



Excerpt from *Christ Our Pascha*

**“Man and Woman He Created Them”**

The image of God is the foundation not only of the personal uniqueness of every human being, but also the human community: “God said: ‘Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness’ ... So God created humankind in His own image, in the image of God He created them; male and female He created them” (*Gn 1: 26-27*). The communion of persons in the Most Holy Trinity is the prototype for human community. Saint John of Damascus explains how the first human community came to be an icon of the Tri-Personal God. He writes that Adam, who had no created cause for his being, and was not begotten, distinct from other human beings, is an image of the uncaused Father-God, the Almighty and Cause of all things. Then, the son born to Adam, is an image of the begotten Son and Word of God; and Eve, who came forth from Adam (but was not born from him) signifies the procession of the Person of the Holy Spirit. (#132)