

Editorial

Claus Arnold, Valentina Ciciliot, Giovanni Vian

This issue proposes, in thematic continuity with the previous one,¹ a number of further contributions on aspects of Francis' pontificate, which is now in its thirteenth year. In particular, insights are offered on three themes of great importance. In two cases, these contributions are derived from specific in-depth studies: firstly, the question of the role of women in the Roman Catholic Church, between hopes, expectations and resistance, is the subject of a measured synthesis by Regina Heyder that expands to some more general interpretative considerations of Pope Bergoglio's pontificate; and secondly, the relations between the Holy See and the People's Republic of China, which under Francis have evolved in terms of significant novelty and of which Bernard Vermander traces a broad reconstruction and to a certain extent an "on the ground" evaluation.

These two topics are accompanied, with a certain chronological continuity, by a broad overview of the "eco-theological" commitment of the Patriarch of Constantinople, Bartholomew I, and his

¹ See *JoMaCC*, 3(2), 2024, "Francesco: oltre un decennio di pontificato". <http://doi.org/10.30687/JoMaCC/2785-6046/2024/02>.

programme for the revival of Orthodox Christianity, aspects that have hitherto been relatively little studied from a diachronic perspective and that allow us to focus on an issue such as ecology, which Francis also took up as fundamental. Alfredo Gabrielli's article proposes several comparative elements between the two perspectives, that of Bartholomew I and Francis, though favouring an in-depth study of the position of the Patriarch of Constantinople.

Two further articles are appended to the issue. The annotated edition of the diary of Monsignor Loris Francesco Capovilla, John XXIII's secretary, during the first days of the Second Vatican Council, which was introduced and edited by Enrico Galavotti, offers scholars a significant new source on the history of the Second Vatican Ecumenical Council, alongside the many other sources that are already available.

Finally, Giambattista Scirè proposes a study on the relationship between Christianity and Communism in Italy through the case of Mario Gozzini, a Catholic intellectual and later an independent senator in the ranks of the Italian Communist Party. This peculiar figure is brought into focus against the backdrop of the secularisation processes of 20th-century Italian society.

Finally, it is important to note that in March 2025, *JoMaCC* received two important acknowledgments: it was included in ERIH PLUS (European Reference Index for the Humanities and Social Sciences) for the following academic domains: History; Religious Studies and Theology. Additionally, the journal was recognised as a scientific journal for Area 11 (Historical, Philosophical, Pedagogical and Psychological Sciences) by ANVUR (the Italian National Agency for the Evaluation of Universities and Research Institutes).