



IN PROPORTION AS ANY ONE HAS BEEN PERMITTED TO become through faith and diligence a partaker of the Holy Spirit, his body also shall be glorified in that day. What the soul has now stored up within, shall then be revealed and displayed outwardly in the body. As trees that have got over the winter, when warmed by the unseen influence of sun and winds, put forth from within and shoot out their clothing of leaves, and as at that season flowers of the grass come forth from within the bosom of the earth, and the earth is covered and dressed, and the grass is like those lilies of which the Lord said that not even Solomon in all his glory was like one of them, for these are all parables and types and figures of Christians at the resurrection – so to all God-loving souls, to true Christians, there comes a first month, a *Xanthicus*, which is called April. It is the day of resurrection; and by the power of the Sun of Righteousness, the glory of the Holy Spirit comes out from within, decking and covering the bodies of the Saints – the glory which they had before, but hidden within in their souls. What a man has now, the same then comes forth externally in the body. This month, it says, shall be the first month of the year; this brings forth joy for all the creation; this dresses the naked trees, opening the earth; this brings forth joy for all living things; this displays mirth for all; this for Christians is Xanthicus, the first month, which is the season of resurrection, in which their bodies shall be glorified through the unspeakable light which even now is in them – that is, the power of the Holy Spirit – and which shall then be to them raiment, meat, drink, gladness, joy, peace, robe, eternal life; for all beauty of brightness and of heavenly splendour will then come to them from that Spirit of the Godhead which they were privileged even now to receive.

St Macarius the Great, *Fifty Spiritual Homilies*, Homily V, 8–9

PEARLS FROM THE HOLY FATHERS BRIGHT TUESDAY 2012