SRL & BAGAMOYO GENERAL CHAPTER

- Freed from the need to own things and finding our fulfilment in God, we try to allow the Spirit of the Lord to take possession of us, so that we may become instruments completely at the service of the Good News (SRL 74).

- Religious life and mission are core dimensions of our identity. We feel a call to renew our radical commitment to the vows and the option for the poor (Bagamoyo 2.5).

PRAYER

God our Father, your Son fulfilled His promise to remain with us when He sent the Holy Spirit to us. As we gather to pray today we ask the Holy Spirit to take possession of us and to lead us in our time of reflection and sharing. Amen.
A Reading from the Letter to the Galatians (2:19 – 3:5)

I have been put to death with Christ on his cross, so that it is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me. This life that I live now, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave his life for me. I refuse to reject the grace of God. Tell me this one thing: did you receive God’s Spirit by doing what the Law requires or by hearing the gospel and believing it? How can you be so foolish! You began by God’s Spirit; do you now want to finish by your own power? Does God give you the Spirit and work miracles among you because you do what the Law required or because you hear the gospel and believe it?

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The perfection to which the Lord calls you all is indeed great. But I leave it to his divine Spirit to instruct you in the depth of your innermost self. Listen well to him, this divine Spirit, and be attentive to his sweet voice. Keep your soul far from the cares of the world, in the forgetfulness of yourselves, in great peace, interior calm and sweet vigilance in the presence
of the One who enters in and fills you totally with his Spirit of holiness. Then he will possess you fully and will bring you to perfection in the holiness and beauty of his love which he brought to perfection so admirably in his very holy Mother.

Letter to Many Seminarians, March 28, 1838.

PRAYER

Life-giving Spirit of God,

You breathe in us a love for the Father and the mission of the Son. Fill us with your wisdom and peace that we can calmly discern your will for us.

Direct all our action by your holy inspirations, and carry them on by your gracious breath within us, that every prayer and work of ours may begin always from you, and by you be happily ended.  Amen.