

In him all things were made together,  
And through him all things were reconciled  
to him, in heaven and on earth.

**July - September, 2002: Healing and Reconciliation**

and in him you too find your own fullness  
Ephesians to the Colossians 1:15-17, 19, 2:10

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Richard Rohr

**A Cosmic Christ**

Only a truly cosmic Christ is adequate to the breadth of our problems and the depth of our hopes today. The editors chose this painting, "The Mystic Christ," by Fr. John Giuliani as our cover because it so beautifully represents the major themes for this issue: reconciliation, healing, and the realignment of all creation in God. A divisive god, an institutional head is exactly what Christ is NOT. Instead, our Christ is:

"The image of the unseen God . . .  
In whom were created all things  
in heaven and on earth,  
Everything visible and everything invisible,

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In him all things hold together,  
And through him all things are reconciled . . .  
In him, in bodily form,  
lives divinity in all its fullness,  
and in him you too find your own fullness.  
(Letter to the Colossians 1:15-17, 19, 2:10)

## Center for Action and Contemplation

What a magnificent and total ecology! What natural ecumenism! This is the "Great Chain of Being" distilled and personified in one divine gift that sanctifies everything and everybody in bodily form. We do not have to wait to become "spirit" because this material world is already the revelation place for the beauty and goodness of God.

I personally do not believe that Jesus came to found a separate religion-as much as he came to present a universal message of vulnerability and foundational unity that is necessary for all religions, the human soul, and history itself to survive. Thus Christians can rightly call him "The Savior of the World" (John 4:42), but no longer in the competitive and imperialistic way that they have usually presented him. By very definition, vulnerability and unity do not compete or dominate. In fact, they make both competition and domination impossible. The cosmic Christ is no threat to anything but separateness, illusion, domination, and any imperial ego. In that sense, Jesus, the Christ, is the ultimate threat, but first of all to Christians themselves. Only then, will they have any universal and salvific message for the rest of the earth.

**-Richard Rohr**

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