

## Excerpt from Christ Our Pascha

## <u>Humankind – the Crown of Creation</u>

The Book of Genesis reveals a profound bond between humankind and God: "Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness" (Gen1:26). In his commentary upon these words Saint Irenaeus of Lyons explains: "The image of God is the Son, according to whose image humankind was made; and for this reason He appeared in the last times, to render the image like himself." It was precisely in the image of Christ, the incarnate Son of God, that humankind was created. Humanity is the "image of the Image" existing "in Christ," in whom the human being is adopted by God. It can only be understood "through Christ." (#121)