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Dear Readers

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Artykuł został opracowany do udostępnienia w internecie przez Muzeum Historii Polski w ramach prac podejmowanych na rzecz zapewnienia otwartego, powszechnego i trwałego dostępu do polskiego dorobku naukowego i kulturalnego. Artykuł jest umieszczony w kolekcji cyfrowej bazhum.muzhp.pl, gromadzącej zawartość polskich czasopism humanistycznych i społecznych.

Tekst jest udostępniony do wykorzystania w ramach dozwolonego użytku.

Dear Readers,

Three topics constitute the framework of the 133rd volume of „Nurt SVD.“ Not without reason the magazine opens with an article by Z. Wesołowski, the editor of “Monumenta Serica” (华裔学志, Huayi Xuezhì), the international Sinological journal published by the Institute of Monumenta Serica in Sankt Augustin (Germany). China is becoming closer and closer to us, yet the messages and images circulating in the channels of information make the Middle Kingdom often take the form of kitschy icons. A Sinologist from Sankt Augustin, far from the standard interpretation of Chinese proverbs, takes an ambitious attempt to compare the concept-category of truth in the European (Western) culture with that of the traditional culture of China (550-220 BC). The comparative method employed here – turns out to be highly instructive also for theologians as well as for those who take an exchange with Chinese cultures at the religious and spiritual level.

May the *Ad Gentes* Decree (1965) inspire new forms of evangelisation in the 21st century? M. Pivot points out to the crucial role of the missionary decree in the context of theological and pastoral initiatives in favour of the new evangelisation. Geographically, ecclesiologically and logistically different from the *ad gentes* mission, “re-evangelisation” of the postmodern world will be possible only through the prophetic impact of the believers. The theological and pastoral foundations for the Council document – half a century after its promulgation – preserved the originality of the doctrinal and pastoral life. The *Ad Gentes* as a handbook of the new evangelisation!

The search for new religious expression often generates new forms of religious syncretism. The analysis of this phenomenon, on the example of the New Orleans hoodoo, has been undertaken by E.M. Mączka, a cultural anthropologist of the University of Warmia and Mazury. The author argues that post-modern humans, emancipated from the great religions (which humanised their culture!), have not lost the necessity of spiritual experiences whatsoever. So they absorb the elements of various religions and spiritualities – often culturally, historically and doctrinally strangers to one another. The new religious and magical synthesis gives humans a sense of freedom and control over their own destiny.

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