The 11th volume of *Landas*, July issue, features a variety of topics.

In the scientific world many insist on the "Technological Imperative," allowing the scientist total freedom in the laboratory with no moral parameters. What happens when the scientist finds himself imprisoned in a labyrinth of his own making with countless human embryos unclaimed, unwanted? Gerald W. Healy discusses "Frozen Surplus Embryos: The On-going Moral Dilemma," and cites the Catholic Church's firm condemnation of the initial experiment while still hesitantly trying to find a thorough answer to the problem. Cardinal Basil Hume, O.S.B., issued the final word to an admittedly most difficult situation.

A much needed clarification is offered by Francis X. Clark to dispel the frequent "Confusion Between Mary's Immaculate Conception and Virginal Conception," with the use of a visual aid diagram whose main points are further elaborated in the article.

Set within the broad ecclesial realities of Asia and within the Church context of China in particular, James H. Kroeger, in "Exchanging Gifts: Church in China and Sister Local Churches," explores the question of new paradigms for relationships in mission. Employing the profound insights of the Federation of Asian Bishops' Conferences on the theme of local church, he proposes and explores the operative paradigm of exchanging gifts as sister local churches. Through their dynamic interaction and mutual gifting, local churches become the *corpus ecclesiarum* (LG 23), the world church; thus, these interrelationships enable the dream of catholicity to become a lived, Spirit-filled reality within Asia.

José S. Arcilla's "A Late 19th-Century Jesuit Moralist in Northern Mindanao" is an annotated translation of an unpublished brief moral "treatise" based on a Jesuit missionary's experience in Mindanao in the last decades of that century. It describes not only the traditional Christian norms, but provides also a brief picture of the indigenous cultural practices and values which had to be Christianized and, in a few instances, radically uprooted. The work exemplifies what perhaps may be called the
clash of cultures.

Joseph L. Roche offers a reflection on the theme of the Eucharistic Congress 1997: “The Eucharist and Freedom.” He develops the relations between the Eucharist and our human freedom by relating both not just to Christ, but to the Triune God. In this effort, the Church is revealed as the necessary and intrinsic dimension of both the Eucharist and our authentic Christian Freedom — “the freedom that we have in Christ Jesus” (Gal 2:4). 

In the section on Notes and Comments, an article entitled “Teilhard Recalled” by Vicente Marasigan recalls the thought of Teilhard de Chardin and its present impact on theology and cybernetics. Recent accounts relevant to Teilhard’s notion of planetization are taken from various sites on the Internet, particularly those sponsored by the World Bank and other global institutions.

A Review Article on two significant books with the latest scholarship on the Psalms is written by Philip J. Calderone. Both the Handbook and Commentary authored by James Luther Mays emphasize the theological meaning and importance of the Psalms to Israel’s religious life in different stages of their history, and also to Christian biblical education and piety, even in today’s world.

“Gunpowder, Witches, Jesuits and Shakespeare’s ‘Macbeth’” is written by Miguel A. Barnad as a recognized literary critic, clearly stating that “Macbeth” is *toto coelo* different from cheap anti-religious propaganda plays.

In a Review Article under the title “Balthasar’s ‘Infinite Becoming’,” Vicente Marasigan applies Lonergan’s methodology in analyzing the cognitional process of Hans Urs von Balthasar reflecting on the mystical writings of Gregory of Nyssa.

A brief “Note on The 1997 Catholic Directory of the Philippines” is written by the Acting Editor of Landas, offering a summary of the most salient items, while expressing reservations on some other features.

Pedro S. de Achutegui, S.J.
Acting Editor

1 July 1997