

The Deep Meanings of the Date and Palm Tree

Why the dates?

What do they symbolise?

The Church distributes fresh dates (symbolic of the Martyrs) to the congregation and Sunday school children, it is described as follows:

The red colour of the date is a symbol of the blood of the Martyrs, which has been shed for the sake of Christ.

The white flesh on the inside of the date is a symbol of pure heart of the Martyrs, while the hard seed inside is symbolic of the strong faith of the martyrs, which enable them to sacrifice their whole life for Christ.

The ancient Egyptians ate dates and held palm branches in their celebrations. The Church today also uses the date and the palm tree to symbolise the strong faith of the true Christian.

Red Outside = Blood of Martyrdom

White Flesh = Purity of heart

Hard Seed Inside = Steadfastness in faith



The Palm Tree

***TALL, HIGH TREE= High in Spiritual life**

***STRONG & DEEP ROOTED = Strength in Christ our Lord**

***FLEXIBLE & WEATHER TOLERANT = Endurance with fasting and praying**

***SWEET FRUIT = Decency and good**



The Meaning of the Palm Tree and its relationship to the true Christian person

The palm tree is so high, and the true believer is also high in their spiritual life.

Typically, the palm tree is a very strong tree as its roots reach deeply into the ground, and so too, the Christian is very strong, being deeply rooted in Jesus Christ our Lord.

The trunk is always long, and the true Christian is long suffering and patient.

The Palm tree endures hard weather and lack of water, and the true Christian in the Orthodox life is well trained in enduring hard strict rules of Orthodoxy with long fasting, lengthy prayers and services.

The fruit of the Palm tree is always sweet, and the true Christian is always a nice decent person, his/her conduct is constantly sweet with everyone.

The trunk of the palm tree on the outside looks dark, but when you cut it, it is beautifully white on the inside. The same applies to the true Christians, they do not care about adorning themselves on the outside, but the most care is given to the beauty of the spirit inside them.

If we hit the palm tree with a stone, it will give us fruits, which are dates. The true Christians, when insulted, bless those who insult them and forgives them, as Christians are instructed to love their enemies. Furthermore, St. Paul the Apostle asks the true Christian to feed his /her enemy and to provide them with water to quench his/her thirst.

The palm tree branches are very useful in making baskets, sheds and different items, and so is the Christian, as he/she is helpful to others in every possible way.

The trunk of the palm tree is very straight, and so is the true Christian, straight and truthful at all times.