1. 

Consecrated by the Holy Spirit

SRL & BAGAMOYO GENERAL CHAPTER

- Like all Christians, we have been called in baptism to the fullness of love and holiness, to carry on Christ’s mission in the Church, and to bear witness in the world to the Good News (SRL 50).

- The mission given us as a Congregation is the mission of God who is revealed as a communion of three Persons: the sending by the Father of the Son and the Spirit into the world reveals God’s plan to share his life and his love with all human beings (Bagamoyo 1.1).

PRAYER

All loving God and Father, you have called us together in Spiritan community and consecrated us into your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, through the power of your Spirit. We acknowledge your love for us and the world we are called to serve. Renew us in this service through this time of being present to you and to one another, Amen.
ST. PAUL

A reading from the Letter to the Romans (8: 14-17)

Everyone moved by the Spirit is a child of God. The spirit you received is not the spirit of slaves bringing fear into your lives again: it is the spirit of sons and daughters and it makes us cry out, “Abba, Father!” The Holy Spirit and our spirit bear united witness that we are children of God. And if we are children we are heirs as well: heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ sharing his sufferings so as to share his glory.

FRANCIS LIBERMANNN

Called and Gifted

*The Holy Spirit calls us and sets us apart to carry on Christ’s mission. As Jesus lived his life present to the Father and in sacrifice for the world so must we. As Father Libermann says:

The Spirit wishes to be the soul of our soul. It is up to us to render him absolute Master of this our soul, in order that he might communicate to it his life and his action. Let us allow him to act in us as our body lets act our soul which stirs it as it believes suitable and how it wishes it. The only difference is that our body receives and necessarily follows the impulsion that our soul gives it, whereas our soul should receive and follow willingly the holy impulse of this divine soul the Spirit of Jesus.*
Now, our soul is to be dead by itself and in itself, as is our body to the soul. Oh! What happiness, what holiness would be ours if the things were so, if our soul had no more preferences except those the divine Spirit gives it, if it had no longer desire, affection, action, or movement except what it receives from the Holy Spirit, if we no longer loved anything, if we no longer glorified ourselves, if we no longer felt pleasures and satisfactions, if we no longer had any will or life except in him and by him!

In the exercise of the holy presence of God, avoid effort and your own action. The union of our soul with God is the work of our Lord and not ours; it is the divine Spirit who is to operate it in our souls more or less perfectly, according to the designs of God on us and according to our fidelity to correspond with them.

Letter to a Seminarian, January 13, 1841.

**PRAYER**

Life-giving Spirit of God,

You called Venerable Francis Libermann to follow you through the most difficult of life’s journeys.

Lead us now to know your will in our lives. Send your Spirit upon us to give us new strength to live lives of service to others. Embolden us to work together for peace and justice and strengthen our resolve to be a community of truth and integrity.

This we pray through Jesus Christ, one with you, Source of all life, forever and ever. Amen.