

# **The Sustainable Ecclesiastical Prospect in the Post-Modern Age: from Semi-Strong Anthropocentrism to Ontocentrism and Holistic Anthropocentrism**

MARCO ETTORE GRASSO

*Abstract:* Environmental sustainability in the ecclesiastical field is connected to the responsibility ethics, though the dimension of the “domination” is a core element of analysis. The catholic position in this matter, in fact, was characterized in the past by a solid anthropocentrism that, starting from the positions of Paul VI, has become weaker, until Pope Francis has offered a new ethical approach, in accordance with a systemic and integral dimension. Postmodern ecclesiastical environmental ethic finds its origins in the semi-strong anthropocentrism of Pope Paul VI and subsequently in the weak anthropocentrism of John Paul II and Benedict XVI, so as to reach with Pope Francis a holistic anthropocentrism, corresponding to an ontocentric perspective.

*Keywords:* Integral development, Integral ecology, Sustainability, Holistic anthropocentrism, Ontocentrism.

*notizie di POLITEIA*, XXXII, 123, 2016. ISSN 1128-2401 pp. 20-32