph would have gratified much both her feelings and mind. Being a religious yourself, and of course better acquainted with the obligations of a religious, with their extent and their limits, it would have been a heart-felt consolation for that much regretted Sister to review the state of her conscience, for the last time, in presence of a director so well qualified for the task. Providence has disposed of circumstances that her virtues could not be gratified, and as a worthy daughter of Providence, she submitted without a murmur under the will of her heavenly Father. Oh! What overflowing cup of bitterness has not been poured to her from the beginning of her protracted illness until the breathed her last; but with what courage, patience, and resignation did she not drink it, even to the dregs. Her trials, I hope, are at an end. After the most exquisite sufferings born with heroic patience for seven months, she departed this life on Friday last, the 14th inst. at ten o'clock A. M.

May she rest in peace. The Sisters of Providence have lost a devoted member of their congregation, the establishment
of Fort Wayne an exemplary and motherly supervisor, and I the best of friends.

Though she hoped too much in God that she was afraid to hope too much, she did not think of the purifying flames of purgation without dread. To relieve her fears, I promised her 100 masses. As you have obtained a privilege for every day, please to say twenty masses for the repose of the soul of this my particular friend; and ten dollars you shall receive when you will pay us a visit in the month of April 1851. Remember your promise. Brother Thomas is doing well; his mind seems altered for the better; I begin to hope he will not forfeit his vocation. I do all I can to make him pursue the nothingness of the glittering dust that blinds his eyes.

Your devotedly

[Signature]