

# SAINT BENEDICT'S MONASTERY

CISTERCIAN MONKS

April 3, 1990

Dear Fr. Charles,

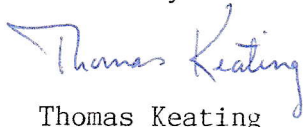
In reference to your letter of March 10th. which I just read after an extended trip, I offer the following:

I would suggest first offering Fr. Bede's paper, with the slight modifications that I have made and enclosed, to America magazine because this magazine is the one that is most likely to be read by Bishops, to whom the original document was intended. If they turn it down, then I think that the National Catholic Reporter would be a good second choice.

As regards the quote from Speaking of Silence that you give, I am referring to a very rarified state of soul but one which the Buddhists sometimes speak about. I would hesitate to use the term "the ego of the Godhead" since God certainly has no ego. Such a term is extremely ambiguous in relation to God. I discuss this question more fully in my book "The Mystery of Christ" in one of the chapters that comment on the gospel of Holy Week. Perhaps you could find some further inspiration by looking at that chapter if you have the book.

With all best wishes for the special graces of Easter and in union of prayer,

Sincerely in Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Thomas Keating". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'T' and 'K'.

Thomas Keating