

26/04/2021

Holy Monday today, service presents Joseph the all-comely as a pre-figuring of Christ



The Church today observes Holy Monday, commencing Holy and Great Easter Week.

The holy Passion of our Savior begins today, presenting Joseph the all-comely as a pre-figuring of Christ.

Joseph was the 11th son of Jacob, and his first son by Rachel; because he was so beloved by his father, his own brethren came to envy him and cast him into a pit. Later they sold him to foreigners for 30 pieces of silver, who later sold him in Egypt.

Because of his virtue, his master gave him much authority in governing his house — as he was fair of expression, his master's wife sought to draw him into sin;

because of his chastity, he refused her, and through her slander was cast into prison.

Finally, he was led forth again with great glory and was honored as a king. Joseph became lord over all Egypt. Through all this, he typifies in himself the betrayal, Passion, death and glorification of our Lord Jesus Christ.

To the commemoration of Patriarch Joseph is added the narration of the fig tree, which on this day was cursed and subsequently dried up because of its unfruitfulness.

The Orthros for Holy Tuesday will be chanted in the afternoon at Orthodox cathedrals and chapels.