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Under the Radar: Neglected Catholic Thinkers of the 20th Century

DRAMATIS PERSONAE

KARL ADAM [1876-1966]: Bavarian theologian, who studied for the priesthood at Regensburg and was ordained 1900. After two years of parish work, he earned a PhD at Munich in 1914. He taught first at Munich and then taught Moral Theology at Strasbourg. In 1919, he took up a chair in Dogmatic Theology at Tübingen, a post he held until 1949. Adam is notable for his opposition to National Socialism (Nazism) in his famous speech, "The Eternal Christ."

JOSEF PIEPER [1904-1997]: German married layman and philosopher. Pieper studied Philosophy and Law at Berlin and then at Münster. He held the chair in Philosophical Anthropology at Münster 1950-1976; and then as emeritus until shortly before his death. Known for numerous works, including *The Silence of Saint Thomas*, *The Four Cardinal Virtues*, *In Search of the Sacred*, and *Leisure, the Basis of Culture* (which was a book undergraduate applicants to Notre Dame were asked to read and write an essay on as part of their submitted application).

HENRI DE LUBAC [1896-1991]: French Jesuit, wounded as a soldier in World War I. Studied at Fouvrière and Lyons; ordained in 1927. Served as professor of Fundamental Theology at Lyons, 1929-1961 (though from 1950-1956 suspended for teaching, after he was held by some in suspicion). John XXIII appointed him in 1960 to the preparatory commission for the Second Vatican Council. With his student, Jean Daniélou, he founded the series *Sources Chrétiennes*, texts and translations of patristic and medieval primary sources. Along with Hans Urs von Balthasar, Joseph Ratzinger and Louis Bouyer, founded the journal *Communio*. Created a Cardinal by John Paul II.

JEAN DANIÉLOU [1905-1974]: French Jesuit, student at the Sorbonne, and joined the Jesuits in 1929; ordained 1938. Daniélou was a student of de Lubac, writing his dissertation on the mystical theology of Gregory of Nyssa in 1944 and subsequently served as Professor of Early Christian History at the Institut Catholique in Paris. Paul VI created him a Cardinal in 1969. He also taught during the summer session at Notre Dame, and his book, *The Bible and the Liturgy*, is based on those lectures.

ROMANO GUARDINI [1885-1968]: Italian-born German, born in Verona but raised in Mainz. He studied Chemistry and Economics before discerning his vocation to diocesan priesthood. Guardini studied at Freiburg-im-Breisgau and at Tübingen, completing his PhD on Bonaventure in 1915. In 1923 was appointed Professor of the Philosophy of Religion at Berlin, but was forced to resign due to his criticism of the Nazis. From 1945 he taught at both Munich and Tübingen until his retirement in 1962.

LOUIS BOUYER [1913-2004]: French Lutheran pastor who converted to Catholicism in 1939 and was ordained a priest of the Oratory in 1944. He was a student of Oscar Cullmann and his doctoral work on Athanasius of Alexandria's ecclesiology drew him to embrace Catholicism. He taught for many years at the Institut Catholique in Paris, where he was a colleague of Daniélou. He also taught during the 1950s numerous summer sessions at the University of Notre Dame. Known for his multi-volume *History of Christian Spirituality* as well as his magisterial *Eucharist*, Bouyer was not one to mince his words, incurring at times the ire of some French bishops for his critique of their implementation of the Second Vatican Council; he declined Paul VI's offer of the red hat (an honor that then went to his compatriot, Daniélou).