



# Opera Omnia

*Volume III*

**Christianity**

*Part One*

The Christian Tradition

(1961–1967)

Raimon Panikkar

Edited by Milena Carrara Pavan

ORBIS  BOOKS  
Maryknoll, New York 10545



# **Opera Omnia**

## **I. Mysticism and Spirituality**

Part 1: Mysticism, Fullness of Life

Part 2: Spirituality, the Way of Life

## **II. Religion and Religions**

### **III. Christianity**

Part 1: The Christian Tradition (1961–1967)

Part 2: A Christophany

### **IV. Hinduism**

Part 1: The Vedic Experience: Mantramanjari

Part 2: The Dharma of India

### **V. Buddhism**

### **VI. Cultures and Religions in Dialogue**

Part 1: Pluralism and Interculturality

Part 2: Intercultural and Interreligious Dialogue

### **VII. Hinduism and Christianity**

### **VIII. Trinitarian and Cosmotheandric Vision**

### **IX. Mystery and Hermeneutics**

Part 1: Myth, Symbol, and Ritual

Part 2: Faith, Hermeneutics, and Word

### **X. Philosophy and Theology**

Part 1: The Rhythm of Being

Part 2: Philosophical and Theological Thought

### **XI. Sacred Secularity**

### **XII. Space, Time, and Science**

Founded in 1970, Orbis Books endeavors to publish works that enlighten the mind, nourish the spirit, and challenge the conscience. The publishing arm of the Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers, Orbis seeks to explore the global dimensions of the Christian faith and mission, to invite dialogue with diverse cultures and religious traditions, and to serve the cause of reconciliation and peace. The books published reflect the views of their authors and do not represent the official position of the Maryknoll Society. To learn more about Maryknoll and Orbis Books, please visit our website at [www.maryknollsociety.org](http://www.maryknollsociety.org).

---

Copyright © 2015 by *Fundació Vivarium Raimon Panikkar*, Tavertet  
International Copyright handled by *Editoriale Jaca Book SpA*, Milan

English edition, copyright © 2015 by Orbis Books,  
Maryknoll, New York 10545-0302.  
Manufactured in the United States of America.

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, or any information storage or retrieval system, without prior permission in writing from the publisher.

Queries regarding rights and permissions should be addressed to: Orbis Books, P.O. Box 302, Maryknoll, New York 10545-0302.

---

#### Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Panikkar, Raimon, 1918–2010, author.

Christian tradition / Raimon Panikkar ; edited by Milena Carrara Pavan.  
pages cm. — (Christianity ; part one) (Opera omnia ; volume III)

Includes bibliographical references and index.

ISBN 978-1-62698-159-1 (cloth)

1. Christianity. 2. Christianity—Philosophy. 3. Theology. 4. Philosophical theology. I. Carrara Pavan, Milena, editor. II. Title.

BR121.3.P36 2015

230—dc23

2015023952

# CONTENTS

|                            |             |
|----------------------------|-------------|
| <i>Abbreviations</i> ..... | <i>xiii</i> |
| <i>Introduction</i> .....  | <i>xvii</i> |

## SECTION I: HUMANISM AND CROSS

|  |    |
|--|----|
| 1. THE HUMAN SYNTHESIS .....   | 3  |
| Theory (Integral Anthropology) .....   | 3  |
| <i>Humans as Individuals</i> .....   | 5  |
| <i>Humans in Their Social Aspect: Community</i> .....                                    | 11 |
| Praxis: Life.....  | 13 |
| 2. INTELLECT AND ITS PRAXIS.....   | 17 |
| The Three Planes of the Intellect's Honesty.....   | 18 |
| The Separatism of Reason, the Specific<br>Temptation of the Authentic Intellectual ..... | 19 |
| Symptoms .....   | 21 |
| Proposal .....   | 22 |
| Summary .....  | 23 |
| 3. FREEDOM OF THOUGHT .....  | 25 |
| Proposal .....   | 25 |
| The Catholic Doctrine .....  | 27 |
| The Liberation of Thought .....  | 28 |
| 4. ON THEOLOGY AND THE UNIVERSITY .....  | 33 |
| The Transcendence of the Problem .....   | 33 |
| What Theology Is .....   | 34 |
| Theology, Responsibility of the Whole Church.....  | 35 |
| Theology and University .....  | 36 |
| The University Requires Theology .....   | 37 |
| The Catholic University.....   | 39 |
| Theology Calls for a University .....  | 40 |
| Militant Theology .....  | 43 |
| 5. ON THE CHRISTIAN MEANING OF LIFE .....  | 45 |
| Realism and Microdoxy .....  | 45 |
| <i>Theological Realism in Culture</i> .....  | 45 |
| <i>Microdoxy</i> .....   | 47 |
| The Paradigmatic Sense of Life among Early Christians .....                              | 50 |
| <i>Human Science</i> .....   | 51 |
| <i>Terrestrialness</i> .....   | 56 |

|    |   |     |
|----|---|-----|
|    | <i>The Christian Testimony</i> .....                      | 59  |
|    | <i>The Christian Meaning</i> .....                        | 65  |
|    | Missionary Action .....                                   | 66  |
|    | <i>Extra Ecclesiam Nulla Salus</i> .....                  | 71  |
|    | <i>Proposing the Sociological-Christian Problem</i> ..... | 71  |
|    | <i>The Theological Bases</i> .....                        | 72  |
|    | <i>The Dualist View</i> .....                             | 73  |
|    | <i>The Internal Dialectic of Culture</i> .....            | 74  |
|    | <i>Christian Affirmations</i> .....                       | 76  |
| 6. | OVERCOMING HUMANISM .....                                 | 79  |
|    | Terminological Clarification .....                        | 80  |
|    | The Role of Contemporary Humanism .....                   | 81  |
|    | Definition .....  | 84  |
|    | Humanism and Christianity .....                           | 87  |
|    | <i>Phenomenological</i> .....                             | 89  |
|    | <i>Philosophical</i> .....                                | 90  |
|    | <i>Theological</i> .....                                  | 92  |
|    | <i>Metaphysic-Theological</i> .....                       | 94  |
|    | The Lesson of History .....                               | 96  |
|    | Christian Humanism .....                                  | 101 |
|    | Christian Theandrim .....                                 | 104 |
| 7. | “DE DEO ABSCONDIDO” .....                                 | 113 |
|    | Christian Judgment of Modern Society .....                | 113 |
|    | The Eclipse of God .....                                  | 115 |
|    | God as a Hidden Being .....                               | 121 |
|    | Divine Discretion .....                                   | 124 |
|    | Christian Optimism .....                                  | 128 |
|    | The Task of Current Man .....                             | 130 |
| 8. | CHRISTENDOM AND THE CROSS .....                           | 133 |
|    | The Christian Tension in the World .....                  | 133 |
|    | The Primacy of the Cross .....                            | 137 |
|    | Restoration of Values .....                               | 139 |
|    | Christendom’s Discretion .....                            | 142 |
|    | Cultural Sacrifice .....                                  | 144 |
|    | The Establishment of the Cross .....                      | 148 |
|    | The Task of Christendom .....                             | 151 |
| 9. | THE EUCHARIST AND THE RESURRECTION<br>OF THE FLESH .....  | 157 |
|    | Introduction .....  | 157 |
|    | The Eucharist in the Divine Economy of Salvation .....    | 158 |

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| The Resurrection of the Flesh in the Divine Economy . . . . . | 160 |
| The Eucharist and Resurrection . . . . .                      | 161 |
| 10. THE MASS AS <i>CONSECRATIO TEMPORIS</i> :                 |     |
| TEMPITERNITY . . . . .  | 167 |
| The Mass and Time . . . . .                                   | 167 |
| Tempiternity . . . . .  | 169 |
| <i>Past, Present, and Future</i> . . . . .                    | 169 |
| <i>Per Omnia Saecula Saeculorum</i> . . . . .                 | 170 |
| <i>Consecratio Temporis</i> . . . . .                         | 176 |
| “Each Time” . . . . .   | 176 |
| “Each Time We Participate in This Altar” . . . . .            | 177 |

## SECTION II: TRADITION

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| 11. CHRISTIAN SELF-CONSCIOUSNESS AND<br>WORLD RELIGIONS . . . . .                  | 185 |
| The Issue . . . . .  | 185 |
| <i>De Jure: The Criteria</i> . . . . .   | 186 |
| <i>De Facto: The Situation</i> . . . . .   | 187 |
| The Data . . . . .   | 188 |
| <i>Scripture</i> . . . . .   | 188 |
| <i>History</i> . . . . .   | 191 |
| <i>Theology</i> . . . . .  | 206 |
| Some Conclusions . . . . .   | 212 |
| World Religions . . . . .  | 213 |
| Three Christian Axioms . . . . .   | 214 |
| <i>The Possibility of Salvation</i> . . . . .                                      | 214 |
| <i>The Universality of Faith</i> . . . . .   | 215 |
| <i>The Uniqueness of the Lord</i> . . . . .  | 217 |
| 12. SALVATION IN CHRIST: CONCRETENESS AND<br>UNIVERSALITY, THE SUPERNAME . . . . . | 223 |
| Myth: Salvation . . . . .  | 223 |
| <i>The Text, the Context, and the Texture</i> . . . . .                            | 223 |
| <i>Exclusivism</i> . . . . .   | 226 |
| <i>Inclusivism</i> . . . . .   | 227 |
| <i>The Universality of the Church</i> . . . . .                                    | 228 |
| <i>Religious Pluralism</i> . . . . .   | 229 |
| <i>Minimalism</i> . . . . .  | 230 |
| <i>Maximalism</i> . . . . .  | 231 |
| <i>Extra Ecclesiam Nulla Salus</i> . . . . .                                       | 231 |
| <i>The Keys of the Kingdom</i> . . . . .   | 233 |

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| <i>Logos: Christ</i> .....   | 233 |
| <i>Who Is Jesus?</i> .....   | 234 |
| <i>No Other Name</i> .....   | 235 |
| <i>Which Name?</i> .....   | 238 |
| <i>The Principle of Individuation</i> .....  | 240 |
| <i>The Case of Jesus</i> .....   | 243 |
| <i>The Identity of Christ</i> .....  | 244 |
| <i>Individual and Person</i> .....   | 245 |
| <i>Personal Identity</i> .....   | 249 |
| <i>The Cosmological and Historical Context</i> .....                                       | 251 |
| The Spirit: Salvation in Christ .....  | 255 |
| <i>Is Christ Universal and Concrete?</i> .....   | 255 |
| <i>Two Options</i> .....   | 256 |
| <i>The Monopoly of Names</i> .....   | 260 |
| <i>The Transcendent Name</i> .....   | 262 |
| <i>Jesus, the Lord</i> .....   | 267 |
| <i>The Lord of Religions</i> .....   | 268 |
| <i>The Lord of History</i> .....   | 274 |
| <i>The Lord of Faith</i> .....   | 275 |
| <i>The Word of the Spirit</i> .....  | 278 |
| 13. <i>SUPER HANC PETRAM—TWO ECCLESIOLOGICAL PRINCIPLES: THE ROCK AND THE KEYS</i> .....   | 281 |
| 14. <i>CHRISTIANS AND SO-CALLED NON-CHRISTIANS</i> .....                                   | 289 |
| Introduction .....   | 289 |
| <i>Non-Christian Surroundings</i> .....  | 290 |
| <i>What Is a Christian?</i> .....  | 290 |
| Principles .....   | 293 |
| <i>From the Point of View of Christians</i> .....  | 293 |
| <i>From the Point of View of Christ</i> .....  | 300 |
| The Christian Attitude .....   | 308 |
| <i>Overcoming Negativism</i> .....   | 308 |
| <i>Witnessing</i> .....  | 309 |
| <i>Redeeming</i> .....   | 311 |
| 15. <i>THE CONTRIBUTION OF CHRISTIAN MONASTICISM IN ASIA TO THE UNIVERSAL CHURCH</i> ..... | 317 |
| The Waking State: A Contribution .....   | 317 |
| <i>Done and Dreamt</i> .....   | 317 |
| <i>Transplantation and Implantation</i> .....  | 318 |
| <i>Kenōsis and Pluralism</i> .....   | 319 |
| The Nightmare: Christian Monasticism in Asia .....   | 321 |
| <i>A Suspicion and a Suffering</i> .....   | 321 |
| <i>The Monk</i> .....  | 322 |

|   |         |
|---|---------|
| <i>The Monastery</i> .....  | 323     |
| <i>The Threefold Mystery</i> .....  | 323     |
| <i>The Coming Revolution</i> .....  | 324     |
| The Hangover: The Universal Church .....  | 325     |
| <i>The Overall Situation</i> .....  | 325     |
| <i>The Ecumenical Ecumenism</i> .....   | 326     |
| <i>The Other Dimension</i> .....  | 326     |
| 16. SOCIAL MINISTRY AND MINISTRY OF WORD<br>AND WORSHIP: SOME CONSIDERATIONS<br>FROM THE ASIAN BACKGROUND ..... | 329     |
| The Radical <i>Metanoia</i> .....   | 329     |
| The Christian Ministry .....  | 331     |
| The Undivided Ministry .....  | 334     |
| The Ministries of Karman, Jñāna, and Bhakti .....   | 336     |
| The Trinity Ministry .....  | 339     |
| The Real Ministry .....   | 340     |
| <br><i>Glossary</i> .....   | <br>343 |
| <i>Index of Names</i> .....   | 365     |
| <i>Index of Original Texts in This Volume</i> .....   | 369     |
| <i>About the Author</i> .....   | 370     |