

Editorial

the Source” section, the “In Focus” section also has two articles about Paradise ’49. We intend to follow this pattern until the text is published. So, in this issue, we have the following articles and book reviews:

To the Source

- **Piero Coda (Sophia University Institute): “Creation in Christ and the New Creation in the Mysticism of Chiara Lubich”**

In a previous article, “God and Creation: Trinity and Creation out of Nothing” (*Claritas: Journal of Dialogue and Culture* 4, no. 1 (2015): 4–16), Coda illustrated the theological contexts of the classical tradition and of modern times that form the background of the vision of creation in Chiara Lubich’s mysticism. In that article, the author looked in particular at the meaning of “creation out of nothing” from the point of view of a Trinitarian ontology of love. Now he focuses with greater clarity upon creation in Christ, taking a closer look at the “new creation” in Christ crucified and risen and at our participation in it.

In Focus

- **Gérard Rossé (Sophia University Institute): “Revisiting Chiara Lubich’s Paradise ’49 in Light of the Letter to the Ephesians”**

This article is the first in a four-part study. It begins with the idea that genuine Christian mysticism and the thought it produces is never separated from faith. It produces a faith lived with greater clarity and intensity. This forms the basis for a study

Claritas was honored to publish the proceedings of the Buddhist and Catholic Dialogue on Suffering, Liberation, and Fraternity in a special Fall 2015 issue. That historic dialogue was held in Rome from June 23 to June 27, 2015, and was sponsored by the Bishops’ Committee for Ecumenical and Inter-religious Dialogue of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops in collaboration with the Pontifical Council for Inter-religious Dialogue. In this first issue of 2016, we return to our normal format.

The first section of *Claritas* Spring 2016 is entitled “To the Source.” This section always features scholarly articles about Chiara Lubich’s mystical writings that are recorded in the unpublished text Paradise ’49. In this issue, *Claritas* has chosen to publish more articles than usual about Paradise ’49. Therefore, besides the “To

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1–3 © 2016

comparing the Letter to the Ephesians with some of Chiara Lubich's notes on her contemplative experience in 1949. Her mystical experience, the author emphasizes, was born from an experience of communion, of church. Chiara lived in a personal way the reality of the church in its profound identity with the Body of Christ. This reality can be described as participation in the Trinitarian life of God, by being inserted into the Son's relationship with the Father.

- **Gérard Rossé (Sophia University Institute): “Revisiting Chiara Lubich’s Paradise ’49 in Light of the Letter to the Ephesians: Divine Adoption and Divine Design”**

This article is the second in a four-part study. The author first explores the initial blessing of divine adoption as children of God in Christ as expressed in the Letter to the Ephesians and in Chiara's Trinitarian experience of adoption in unity in the design of God. Then he discusses how the divine design is fulfilled according to a Trinitarian dynamic in both the letter and Chiara's experience. Finally, he looks more deeply into the source and goal of this design, namely, the glory or splendor of God within the heart of the Trinity itself, where divine adoption is fulfilled.

Articles

- **Reginald Alva (Nanzan University): “Catholic Charismatic Renewal Movement and Healing in Japan”**

In this article, the author examines the presence of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal Movement in Japan and its influence on the Japanese, especially through its ministry of healing.

He also presents the healing culture of religious Japan and its effect on the expectations of Japanese Catholics who attend the Charismatic Renewal meetings. This presents challenges, and the author offers his experience on how to distinguish the work of the Charismatic Movement in Japan from various new religious movements, shamans, spiritual therapists, and sects that promise healing that brings health, wealth, and prosperity.

- **Alexandra Tarr (Purdue University): “Food and Culture: From Local Relationality to Global Responsibility”**

The author presents different ways that neglecting one's diet affects other aspects of life and demonstrates how the transition in food perspectives away from agricultural roots and interpersonal relationships creates physical and relational health problems for individuals as well as communities. She also presents research which finds that when consumers are actively interested in what they are eating and engaged with the process of buying and cooking food, they can be inspired to make healthier food choices. As a result, the community can become closer and more economically viable. She calls consumers to pay closer attention to the ramifications of their purchases in order to promote health, enhance relationships within cultures, and restore an understanding of the ways that nature sustains life.

Book Reviews

- **Zeki Saritoprak, *Islam's Jesus*. University of Florida Press, 2014; reviewed by Rita George-Tvrković (Benedictine University)**

- Peter J. Casarella, ed., *Jesus Christ: The New Face of Social Progress*. Wm. B. Eerdmans, 2015; reviewed by Paul Flaman (University of Alberta)
- Paul Oslington, ed., *The Oxford Handbook of Christianity and Economics*. Oxford University Press, 2014; reviewed by Alejandra Marinovic (Universidad Adolfo Ibáñez)

The editors of *Claritas* hope that our readers will appreciate the excellent articles in this first issue of 2016. Please note that our journal is open access, with no subscription fees for our readers and no publication fees for our authors. We depend on the generosity of our readership. At our website, you will find a tab labeled “Support *Claritas*.” We hope that all who read *Claritas* will be inspired to contribute to our effort to build a more united and peaceful global culture.