

## Excerpt from Christ Our Pascha

## The Only-Begotten Son

The Son of God, Second Person of the Most Holy Trinity, equal in dignity and essence with the Father, is "the splendor of the Father, the unchangeable and immutable image of his essence and his nature, the fountain of wisdom and grace." Therefore, the Church professes Christ to be the only-begotten Son, in the bosom of the Father (see Jn 1:18). Begotten of the Father, the Son is uncreated; he is the only one from the Father, an unrepeatable Person of God, the Word of God.

For God sent forth the Word ... just as the root puts forth the tree, and the fountain [i.e., spring] the river, and the sun the ray ... I should not hesitate, indeed, to call the tree the son or offspring of the root, and the river that of the fountain [i.e., spring], and the ray that of the sun; because every original source is a parent, and everything which issues from the origin is an offspring. Much more is this true of the Word of God, who has actually received as his own peculiar designation the name of Son, writes Tertullian. (# 89)