



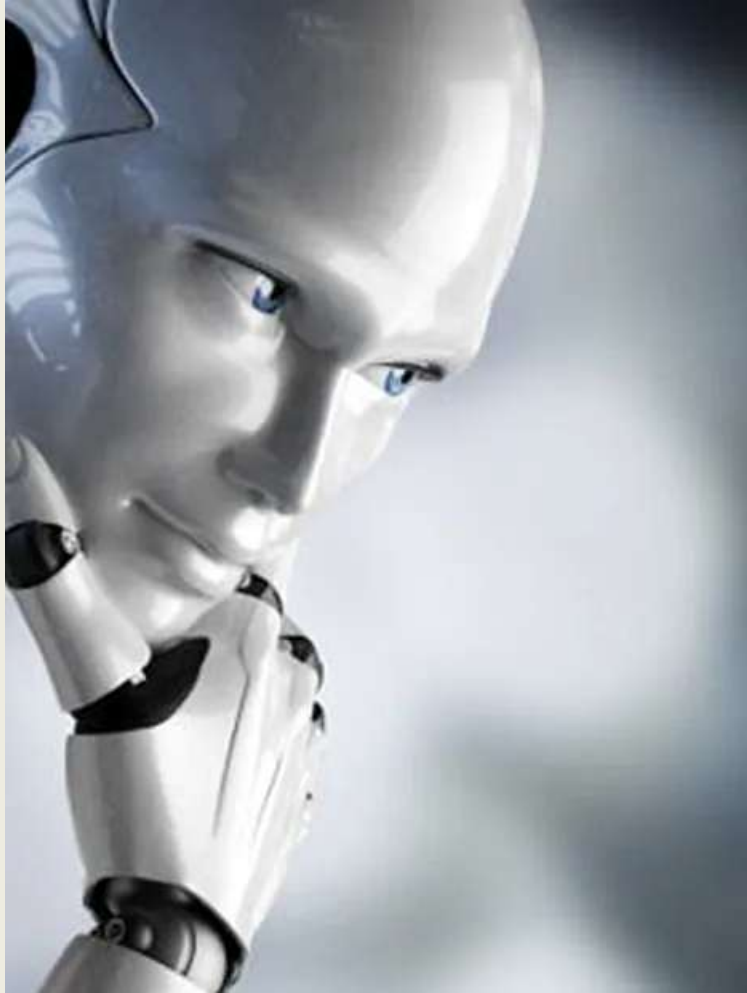
Andrea Tomasi

Dip.to Ingegneria dell'Informazione

Università di Pisa - andrea.tomasi@unipi.it

Member of the Board of WECA

AI, community, spirituality.
The human question
(walking around Magnifica Humanitas)

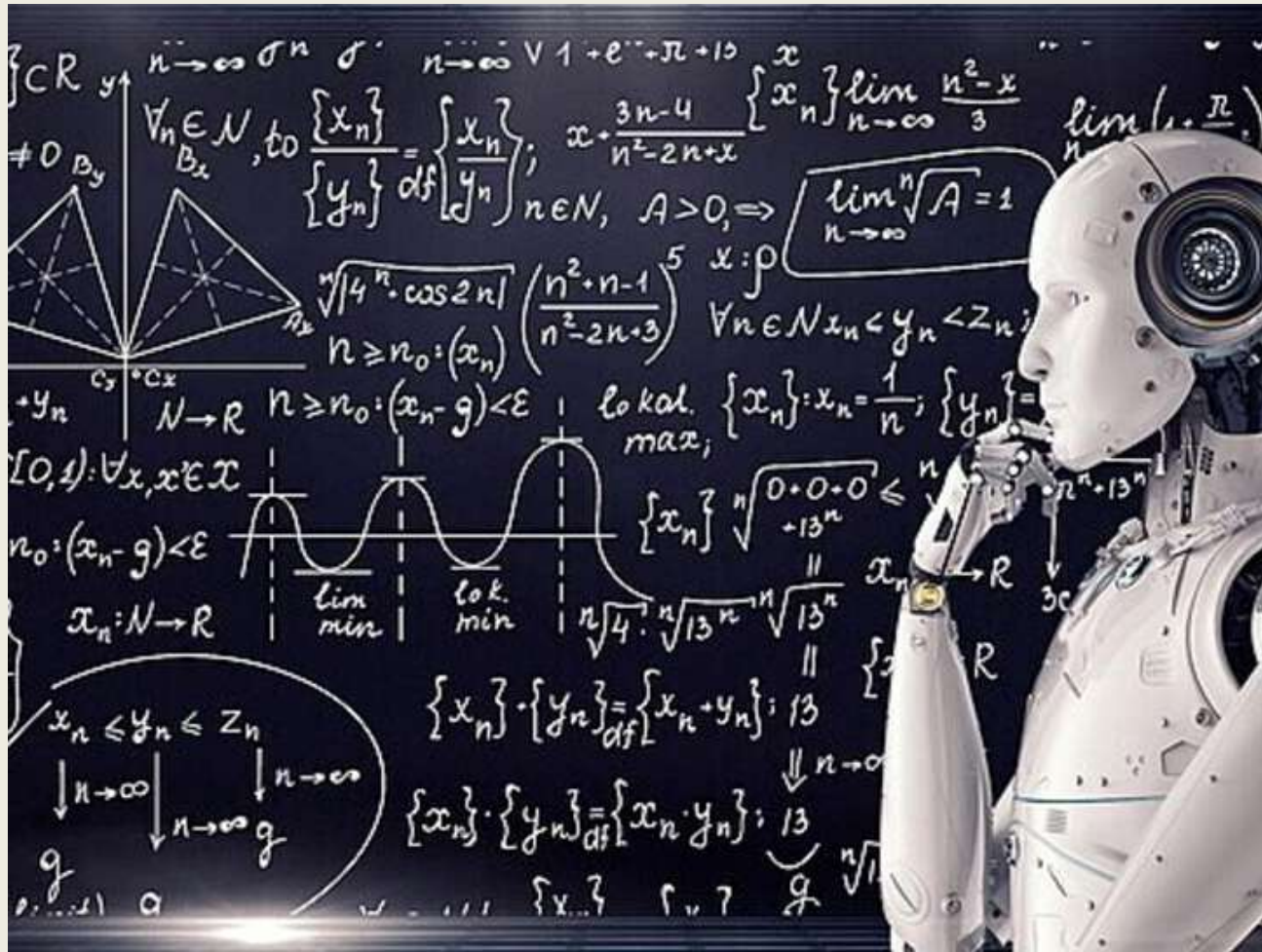


WHAT ABOUT ?

- A.I. as a driver of human changing
- INTERNET and A.I. make a new scenario of life
- The reflection of catholic Church

AN ANTHROPOLOGICAL CHANGE

- Digital technologies make an environment that modifies substantially the affective, cognitive and volitive human experiences.
- The “digital generation” is absorbed by the technological world in a completely new way compared to previous generations; the “generational fracture” is brought to levels never seen before, with notable implications on educational processes.
- A.I. chatbots are designed as an intentional deception showing anthropomorphic features and human-like language



A.I. AND INTERNET
MAKE TRUTH AND FALSE
LESS AND LESS DISTINGUISHABLE



**IN THE VIRTUAL WORLD
THERE ARE NO REAL BODIES,
BUT IMMATERIALITY IS NOT SPIRITUALITY**

THE CHALLENGE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE: A SOCIAL AND ANTHROPOLOGICAL TRANSFORMATION



A.I. TRANSFORMS THE HUMAN BEING,
CHALLENGES THE CHRISTIAN MESSAGE
AND THE INCULTURATION OF THE FAITH

NEW INTERPRETATIVE PARADIGMS



- “FUNCTIONAL” (HOW TO USE)
- “ETHICAL ” (HOW TO RULE)
- “WISDOM” (WHAT KIND OF HUMANITY TO PROMOTE)
- ANTHROPOCENTRIC VS TECHNOCENTRIC APPROACH
- TECHNOLOGICAL HUMANISM VS TECHNOCRACY

- “MISSIONARY” (LIVING OUR TIME, CONSCIOUS THAT ONLY THE MEETING WITH THE LORD SAVES)

THE QUESTIONS OF ROMANO GUARDINI

- «SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY GIVE TO THE MAN A POWER ON NATURE – AND ON THE BEING OF ITSELF, INASMUCH HE IS LIVING NATURE – POWER INCREASING EVER FASTER»

**CAN POWER INCREASE
WITH ANY SPEED AND TO ANY HEIGHT
AND HUMAN BEING STILL STAY THAT IN A FULL SENSE?**

- «IT IS POSSIBLE TO CHANGE ONE MAN'S VIEW OF ITSELF AND OF THE WORLD AGAINST HIS WILLNESS [OR WITHOUT NOTING IT]; THE MEASURE WITH WHICH HE MEASURES THE GOOD AND THE BAD; THE CONDITION HE HAS IN ITSELF AS PERSON»

**CAN HUMAN BEING
TO EXERCISE AND TO BE RESPONSIBLE
OF A POWER GREAT AS YOU WISH?**

(R. Guardini, The Power)

THE ANSWERS OF ROMANO GUARDINI

- «The world of technology and its unleashed forces can only be dominated by a new attitude that adapts to them and is proportionate to them. Humanity is called to provide a NEW FOUNDATION OF INTELLIGENCE AND FREEDOM, one that is, however, akin to the new fact, according to their character, their style, and their entire inner orientation.»

**Humanity must place its living starting point,
must engage its command lever,
where the new event is born.**

THE ANSWERS OF ROMANO GUARDINI

- «This world therefore demands a man capable of governing it. What is meant here by GOVERNING is a HUMAN, MORAL, and SPIRITUAL POSITION.
- It contains, first of all, the awareness of what the future world will be like and how it is entrusted to man, to each man in his place. Added to this is the knowledge of the IMMENSITY OF POWER AVAILABLE TO MAN.»

**This power can only be held in check
by responsibility.**

(R. Guardini, cit. in: Tomasi, *Umanesimo tecnologico: una antropologia per il futuro dell'uomo. La visione profetica di Romano Guardini*. ALPHA OMEGA, 2019, pp.161-190)

THE ANSWERS OF ROMANO GUARDINI

- «The danger comes not from individual difficulties that science and technology have not yet mastered, but from a component of every human action, even the most spiritual, namely, power. Having power means being master of what has been given to us.»

**Man has power over things,
but he has no power over his own power.**

(R. Guardini, The Power)



CATHOLIC CHURCH AND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Message of Pope Francis
for the 58th World Day of Social
Communications (2024)

Message of Pope Francis for the
57th World Day of Peace (2024)



ROME CALL FOR A.I. ETHICS (2020)

LAUDATO SI'

(nn. 54, 104, 114, 177, 194)

RECENT DOCUMENTS

- **ANTIQUA ET NOVA** *Note on the Relationship Between Artificial Intelligence and Human Intelligence*
DICASTERY FOR THE DOCTRINE OF THE FAITH AND
DICASTERY FOR CULTURE AND EDUCATION (14 January 2025)
- **QUO VADIS HUMANITAS** *Thinking Through Christian Anthropology In The Face Of Certain Scenarios For The Future Of Humanity*
INTERNATIONAL THEOLOGICAL COMMISSION (4 March 2026)

=> THE MAIN FOCUS IS ANTHROPOLOGICAL, RATHER THAN
TECHNICAL OR ETHICAL

ANTIQUA ET NOVA

Years ago, the French Catholic author Georges Bernanos warned that “the danger is not in the multiplication of machines, but in the ever-increasing number of men accustomed from their childhood to desire only what machines can give.”

This challenge is as true today as it was then, as the rapid pace of digitization risks a “digital reductionism,” where non-quantifiable aspects of life are set aside and then forgotten or even deemed irrelevant because they cannot be computed in formal terms.

AI should be used only as a tool to complement human intelligence rather than replace its richness.

Cultivating those aspects of human life that transcend computation is crucial for preserving “an authentic humanity” that “seems to dwell in the midst of our technological culture, almost unnoticed, like a mist seeping gently beneath a closed door.” (AeN, n.112)

***POPE LEO XIV* and Artificial Intelligence**

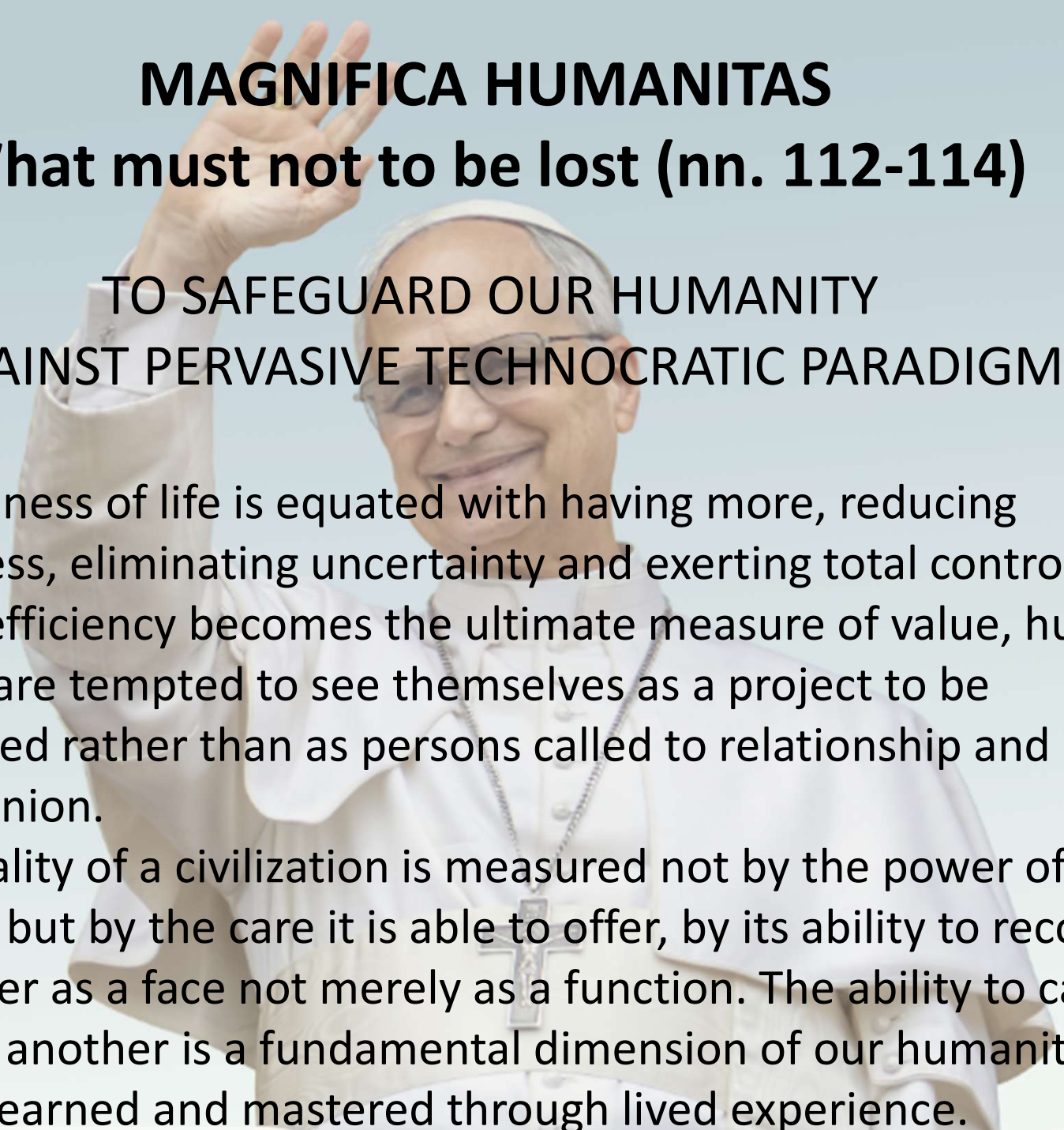
Since the election he gives a privileged attention to A.I. impact on human life, with numerous speeches on several occasions, most recently the Message for the World Day of Social Communications, 24 January 2026, «PRESERVING HUMAN VOICES AND FACES» until the ENCICLICAL LETTER ***MAGNIFICA HUMANITAS*** ON SAFEGUARDING THE HUMAN PERSON IN THE TIME OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE, on 15 May 2026

POPE LEO XIV – MAGNIFICA HUMANITAS

- At this time of transition, it is not enough to react only; we must oversee the transformation in advance.

GOVERNANCE OF AI AS «INTEGRAL ECHOLOGY»

- Disarming AI means freeing it from the mentality of “armed” competition, which today is not limited simply to the military context, but is also an economic and cognitive phenomenon.
- Our task today is not only ethical or technical. It is ecological in the deepest sense, for it concerns a new dimension of our common home. AI is already an environment in which we are immersed, as well as a force with which we must engage. For this reason, merely regulating it is insufficient; it must be disarmed, welcoming and accessible.

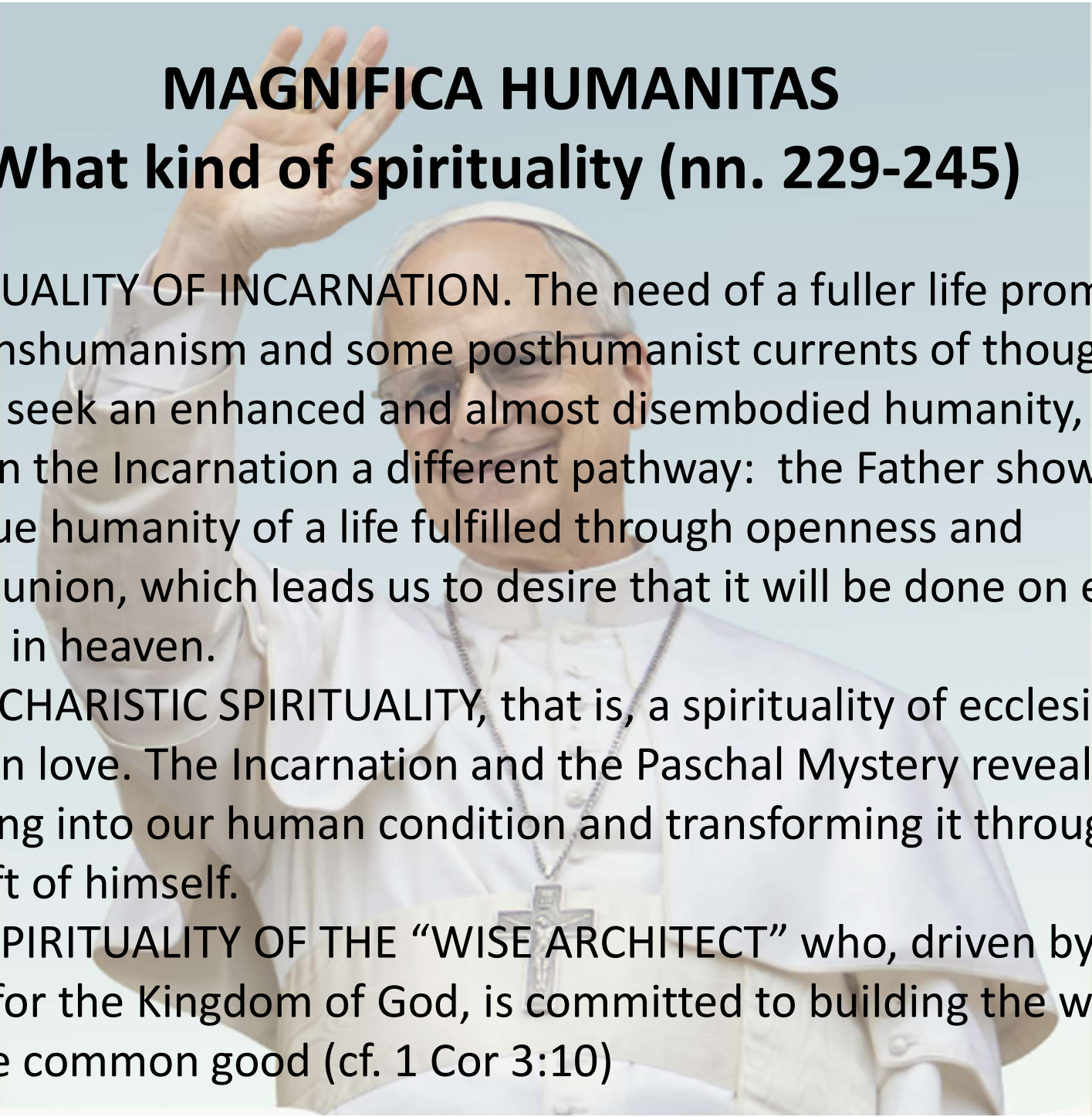
A background image of Pope Francis waving with his right hand. He is wearing his white papal attire and a zucchetto. The image is semi-transparent, allowing the text to be overlaid.

MAGNIFICA HUMANITAS

What must not be lost (nn. 112-114)

TO SAFEGUARD OUR HUMANITY AGAINST PERVASIVE TECHNOCRATIC PARADIGM

- the fullness of life is equated with having more, reducing weakness, eliminating uncertainty and exerting total control. When efficiency becomes the ultimate measure of value, human beings are tempted to see themselves as a project to be optimized rather than as persons called to relationship and communion.
- The quality of a civilization is measured not by the power of its means, but by the care it is able to offer, by its ability to recognize the other as a face not merely as a function. The ability to care for one another is a fundamental dimension of our humanity, one that is learned and mastered through lived experience.

A background image of Pope Francis waving his right hand. He is wearing his white papal attire, including a zucchetto and a pectoral cross.

MAGNIFICA HUMANITAS

What kind of spirituality (nn. 229-245)

- **SPIRITUALITY OF INCARNATION.** The need of a fuller life promised by transhumanism and some posthumanist currents of thought, which seek an enhanced and almost disembodied humanity, finds in the Incarnation a different pathway: the Father shows us the true humanity of a life fulfilled through openness and communion, which leads us to desire that it will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
- **An EUCHARISTIC SPIRITUALITY,** that is, a spirituality of ecclesial unity in love. The Incarnation and the Paschal Mystery reveal God entering into our human condition and transforming it through the gift of himself.
- **THE SPIRITUALITY OF THE “WISE ARCHITECT”** who, driven by hope for the Kingdom of God, is committed to building the world for the common good (cf. 1 Cor 3:10)

A background image of Pope Francis waving his right hand. He is wearing his white papal attire, including a zucchetto and a pectoral cross.

MAGNIFICA HUMANITAS

Let us remain faithful to the truth!

Living amid incessant flows of information, opinions and images, we know how easy it can be to influence decisions and preferences through increasingly sophisticated algorithms. In this context, it is imperative to cultivate hearts that love the truth, prefer what is right despite the most appealing content and pursue wisdom rather than immediate results.

We must always keep before us the truth about God and humanity, just as Christ has revealed them to us. We must lay aside an individualistic and technical view of humanity, as if reality were mere matter to be shaped according to selfish interests, whether individual or collective. Instead, let us cultivate what Pope Francis called a “situated anthropocentrism,” which recognizes the human being as a creature embedded in a network of relationships with other living beings and with all of creation.

Fidelity to the truth requires integrating the possibilities offered by

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION



"The truth in love"

In a historical period marked by polarizations and contrasts — to which unfortunately not even the ecclesial community is immune — the commitment to communicating "with open heart and arms" does not pertain exclusively to those in the field of communications; it is everyone's responsibility. We are all called to seek and to speak the truth and to do so with charity.

Pope Francis — Message for the 57th World Day of Social Communications — 2023

**Associazione
WEBcattolici italiani**

Via Aurelia 468 - 00165 Roma
e-mail: info@webcattolici.it
Tel.: 06 66398333 - 848 580167
www.weca.it

facebook.com/webcattolici
youtube.com/webcattolici

WeCa
Associazione WEBcattolici italiani

**We accompany the Church
in the digital world**
Tools and strategies for pastoral care on the

September 2023 version

andrea.tomasi@unipi.it ; www.weca.it