



Excerpt from ***Christ Our Pascha***

Humankind – the Crown of Creation

Created good, humankind was supposed to achieve gradually perfection. For this reason Saint Irenaeus compares the condition of the first Adam in Paradise with the innocence of a child: “It was possible for God Himself to have made the human being perfect from the first, but the human being could not receive this perfection, being as yet an infant.” To grow into the second Adam – Christ—is to receive the grace of the Holy Spirit to the point of our permanent abiding in it, “until all of us come to the *unity of the faith* and of the *knowledge of the Son of God*, to maturity, to the measure of the *full stature of Christ*” (Eph 4:13; emphasis added). (#126)