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Libermann's Baptism

Amadeu Martins

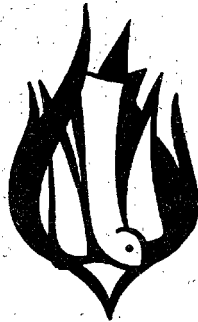
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SPIRITAN PAPERS



Number 2

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**SPIRITAN STUDIES GROUP
GENERALATE C.S.Sp.
ROME**



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THE BAPTISM OF LIBERMANN

“All at once, I was enlightened, I saw the truth. Faith came into my mind and heart. . . . From that moment on, I no longer desired anything but to be plunged into the sacred font. This happiness did not keep me waiting: they were already preparing me for the great sacrament, and I received it on Christmas Eve. The same day I was admitted to the Holy Table.”¹

*
* * *

“When the blessed water flowed over my forehead, it seemed to me that I was in another world. I was at the center of a globe of fire, no longer living a natural life. I no longer saw or heard anything that was going on around me. What was happening in me was beyond description. This lasted during a part of the ceremony.”²

*
* * *

“Speaking of his baptism and of the exorcisms, Libermann tells us that he felt physically the deliverance of his soul from the powers of darkness.” (Mr. Gauffreteau)³

*
* * *

“I saw him baptised on Christmas Eve in the seminary annex of College Stanislaus. . . . I came into the chapel at the

¹ *Notes et Documents (N.D.)*, I, p. 66. Told in confidence to Father Gamon by Libermann.

² Told in confidence to Mr. Vernhet by Libermann, *N.D.*, I, p. 104

³ *N.D.*, I, p. 92

moment the ceremony was taking place... The priests of the seminary, dressed in surplice, were reciting a psalm. Father Augé... wearing a white cope, performed the ceremony. The newly-baptized was clothed with a white robe...” (Mr. Froment de Champlagarde)⁴

* * *

“When the water of baptism flowed over my Jewish head, I immediately began to love Mary, whereas I had hated her before.”⁵

“As he left the baptismal font, the pious neophyte promised the Lord that he would consecrate himself to His service in the priestly ministry and he remained at the Seminary...”⁶

CERTIFICATE OF BAPTISM

Parish of Saint-Sulpice

The twenty-fourth of December in the year one thousand eight hundred and twenty-six, Francis-Mary Paul, born at Saverne in the Jewish religion, of the marriage of Lazarus Libermann and his wife Henriette, on April 12, 1804, was baptized in the chapel of the seminary of the Missions of France by me, Jean-Baptiste Augé, Director of Collège Stanislaus, having jurisdiction from His Excellency the Archbishop of Paris.

The godfather was François, Baron de Malet, and the godmother was Aglaé Marie, comtess d’Heuzé, both of whom have signed this document with me.

Paris, the twenty-fourth of December, one thousand eight hundred and twenty-six.

Augé, priest
Director of Collège Stanislaus

The Baron de Malet
A.M., Comtess d’Heuzé⁷

⁴ *N.D.*, I, pp. 73-74

⁵ *N.D.*, I, p. 92, *note*

⁶ Told in confidence to Mr. Drach by Libermann, *N.D.*, I, p. 105

⁷ *N.D.*, I, p. 72