Editor's Introduction (English)

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Introduction

The Center for Spiritan Studies, inaugurated in September 2005, is a collaborative venture between the Congregation of the Holy Spirit and Duquesne University. Its purpose is to promote scholarly research into Spiritan history, tradition, and spirituality with a view to fostering creative fidelity to the Spiritan charism in a changing world. *Spiritan Horizons* is an annual publication of the Center for Spiritan Studies which seeks to further the Center's aims. The journal combines articles of a scholarly nature with others related to the praxis of the Spiritan charism in a wide variety of cultural settings. Special attention is given in each issue to the Spiritan education ethos, in view of the university context in which the journal is published. It is hoped that the journal will provide a wider audience than hitherto with access to the riches of the Spiritan charism and spirituality.

In this second edition, Jean-Savoie outlines the history of the *cause for beatification* of the Spiritan founder, Claude-François Poullart des Places. Christy Burke reflects on the central role of *freedom* in the vision of Francis Libermann, the Congregation's second founder; Arsène Aubert looks at the relatively unknown *correspondence of Libermann with his family* and Binh The Quach opens up new horizons in investigating points of contact between the spirituality of Libermann and the *philosophy of Lao Tzu*. Elochukwu Uzukwu explores the notion of *inculturation* with particular reference to the Spiritan charism and James Chukwuma Okoye looks at the *mission of the Third Church in the First World* and its possibilities for a “mutual exchange of energies.” John Kilcrann, JPIC Coordinator in Rome, develops a contemporary *Spiritan spirituality of Justice, Peace, and the Integrity of Creation*. Theology professor at Duquesne University, William Thompson-Uberuaga explores the *role of the Holy Spirit in teaching* from the threefold perspective of student, teacher, and subject matter, relating his findings to the spirituality of Francis Libermann. Thomas Farrelly outlines current efforts to articulate the *mission and identity of Spiritan schools in Ireland* with reference to the inspiration of the Spiritan founders, the written, and the lived tradition. Lay Spiritan husband and wife, Peter and Ann-Marie Fell, reflect on the *identity and commitment of the lay Spiritan* and describe their involvement with REVIVE, a professional service of support and advocacy for refugees and asylum seekers in the Greater Manchester area in England. José Altevir da Silva tells us of the *impact of the Spiritan Year on young people in his native Brazil* and Mozambican Spiritan João Luis Dimba retraces his fascinating personal story from *refugee to Spiritan missionary*. 