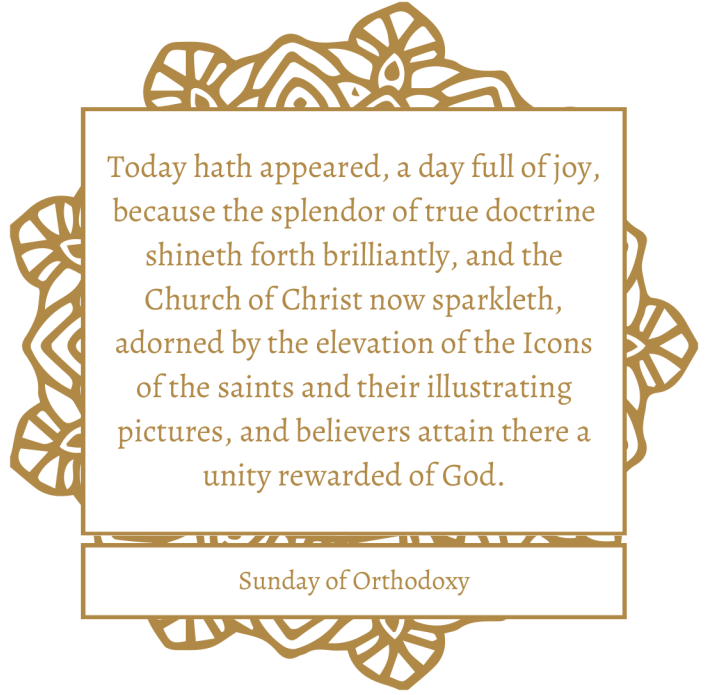


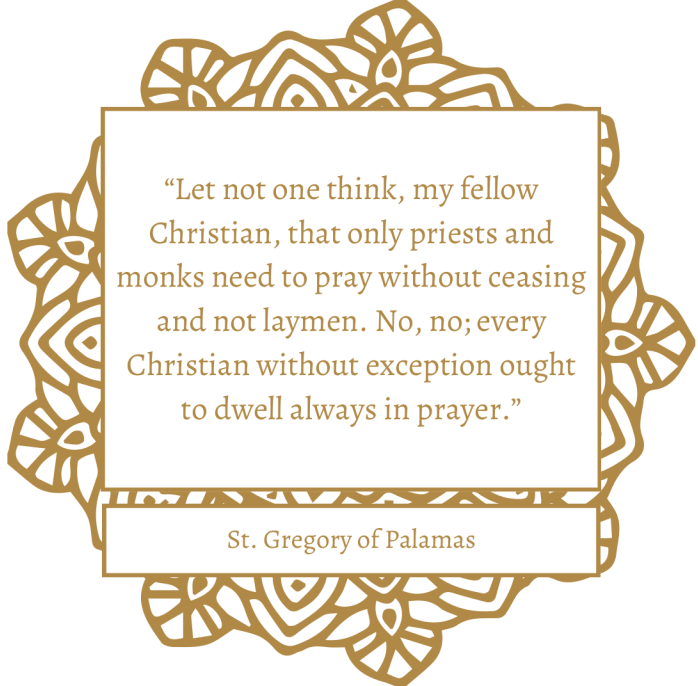
Let us enter the Fast with joy, O faithful.
Let us not be sad.
Let us cleanse our faces
with the waters of dispassion,
blessing and exalting Christ forever.

First Friday matins



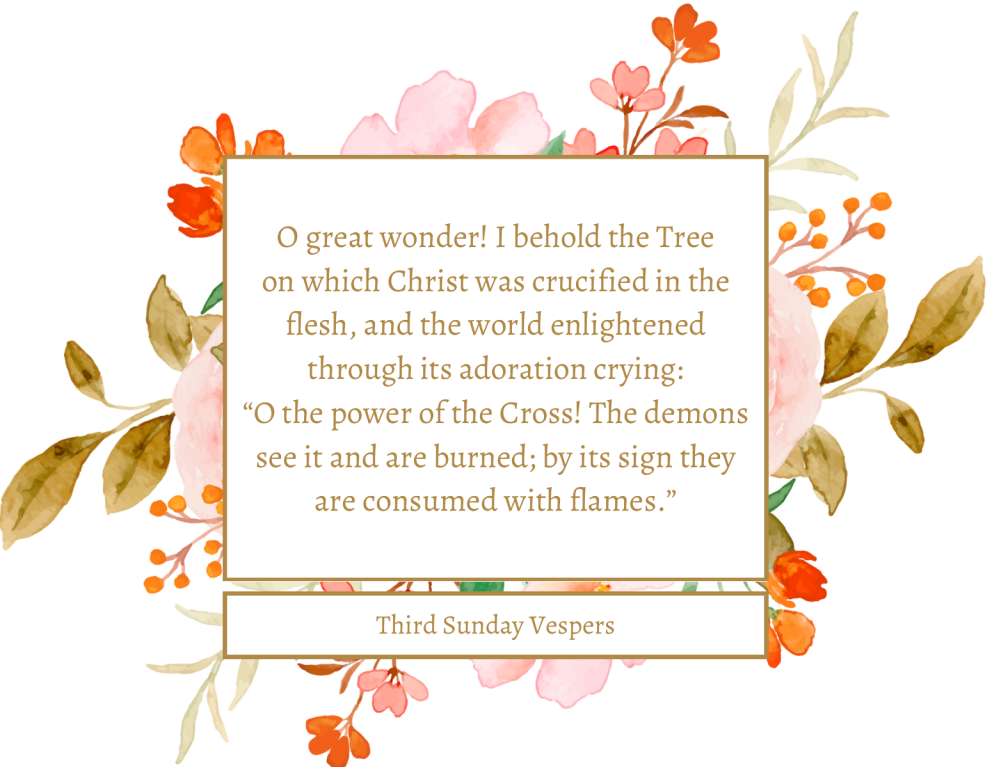
Today hath appeared, a day full of joy,
because the splendor of true doctrine
shineth forth brilliantly, and the
Church of Christ now sparkleth,
adorned by the elevation of the Icons
of the saints and their illustrating
pictures, and believers attain there a
unity rewarded of God.

Sunday of Orthodoxy



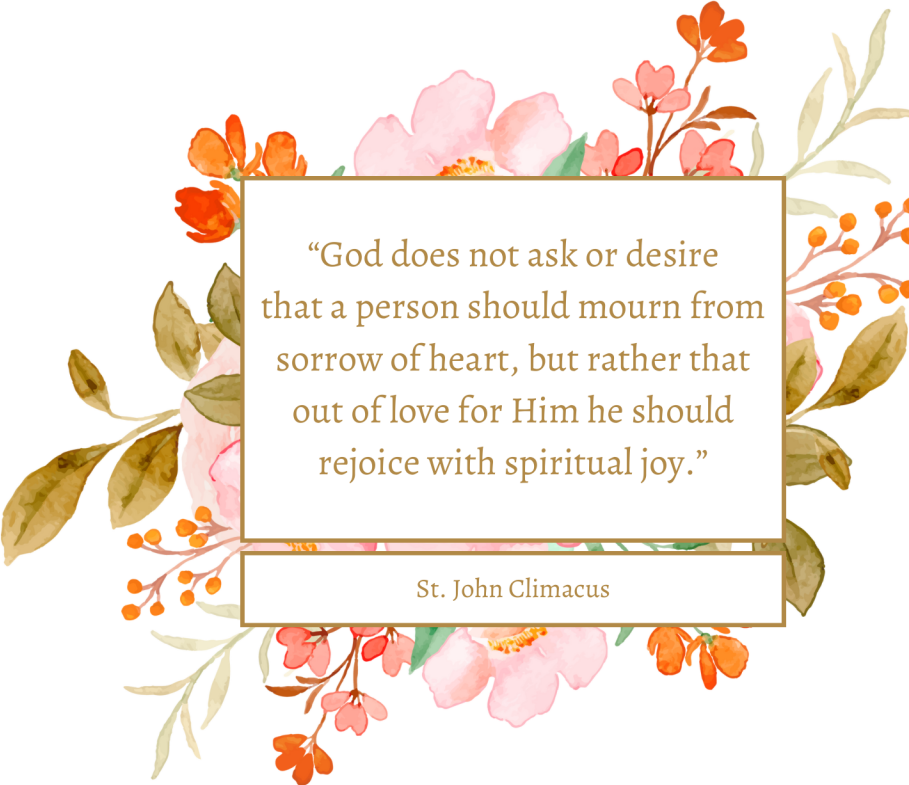
“Let not one think, my fellow
Christian, that only priests and
monks need to pray without ceasing
and not laymen. No, no; every
Christian without exception ought
to dwell always in prayer.”

St. Gregory of Palamas



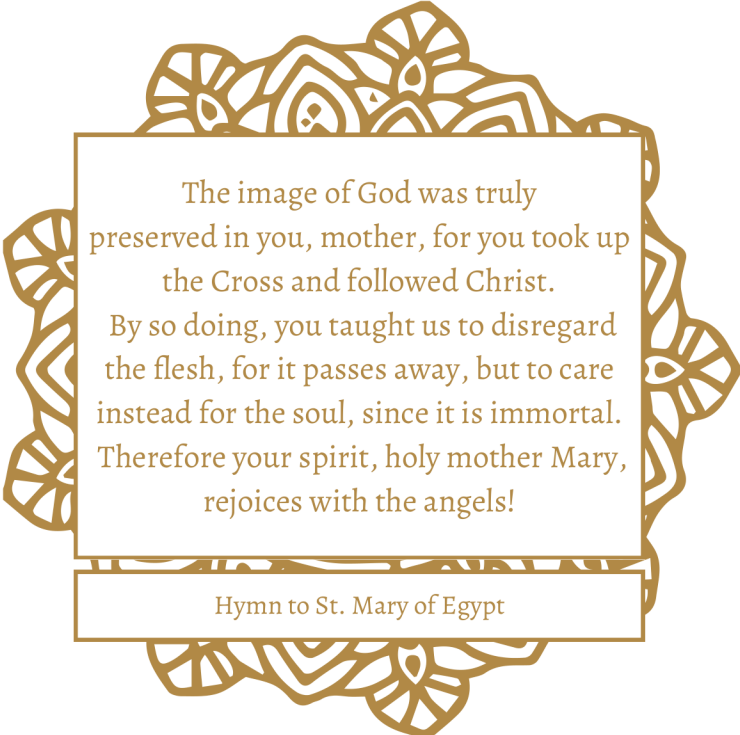
O great wonder! I behold the Tree
on which Christ was crucified in the
flesh, and the world enlightened
through its adoration crying:
“O the power of the Cross! The demons
see it and are burned; by its sign they
are consumed with flames.”

Third Sunday Vespers



“God does not ask or desire
that a person should mourn from
sorrow of heart, but rather that
out of love for Him he should
rejoice with spiritual joy.”

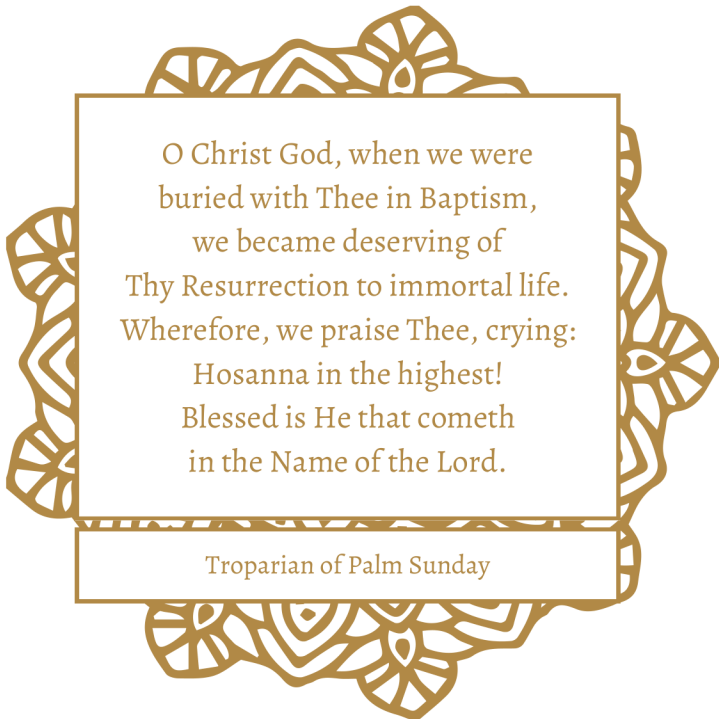
St. John Climacus



The image of God was truly
preserved in you, mother, for you took up
the Cross and followed Christ.


By so doing, you taught us to disregard
the flesh, for it passes away, but to care
instead for the soul, since it is immortal.
Therefore your spirit, holy mother Mary,
rejoices with the angels!

Hymn to St. Mary of Egypt



O Christ God, when we were
buried with Thee in Baptism,
we became deserving of
Thy Resurrection to immortal life.
Wherefore, we praise Thee, crying:
Hosanna in the highest!
Blessed is He that cometh
in the Name of the Lord.

Troparian of Palm Sunday



Christ
is Risen!
Truly He
is Risen!