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A Spiritan Anthology

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### 10. Charles Besnard (continued)

Christian de Mare CSSp

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expired around five o'clock in the evening of October 2, 1709, at the age of thirty years and seven months.

Thus was the holy and famous Monsieur des Places, the founder of the Holy Ghost Seminary in Paris. (...)

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### Charles Besnard (Continued)

It is not difficult to see the kind of life for which the young students of the *Seminaire du Saint-Esprit* are being formed. They are trained to develop all the virtues needed to carry out the sacred ministry, especially through the example given by their wise directors. They show an extraordinary degree of detachment and obedience. They commit themselves to the service and needs of the Church. They constitute a kind of military detachment of auxiliary troops, ready to go to any place where there is work to be done for the salvation of souls. They consecrate themselves by preference to missionary activity, both foreign and domestic, offering to go and live in the poorest and most abandoned places for which it is especially difficult to find volunteers. Whether it is a question of being buried in the remote countryside, lost in some obscure hospital, teaching in a college, lecturing in a seminary, directing a poor community, travelling to the farthest corners of the Kingdom or remaining in a difficult posting, whether it is a question even of crossing the seas and going to the very ends of the earth to gain a soul for Christ – they are always ready to carry out his wishes: *Ecce ego, mitte me* (Is 6, 12)".



*Our Lady of Miracles, from the parish of Saint-Sauveur in Rennes.  
Grignon de Montfort and Poullart prayed before this 14<sup>th</sup> century statue.*