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Editor's Introduction (English)

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Introduction

Agostinho Tavares, C.S.Sp., leads with “*Claude Poullart des Places: Mission is Born of Love*,” translated from *Missão espiritana* 21–22 (January 2013) 52–70. This deep reflection aligns the spirituality of the two founders, showing its relevance for life and mission today. Inquiries about Libermann’s “practical union” revealed the dearth of full-scale treatment of this in English. **Jean Le Meste**, C.S.Sp., “*Libermann and Practical Union*,” translated from “Libermann et l’Union Pratique,” *Spiritus* 22 (1965) 29–43, fills this gap. The Vatican just issued a new *Ratio* on priestly formation. It would be interesting to compare this with **Amadeu Martins**, C.S.Sp., take on “*Libermann: Formator of Priests*,” translated by Isidore Nkwocha, C.S.Sp., from “Libermann, Formador de Padres,” *Missão Espiritana* 18 (2010) 7–16. To what extent does mission depend on money or divine Providence? **Jean-Marc Sierro**, C.S.Sp., “*Money, Providence, and Spiritan Mission*,” opens a discussion that will resonate in most of our circumscriptions. The last competition for students in formation was on *The Challenges and Future of Spiritan Mission*. Two candidates shared the first prize. **Jean Maturin Mougheny**, C.S.Sp., at Langata, Nairobi, surveyed the recent Spiritan documents for guidelines on mission. The other winning essay will be published next year. Last summer, the general council held a meeting in Zanzibar for Spiritans engaged in interreligious dialogue. The Center is preparing the papers for publication. One of them, **Marc Botzung**, C.S.Sp., “*Spiritan Interreligious Dialogue: The Journey so Far*,” outlined how interreligious dialogue moved from being outside the purview of Spiritan mission to being one of the essential elements. As mission evolves, the tools we bring to it evolve also. **Jean-Michel Gelmetti**, C.S.Sp., “*Multimedia and the Spiritan Mission Today*,” plots the transition from print to media and makes a case for the production and use of short videos. The Wellsprings section ends with the announcement of the winners of the Competition on The Challenges and Future of Spiritan Mission.

In 1890, then Father Alexandre Le Roy, C.S.Sp. (later archbishop and superior general) spearheaded the first Spiritan team to survey the interior of East Africa for purposes of evangelization. In 1914, he published *Au Kilimandjaro*, detailing the fortunes of this expedition and the founding of the first East African Catholic communities. Adrian Edwards, C.S.Sp., translated this book into English before his death. The Center has prepared it for publication early next year as *Mission to Kilimanjaro*. **Florentine Mallya**, C.S.Sp., introduces our readers to this work and its implications for mission and formation today. Le Roy, for example, was not only fluent in Swahili, but was geographer, botanist

and anthropologist. **Bede Uche Ukwuije**, C.S.Sp., takes up the discussion of missionaries and culture in “*Spiritans Missionaries: Precursors of Inculturation Theology*.” He shows that with the production of the first catechisms, Bibles, hymnals and dictionaries, etc., the missionaries were actually forerunners of inculturation. In the section, Spiritans for Today, we portray deceased Spiritans who were trail blazers in some aspect of Spiritan life and mission. **Brendan Carr**, C.S.Sp., “*Spiritans for Today: Willie Jenkinson, C.S.Sp. Portrait of a Missionary*,” shows how this Spiritan embodied the tension of the transition after Vatican II. Most older Spiritans did their novitiate in the Jesuit mold. **Damien Meki**, C.S.Sp., “*Discernment: Ignatius of Loyola and Libermann – Two Models? Toward a Methodology of Discernment*,” clearly shows the difference between Libermannian and Ignatian discernment and calls for the embrace of the greater flexibility of the former. This was part of Meki’s research as Spiritan Scholar at the Center for 2018–2019.

The Tanzania Province is celebrating 150 years of evangelization. **Gerard Nnamunga**, C.S.Sp., “*Spiritans Pedagogy of Evangelization in Tanzania*,” shows the part education played and is playing in evangelization in the country.

For three years, three Duquesne professors, **Dr. Steve N. Hansen**, **Dr. Maureen O’Brien**, and **Dr. Anne Marie Witchger Hansen**, have been interviewing Spiritans engaged in education and formation work. Their initial report, “*Spiritans Charism, Vocational Commitment, and ‘A Different Kind of Excellence’: A Study of Spiritans Educators*,” opens the door for further discussions on Spiritans Pedagogy and how Spiritans should be involved in education.

William Cleary, C.S.Sp., concludes this number with a review of the Congregation for the Clergy, *Ratio Fundamentalibus Institutionis Sacerdotalis*, “*The Gift of the Priestly Vocation*” (2016).

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The Center for Spiritan Studies

The Center for Spiritan Studies is a resource facility for the Spiritan Congregation (through research on its charism and history, tradition and spirituality) and Duquesne University Community (in re-imagining its Spiritan legacy for a new era).

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