



Excerpt from *Christ Our Pascha*

The Created Nature of Humankind

The image of God defines the dignity of the human being—already in the bodily state—as being *good*. The goodness of the body especially consists in the fact that in our relationships, through the body, we are able to express ourselves as persons. We receive this ability as a gift from God. The human body is able to receive into itself the Spirit of God; and so, the apostle Paul refers to the human body as the “temple of the Holy Spirit” (1 *Cor* 6:19). Here lies the *mystery* of the body and the fullness of its destiny. This is why Christianity regards the human body as a temple, consecrated for the service of God and neighbor. (#129)