

TIMELINE OF THE CHURCH



Biblical Milestone

Click
here



**264 Photos of mosaic portraits of Bishops of Rome
(St Paul's Outside the Walls, Rome, Italy)**



Apostolic Fathers of the Church (clickable links in the timeline)



Post-Apostolic Fathers of the Church (clickable link in the timeline)



Doctors of the Church (clickable link in the timeline)



List of Early Bishops of Rome/Popes



Earliest History of the Church



Earliest Canon of the Bible



Monasticism



Vulgate translation of the Bible



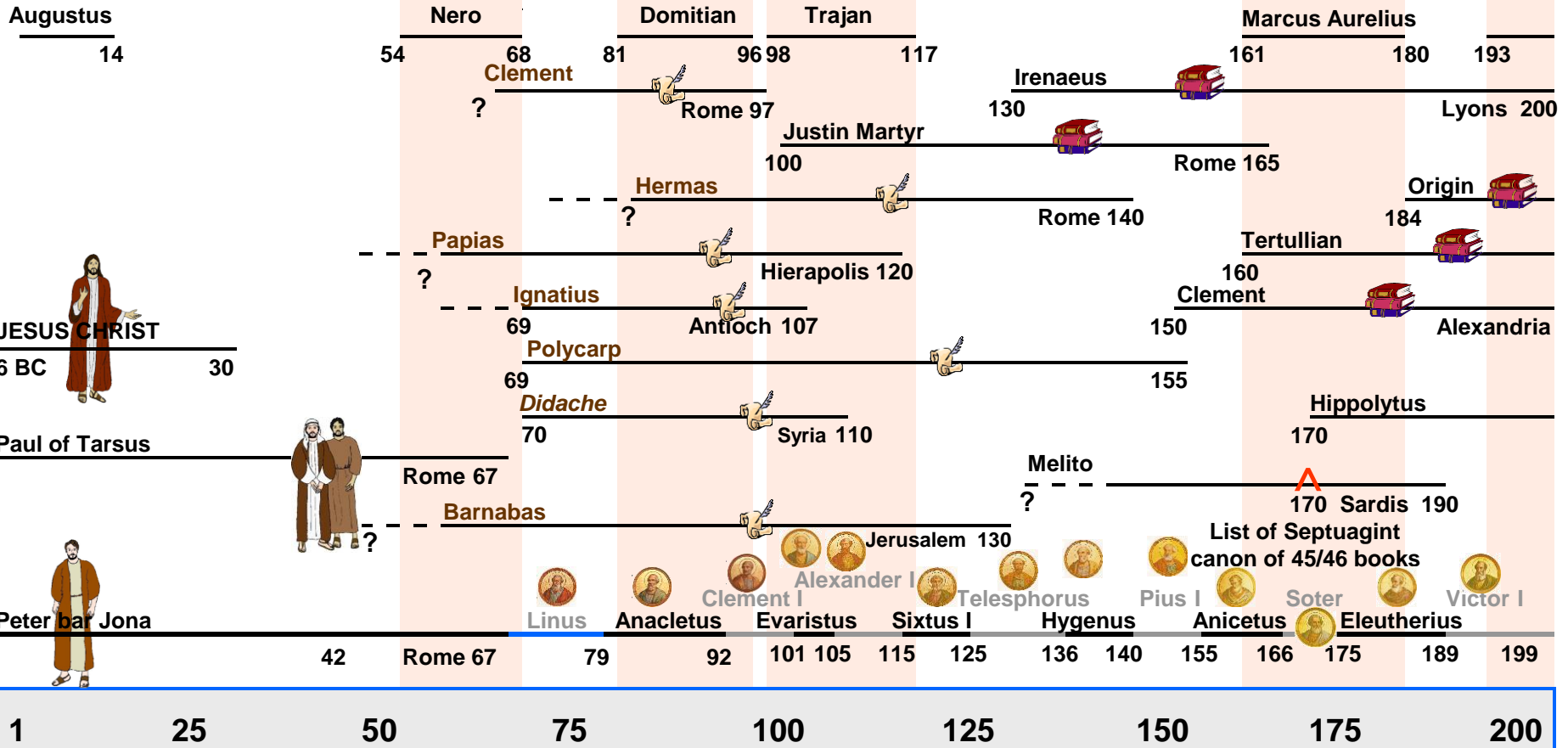
Condemnation of a heresy by a Council

**30 AD
to the
Present**

Robert J. Schihl, Ph.D.

Dedicated to my son, Joel Robert Schihl, 1975-2006.

© 2006 Robert J. Schihl



COUNCIL OF JERUSALEM

+ Destruction of Jerusalem

ASIATIC COUNCIL

Earliest known Council 200+

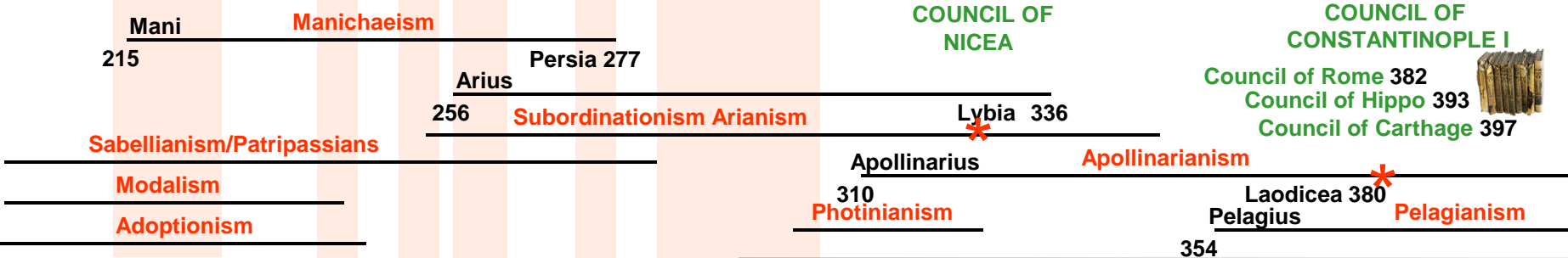
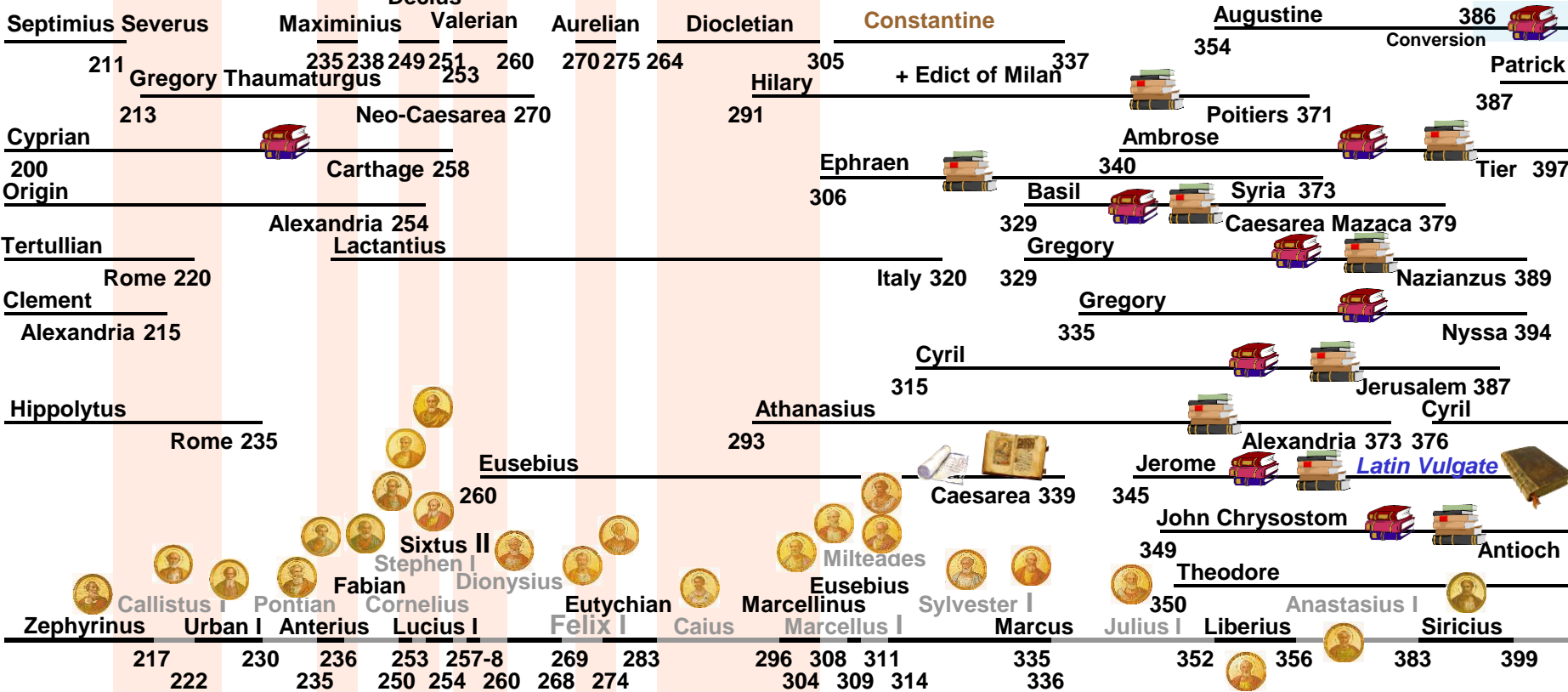


50 + Paul's 1 Thessalonians written

80s + Luke written, 90s + John written, 80s + Matthew written

125 Apostles Creed, + Excommunication of Christians from Jewish Synagogues

▲ Fixed OT canon Fixed NT canon



Vandals accept Arian Christianity

Alexandrian (Septuagint) Canon OT Canon similar to Trent (45/46 books) NT Canon (27 books)

Palestinian Canon OT Canon (39 books)

+ Bishop Vandals in North Africa
Hippo 430

Ireland 493 Benedict Monte Casino 550 Augustine ? Canterbury

Numidia 430 Peter Chrysologus Ravenna 450 Theodora 500 Byzantine Empress 548

Leo the Great 400 Alexandria 254 Rome 461 Gregory the Great 440 Rome

Stridon 419 Anastasius I 407 Zosimus 418 Boniface I 422 Celestine 432 Sixtus III 440 Hilarius 461 Simplicius 468 Felix III 483 Anastasius II 492 Gelasius I 498 Hormisdas 514 John I 523 John II 530 Boniface II 535 PeLAGIUS I 555 Benedict I 574 Gregory I 604

Vandals overrun Gaul Attila the Hun attacks Italy + besieges Paris + disappears

Vandals sack Rome

401 Innocent I 417 418 422 432 440 461 468 483 492 498 514 523 530 535 555 561 574 579 590 604

400 425 450 475 500 525 550 575 600

+ Visigoth Sack of Rome Nestorius ? Plagianism Britain 418 Eutyhianism

COUNCIL OF EPHESUS 431 + Hippo Besieged Nestorianism 431 COUNCIL OF CHALCEDON 451 Monophysitism 451

+ End of the Western Roman Empire COUNCIL OF CONSTANTINOPLE II 553 Bubonic plague

Vandals defeated + Mohammed 570

Alexandrian (Septuagint) Canon OT Canon similar to Trent (39 books) NT Canon (27 books)

Palestinian Canon OT Canon (34 books)

+ Translation of parts of the Bible into English (Caedmon, Aldhein)

+ Conversion of England

609

+ 597-604

First Archbishop of Canterbury

Vikings invade Ireland

Charlemagne

Bede the Venerable

742

774 Donation of Territory to Pope

673

England 735

John Damascene



Damascus 749

Restores Image Worship

794

Condemns Image Worship

Seville 636

?

604



604 606 607 608 615 618 625 628 638 642 649 655 657 672 676 678 681 682-3 686 705 708-15 710 731 741 751 757 767 772 795

600 625 650 675 700 725 750 775 800

+ Lateran Synod Condemns Monothelitism

Monothelitism

COUNCIL OF CONSTANTINOPLE III

Iconoclasm

COUNCIL OF NICEA II

+ First use of episcopal rings

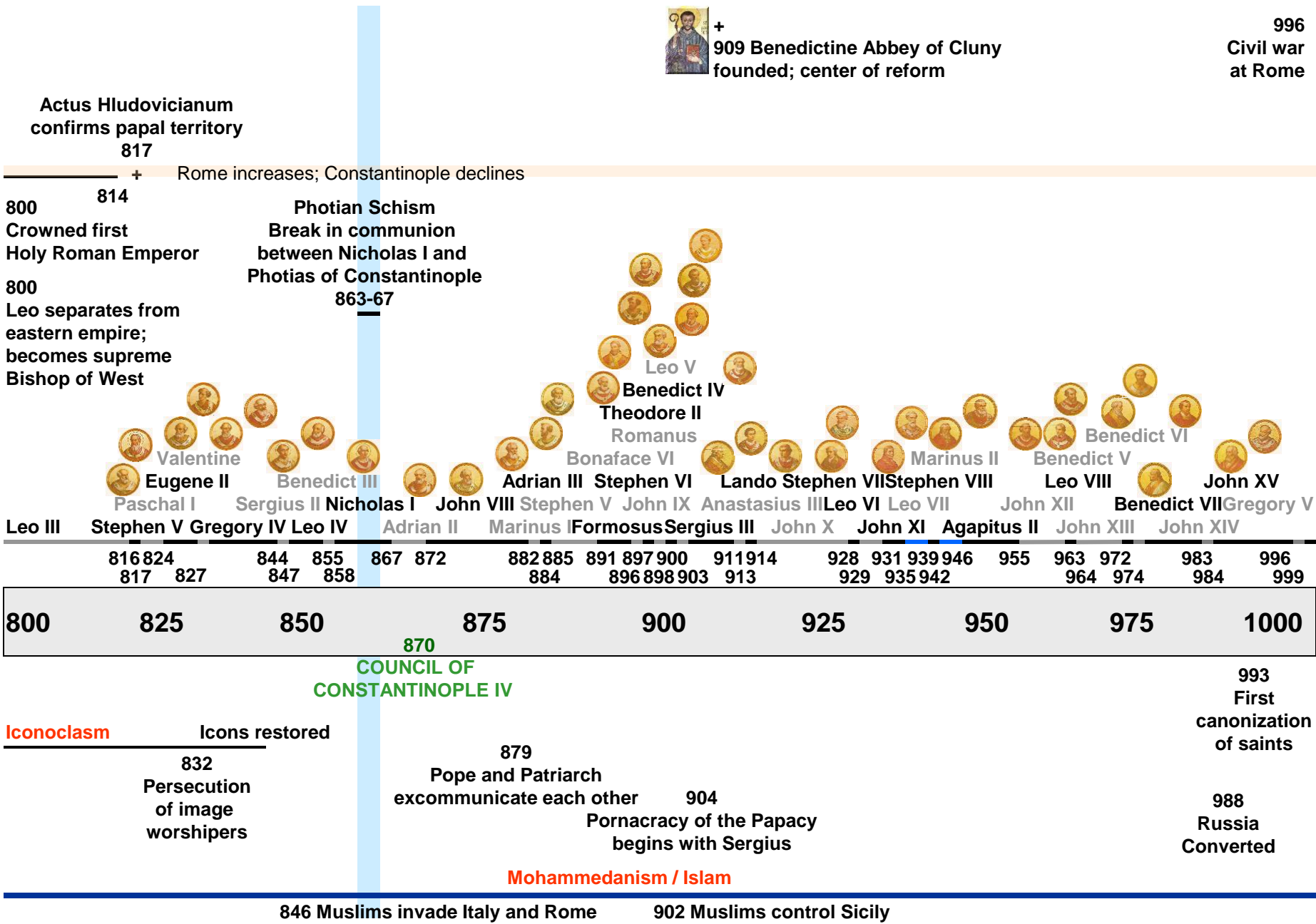
726

Mohammedanism / Islam

d. 610 632

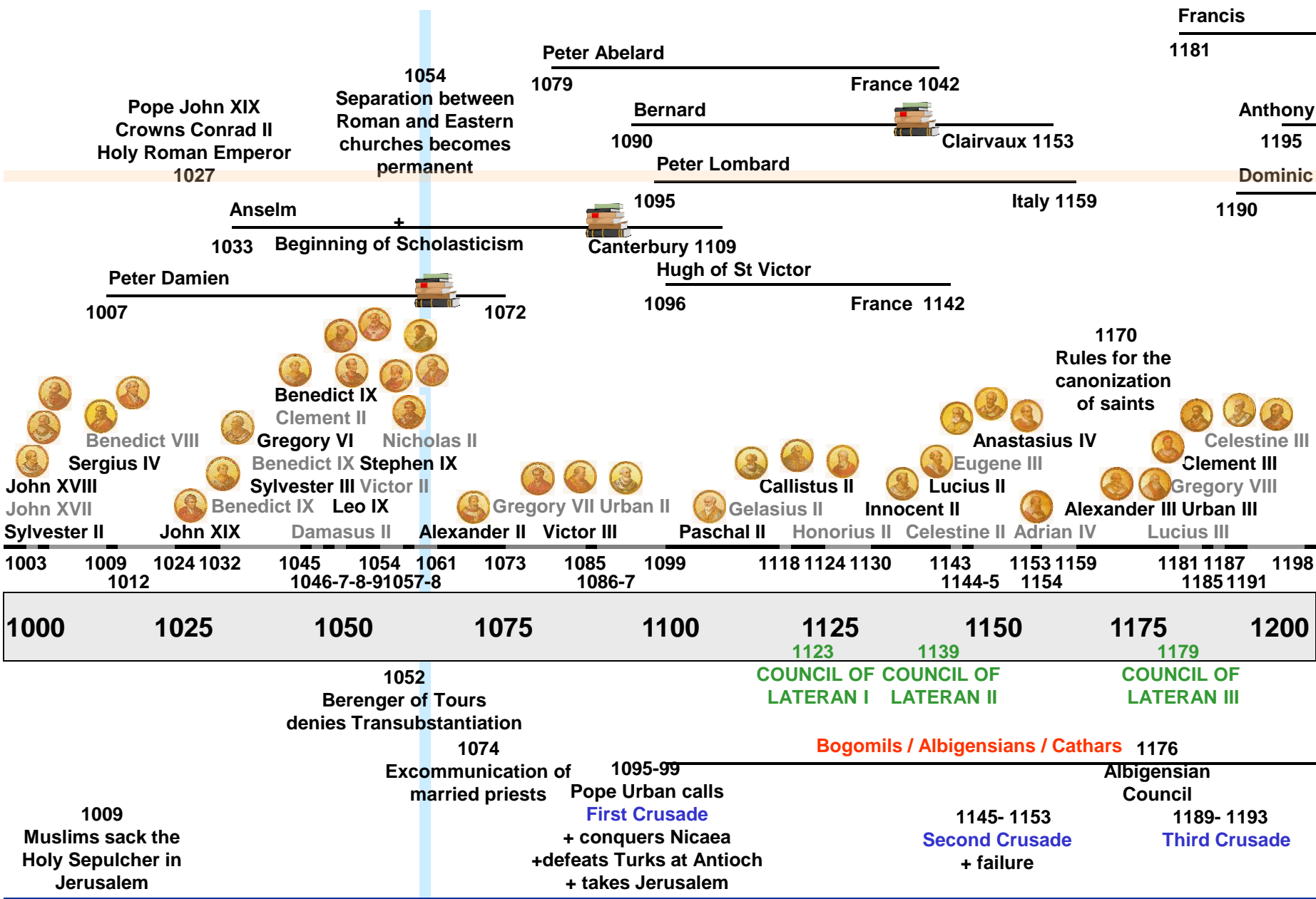
Alexandrian (Septuagint) Canon OT Canon similar to Trent (39 books) NT Canon (27 books)

Palestinian Canon OT Canon (34 books)



Alexandrian (Septuagint) Canon OT Canon similar to Trent (39 books) NT Canon (27 books)

Palestinian Canon OT Canon (34 books)



Alexandrian (Septuagint) Canon 1456 OT Canon similar to Trent (39 books) NT Canon (27 books)

Palestinian Canon OT Canon (34 books) Luther opts for Palestinian OT canon

Tyndale Bible 1525-31 + + Cloverdale Bible 1535 + 1582- Francis De Sales

Erasmus 1465 Thomas Moore 1567 Lawrence

Johann Gutenberg 1468 John Fisher 1478 England 1535 Robert Bellarmine 1559

1416 Thomas a' Kempis 1460 England 1536 1542 Peter Canisius 1597

Bernadine of Sienna 1471 1521 Theresa 1597

John Capistrano 1444 1465 Johann Tetzel 1515 John of the Cross Avila 1582

1456 1465 Germany 1519 Philip Neri 1542 Spain 1591

Ignatius Loyola 1515 Galileo Galilei 1595

Joan of Arc 1412 France 1431 Jesuits begin + Spain 1556 1564 Johann Kepler

1415 1415 Henry VIII Germany 1545 1571 Innocent IX Gregory XIV

Gregory XII 1415 Nicholas V Pius II 1491 Martin Luther 1483 Henry VIII Germany 1545 1571 Innocent IX Gregory XIV

Innocent VII 1404 1415 1417 1431 1447 1455 1464 1471 1484 1491 1503 1513 1521 1522-3 1534 1549 1550 1555 1559 1565 1572 1585 1592 1590-1

1400 1414 1425 1238 1450 1475 1500 1512 1525 1545 1550 1575 1600

COUNCIL OF CONSTANCE COUNCIL OF FLORENCE RENAISSANCE COUNCIL OF LATERAN V COUNCIL OF TRENT

Alexander V 1417 John XXIII Benedict XIII Conciliarism Pavia-Siena 1423

Papacy over Conciliarism Basel 1431-1449 Christopher Columbus 1451

1517 Luther breaks from Rome 1520 Calvin Reformed breaks from Lutheran 1534 Anglican Church breaks from Rome 1525 Anabaptists break from Reformed 1560 Presbyterian Church

John Calvin 1509-64 + John Knox 1513-72 Huldreich Zwingli 1484-1531

1505 1550

Alexandrian (Septuagint) Canon	OT Canon similar to Trent (39 books)	NT Canon (27 books)
Palestinian Canon	OT Canon (34 books)	NT Canon (27 books)
Palestinian Canon)	OT Canon (34 books)	

+ 1582-1609 Douay-Rheims Bible
 + 1611 King James Bible

Challoner Revision 1749-63 +

Italy 1622

Brindisi 1619

Capua 1621

Alphonsus Liguori

Naples 1797

Thirty Years' War

1618 1648

Italy 1642

Germany 1630

The French Revolution +

Timeline of Popes:

- 1605: Leo XI
- 1621: Paul V
- 1623: Gregory XV
- 1644: Urban VIII
- 1644: Innocent X
- 1655: Alexander VII
- 1667: Clement IX
- 1669: Clement X
- 1689: Alexander VIII
- 1691: Innocent XI
- 1700: Innocent XII
- 1721: Clement XI
- 1724: Benedict XIII
- 1730: Clement XII
- 1740: Benedict XIV
- 1758: Clement XIII
- 1769: Clement XIV
- 1774: Pius VI
- 1799: Pius VI
- 1800: Pius VI

1600 1625 1650 1675 1700 1725 1750 1775 1800

1612 Baptist Church breaks from Anglican Church	+ John Wesley 1703-1791	1787 Methodism
Lutheranism	+ Charles Wesley 1707-1788	
Calvin Reformed		
Presbyterianism		
Anglicanism	Episcopal Church 1785	
Anabaptists		

Alexandrian (Septuagint) Canon	OT Canon similar to Trent (39 books)	NT Canon (27 books)
Palestinian Canon	OT Canon (34 books)	NT Canon (27 books)
Palestinian Canon	OT Canon (34 books)	

Knox Bible 1944-50+ + 1966 Jerusalem Bible
 New American Bible 1970 +
 New International Version 1973 +
 + 1948 Dead Sea scrolls discovered

Oxford Movement

John Henry Cardinal Newman

1801 + 1806 End of the Holy Roman Empire (since 800)

England 1890
 Theresa Lisieux 1873

+ Concordat of 1801 Napoleon reconciles with Pius II

1767-69 Tiepolo
 1854 Defined *ex cathedra* Immaculate Conception of Mary

1670 Murillo
 1950 Defined *ex cathedra* the Assumption of Mary

1910 Mother Theresa
 + 1907 *Lamentabili Sane* Condemnation of Modernism

India 1997
 Charismatic Movement
 + Notre Dame University

Pius VII 1805
 Leo XII 1823
 Pius VIII 1830
 Gregory XVI 1829
 Pius IX 1846
 Leo XIII 1878
 Pius X 1903
 Benedict XV 1914
 Pius XI 1922
 Pius XII 1939
 John XXIII 1958
 Paul VI 1963
 John Paul I 1978
 John Paul II

1800	1825	1850	1875	1900	1925	1950	1975	2000
			1870			1962		

Baptists	COUNCIL OF VATICAN I	COUNCIL OF VATICAN II
Lutheranism		+ 1914 Assemblies of God
Calvin Reformed		+ 1911 Pentecostal Holiness / Vineyard Churches + 1974
Presbyterianism		+ 1906 Azusa Street Revivals + 1957 United Church of Christ
Anglicanism	+ 1855 Revivalism begins	Willow Creek Association 1992 +
Anabaptists	+ 1863 Seventh-Day Adventists + 1909-1912 <i>The Fundamentals</i> published	

Alexandrian (Septuagint) Canon	OT Canon similar to Trent (39 books)	NT Canon (27 books)
Palestinian Canon	OT Canon (34 books)	NT Canon (27 books)
Palestinian Canon	OT Canon (34 books)	



Benedict XVI

2005

2000	2025	2050	2075	2100	2125	2150	2175	2200
-------------	-------------	-------------	-------------	-------------	-------------	-------------	-------------	-------------

33,000+ Denominations worldwide

Lutheranism

Calvin Reformed

Presbyterianism

Anglicanism

Anabaptists



Jerusalem (Acts 15:2)

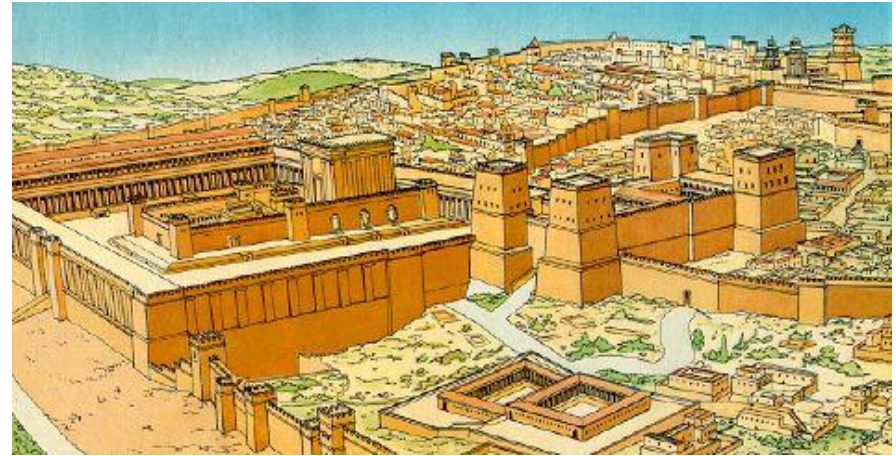
When and where

Jerusalem, Palestine, 49 AD.

Crisis or controversy

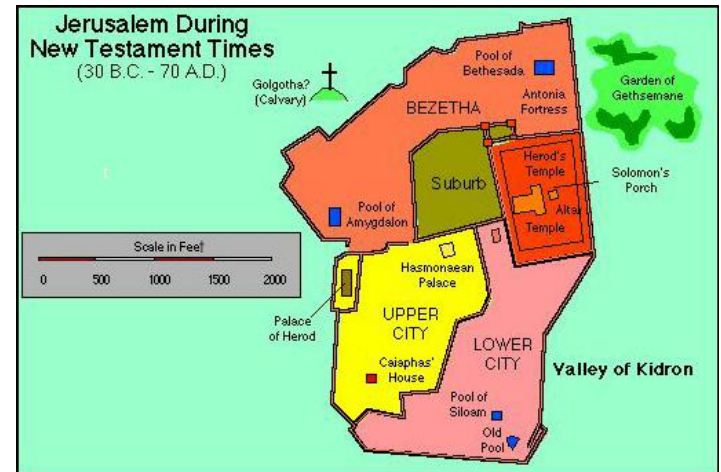
Gentile converts must follow Mosaic Law;

"Unless you are circumcised according to the Mosaic practice, you cannot be saved." Acts 15:1



Attendees

"Apostles and presbyters" Acts 15:6, and the following notables: Paul and Barnabas, Peter, James (Acts 15:6-22)



Decrees and resolutions

"It is the decision of the Holy Spirit and of us not to place on you any burden beyond these necessities." Acts 15:28



Nicea I

When and where

325 AD in Nicea (Now Iznik, Turkey, 70 miles from Constantinople on the Asiatic shore of the Bosphorus)

Crisis or controversy

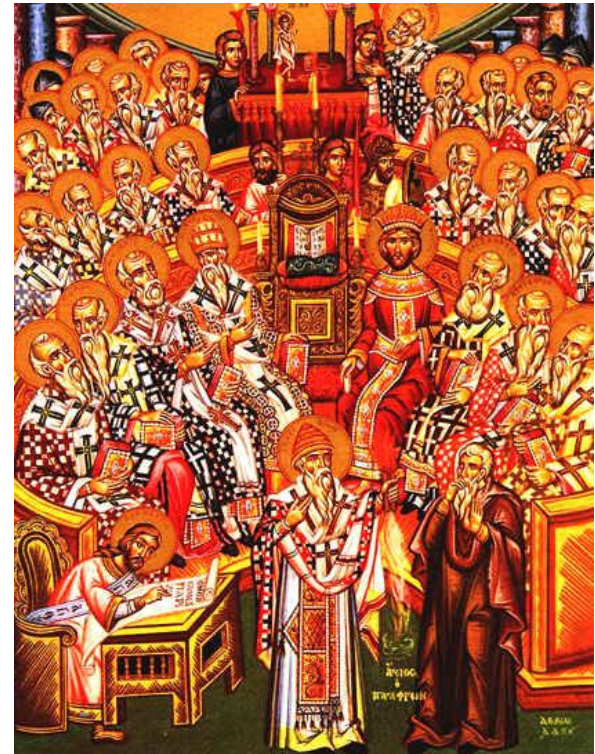
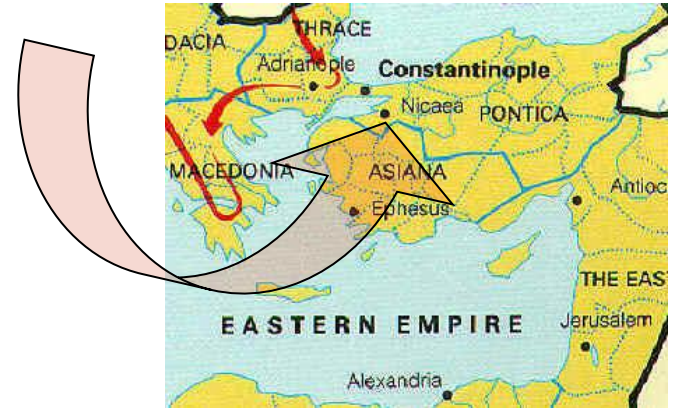
Christ was a pure creature; made out of nothing; liable to fall; the Son of God by adoption, not God by nature: Arianism

Attendees

318 bishops;
Convened: Constantine I, Emperor;
Eusebius of Caesarea, historian;
St. Athanasius, theologian;
Ratified: Silvester I, Pope.

Decrees and resolutions

The Nicene Creed;
The Consubstantiality of the Word: *homousion* with the Father;
Solved how the date of Easter should be calculated.



Constantinople I

When and where

381 AD in Constantinople (now Istanbul, Turkey)

Crisis or controversy

The need to insist on *homousion*;

Demonstrate to the world that Christians of the East are not Arians;

Apollinaris was teaching that Christ was not true man.

Attendees

186 bishops;

Convened: Theodosius I, Emperor;

St. Basil the Great;

St. Gregory of Nyssa;

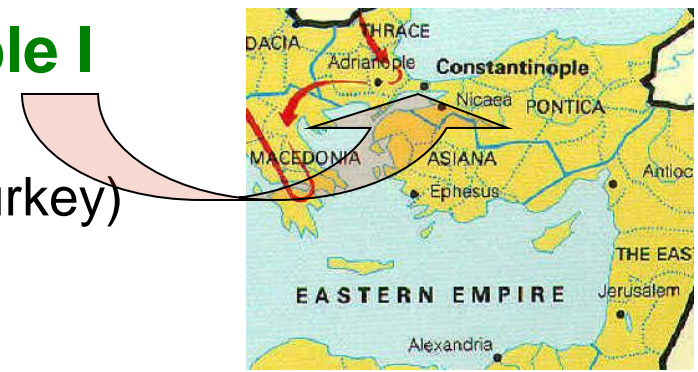
St. Gregory of Nazianzanus, theologians;

Ratified: Damasus, Pope

Decrees and resolutions

Renewed the work of Nicaea;

Condemned the heresy of the Macedonians (the Holy Spirit was not really God); Condemned the heresy of Apollinaris (that Christ was not really a man).



The 4th century CE Church of Hagia Eirene ("Divine Peace") in Istanbul. The site of the Ecumenical Council of Constantinople of 381AD.



Ephesus

When and where

431 AD in Ephesus

Crisis or controversy

Nestorius was teaching that Mary was not the mother of God;

Proponents of Nestorius began claiming that Christ was actually two separate persons, human and divine.

Attendees

250 bishops;

Convened: Theodosius II, Emperor;

St. Cyril of Alexandria;

St. John Chrysostom;

Ratified: Celestinus I, Pope.

Decrees and resolutions

Condemned Nestorius;

Decreed that Mary was also *Theotokos*, mother of God;

Declared that Christ is true God and true man, that he has two natures (human and divine) joined in one person.



Basilica of St. John at Ephesus



Chalcedon

When and where

451 AD in Calcedon (ancient seaport of Bithynia on the sea of Marmara)

Crisis or controversy

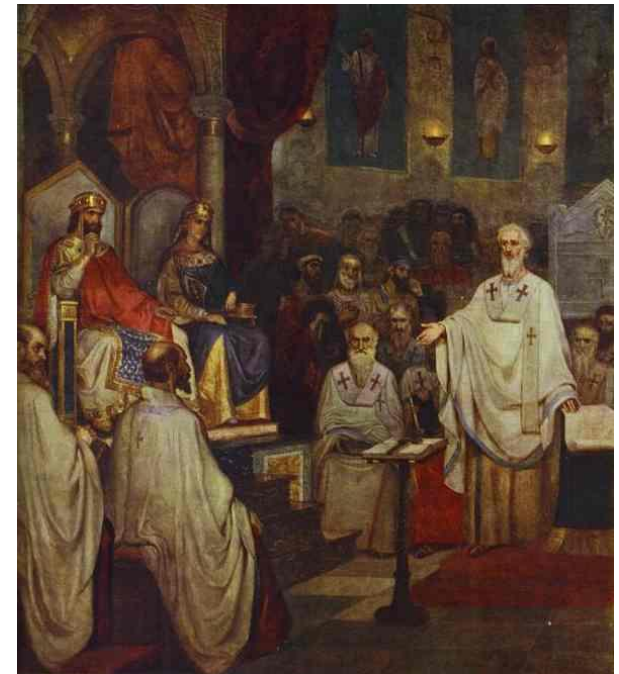
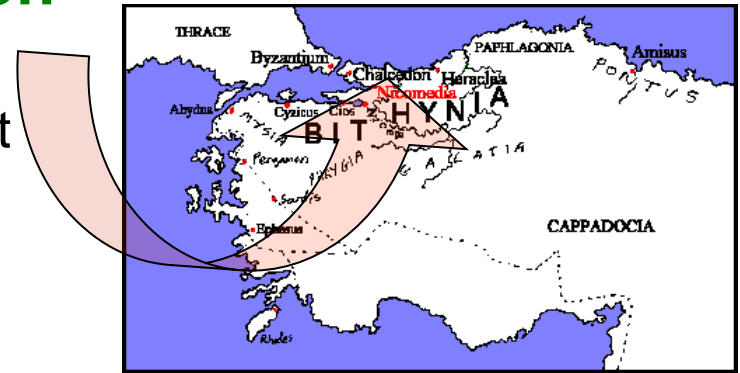
Monophysites were teaching that Christ had a single divine nature and no human nature.

Attendees

600 bishops;
Convened: Marcianus, Emperor;
Ratified: Leo I, Pope.

Decrees and resolutions

Condemned Monophysitism;
Declared that Christ had two distinct natures and was both true God and true man;
Promulgated canons of church discipline.



The ecumenical council, at Chalcedon, taught Jesus is true God and true man (Painting by Vasili Ivanovich Surikov)



Constantinople II

When and where

553 AD in Constantinople

Crisis or controversy

Emperor Justinian I wanted the Church to consider the orthodoxy of three Greek theologians: Theodore of Mopsuestia, Theodoret of Cyrrhus, and Ebas of Edessa.

Attendees

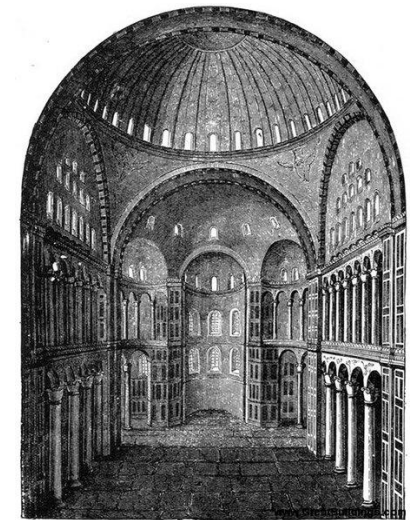
150 bishops,
Convened:
Justinian I, Emperor;

Decrees and resolutions

Condemned the writings of theologians as having been infested with Nestorianism.



Basilica of Hagia Sophia, site of the Council



Constantinople III

When and where

680 AD in Constantinople

Crisis or controversy

Monothelism was teaching that Christ did not possess a human will.

Attendees

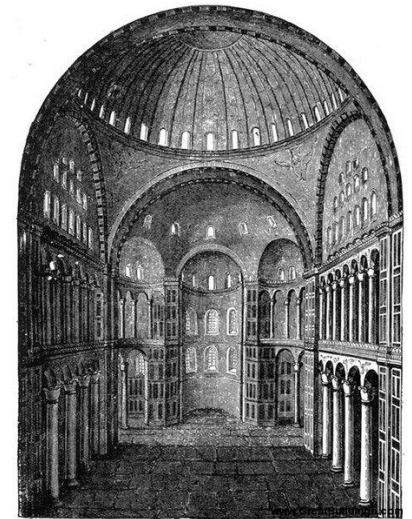
174 bishops;
Convened: Emperor
Constantine IV;
Ratified: Leo II, Pope.

Decrees and resolutions

Condemned Monothelism;
Declared that Christ has two wills, human and divine.



Basilica of Hagia Sophia, site of the Council



Nicaea II

When and where

787 AD in Nicea

Crisis or controversy

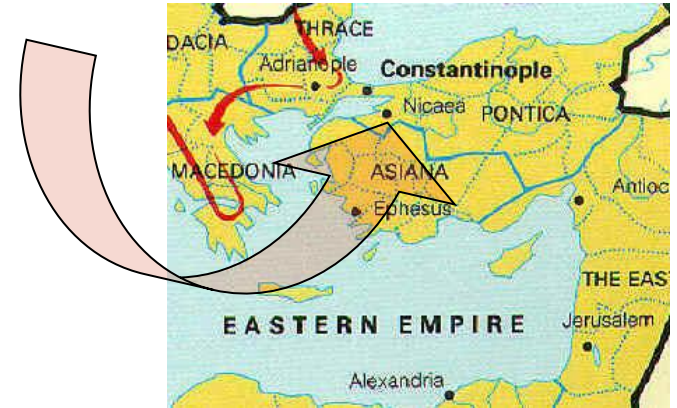
Iconoclasts taught that using sacred images was idolatry.

Attendees

390 bishops;
Convened: Irene, Empress;
Ratified: Adrian I, Pope.

Decrees and resolutions

Condemned Iconoclasts;
Declared that sacred images may be honored without idolatry.
Promulgated canons of church discipline.



Ancient Church in Nicaea



Constantinople IV

When and where

870 AD in Constantinople

Crisis or controversy

Needed to decide the right of Patriarch Photius or the restoration of Ignatius.

Attendees

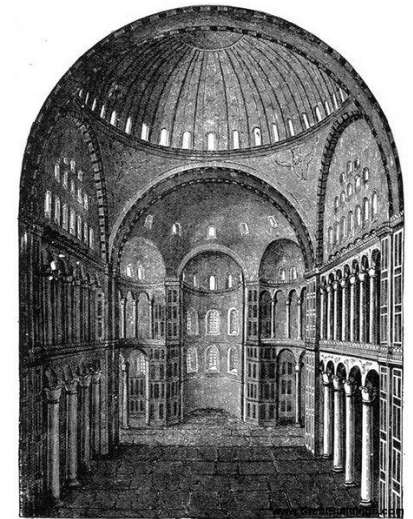
102 bishops;
Convened: Basil, Emperor;
Ratified: Adrian II, Pope.

Decrees and resolutions

Photius was condemned
in 27 canons.



Basilica of Hagia Sophia, site of the Council



Lateran I

When and where

1123 AD (Lateran Basilica in Rome, Italy)

Crisis or controversy

Needed to face the social and religious problems of the day;
First ecumenical council in the West.

Attendees

300 bishops;
Convened: Callistus II, Pope;
Ratified: Callistus

Decrees and resolutions

Promulgated canons of mixed matters.



Lateran II

When and where

1139 AD at the Lateran Basilica

Crisis or controversy

A double papal election and ensuing schism when two rivals claiming to be pope divided the church.



Attendees

1000 bishops;
Convened: Innocent II, Pope;
St. Bernard of Clairvaux
Ratified: Innocent II.



Decrees and resolutions

Took measures against schism of
antipope Anacletis II;
Promulgated canons of church discipline



Lateran III

When and where

1179 AD in the Lateran Basilica

Crisis or controversy

Reorganization had to be faced;
there was the ever-needed
pressure to reform; restraint
of abuses.

Attendees

More than 300 bishops;
Convened: Alexander III, Pope;
Ratified: Alexander III, Pope.

Decrees and resolutions

Decreed that papal elections required
two-thirds majority of cardinals at
the conclave;
Promulgated numerous disciplinary canons.



Lateran IV

When and where

1215 AD in the Lateran Basilica

Crisis or controversy

Albigensian heresy: two supreme beings, Evil and Good;
Christ did not die; all material things must.

Attendees

412 bishops; 388 priests;
Convened: Innocent III, Pope;
Ratified: Innocent III, Pope.

Decrees and resolutions

Declaration of Canon Law: the law of the Church;
Decrees against Albigensians and Waldensians.



Lyons I

When and where

1245 AD in Lyon (city in E. France)

Crisis or controversy

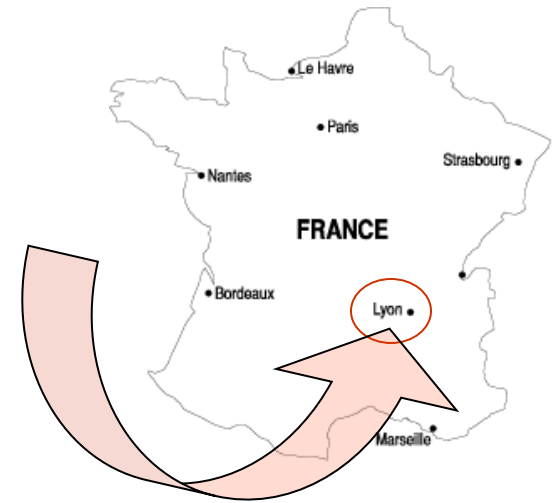
The difficult and heretical behavior of Emperor Frederick II;
The persecution of religion.

Attendees

140 bishops; more than 300 priests;
Convened: Innocent IV, Pope;
Ratified: Innocent IV, Pope.

Decrees and resolutions

Excommunication and deposition of Frederick II.



Cathedral where the Council of Lyons I was held.



Lyons II

When and where

1274 AD in Lyons, France

Crisis or controversy

A marked decline of the detachment of the popes from the things of the world;
Chronic restiveness of the Greeks toward Roman primacy.

Attendees

500 bishops; 570 priests;
Convened: Gregory X, Pope;
St. Thomas Aquinas,
St. Bonaventure;
Ratified: Gregory X, Pope.

Decrees and resolutions

General reformation of the morals of clergy and bishops;
Dogmatic constitution of *filioque*;
Profession of faith of Greek Emperor Michael VIII.



St Bonaventure at the Council of Lyons



Vienne

When and where

1312 AD in Vienne
(city in E. France near Lyons)

Crisis or controversy

Problems with the religious order
of Knights Templars.

Attendees

122 bishops; 300 abbots;
Convened: Clemens V, Pope;
Ratified: Clemens V, Pope.

Decrees and resolutions

Templars were suppressed;
Canon Law enacted;
Three definition of dogmas;
Disciplinary decrees written.



Constance

When and where

1414 – 1418 AD in Constance (city in Germany on Swiss border)

Crisis or controversy

The Great Western Schism:
two sets of popes.

Attendees

32 Cardinals; 183 bishops; 100 abbots;
350 priests;
Convened: Segismund, Emperor;
Ratified: Martin V, Pope.

Decrees and resolutions

Reformation of the Church;
Material organization of religion.



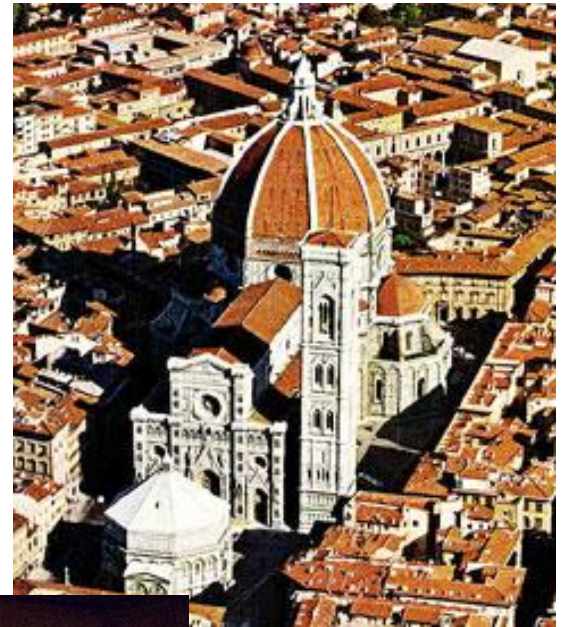
Florence

When and where

1438 AD in Florence
(city of northern Italy)

Crisis or controversy

East/West reunion;
Constantinople was being
threatened by Mohammedans.



Attendees

More than 150 bishops;
Convened: Eugene IV, Pope;
Ratified: Eugene IV, Pope.

Decrees and resolutions

Reunion of oriental churches.



Lateran V

When and where

1512 – 1517 AD in the Lateran Basilica

Crisis or controversy

Needed reform in church administration;
Rise of atheistic philosophy;
Friction between bishops and orders
of friars.

Attendees

115 bishops;
Convened: Julius II, Pope;
Cajetan;
Ratified: Leo X, Pope.

Decrees and resolutions

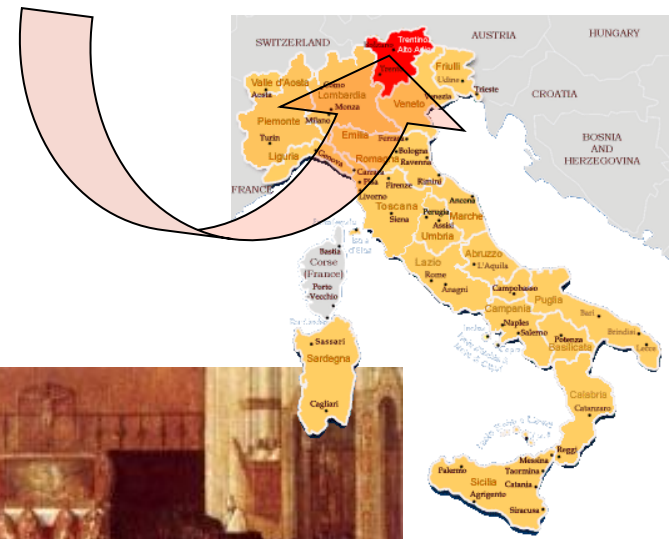
Condemned the Averroes philosophy: the soul of man is
not immortal;
Promulgated reform decrees;
Established principles of book censorship;
Rights of bishops defined.



Trent

When and where

1545 – 1563 AD in Trent
(in Hapsburg's Germany; now N. Italy)



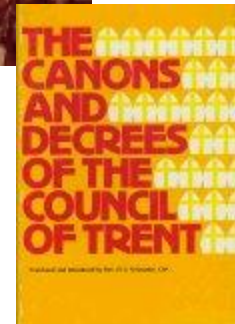
Crisis or controversy

Martin Luther;
Revolt against the Pope;
Widespread heresy.



Attendees

70 - 252 bishops;
Convened: Paul III, Pope;
Ratified: Pius IV, Pope.



Decrees and resolutions

Doctrinal decrees: restatement of belief in opposition to the new theologies;
The Catholic Reformation: the reformation of Catholic life.



Vatican I

When and where

1870 AD in St. Peter's Basilica,
Vatican City

Crisis or controversy

A return to life of the Catholic Church:
needed a revival of religious life
General restoration and restatement
of the faith was needed;
Christian marriages and education
needed safeguarding.

Attendees

747 bishops;
Convened & Ratified : Pius IX, Pope

Decrees and resolutions

Promulgated decrees on the Catholic
Faith and on the Church;
Condemned the Rationalists and
Semirationalists;
Defined the charism of infallibility.



Façade, St. Peter' Basilica

Vatican II

When and where

1962 – 1965 AD in St. Peter's Basilica

Crisis or controversy

Constant need for reform and revival;
Needed translation of faith into modern era:
communication media;
Christians and Jews; religious freedom, etc.

Attendees

2908 bishops;
Convened: John XXIII, Pope;
Ratified: Paul VI, Pope.

Decrees and resolutions

Issued 16 documents:
On Divine Revelation;
The Pastoral Constitution;
On The Church in the Modern World;
On The Church, etc.



Blessed John XXIII; opening session



2908 Bishops in plenary session



Ignatius of Antioch, St.

Personal

Martyr for the faith

Disciple of John the Evangelist

Condemned to die by wild beasts in Rome

Brought from Antioch to Rome and wrote seven letters to churches and individuals along the way

Place and dates

Antioch; d. 110

Writings

Letter to Ephesians; Letter to Magnesians;

Letter to Tralles; Letter to Philadelphians;

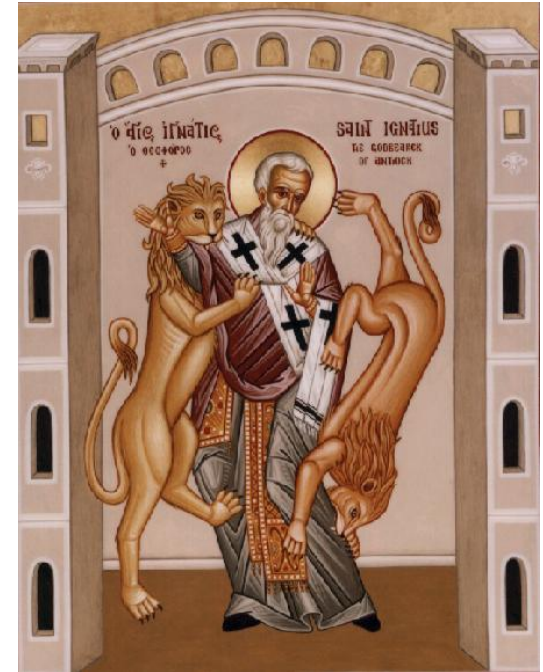
Letter to Smyrnans; Letter to Polycarp

of Smryna; Letter to Romans

These contain warnings against heretical doctrines; contain detailed summaries of doctrines; and a picture of Church organization with bishops, presbyters (elders) and deacons;

First to stress Virgin Birth and to use the term "catholic church"

To the Ephesians



Clement I, St. (Clement of Rome)

Personal

4th Bishop of Rome

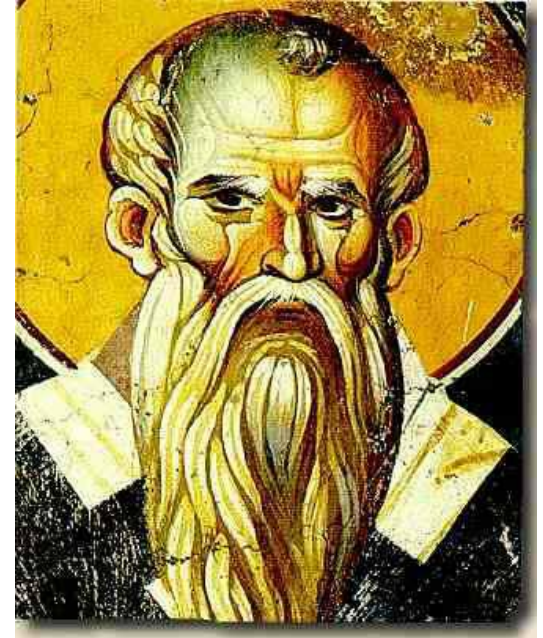
Place and dates

Rome

r. 92 - 101

Writings

I Clement or *Letter to the Corinthians* (c. 96):
earliest piece of literature outside the NT
historically attested;
addressed disputes in the Church at Corinth;
II Clement (a sermon)(c. 140): Clementine
authorship disputed



First Clement



Polycarp of Symrna, St.

Personal

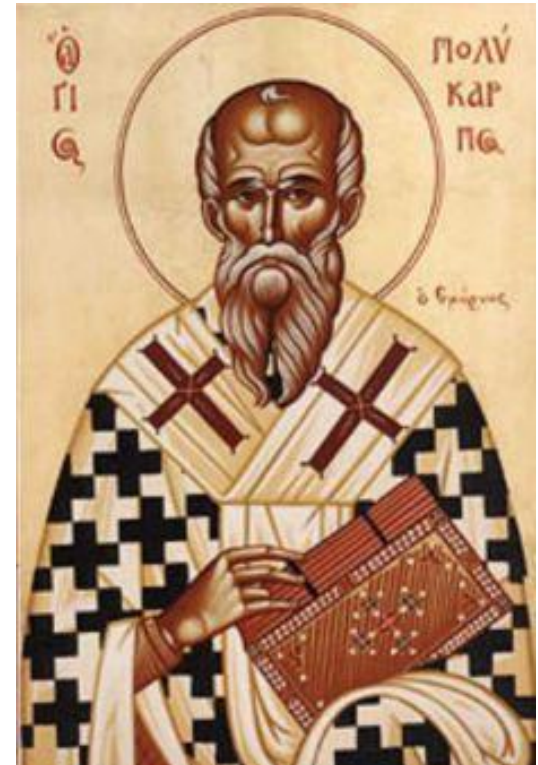
Received a visit and letter from Ignatius
Represented the Church of Asia Minor in
meetings with Pope Anicetus
Dating of Easter
A teacher of Irenaeus
Knew John the Evangelist and other apostles
Was a disciple of John the Evangelist

Place and dates

Symrna
69-155

Writings

Polycarp to the Philippians
Martyrdom of Polycarp (about him)



Polycarp to the Philippians



Unknown Author of the *Didache*

Personal

Unknown

Place and dates

Syria

70-110?

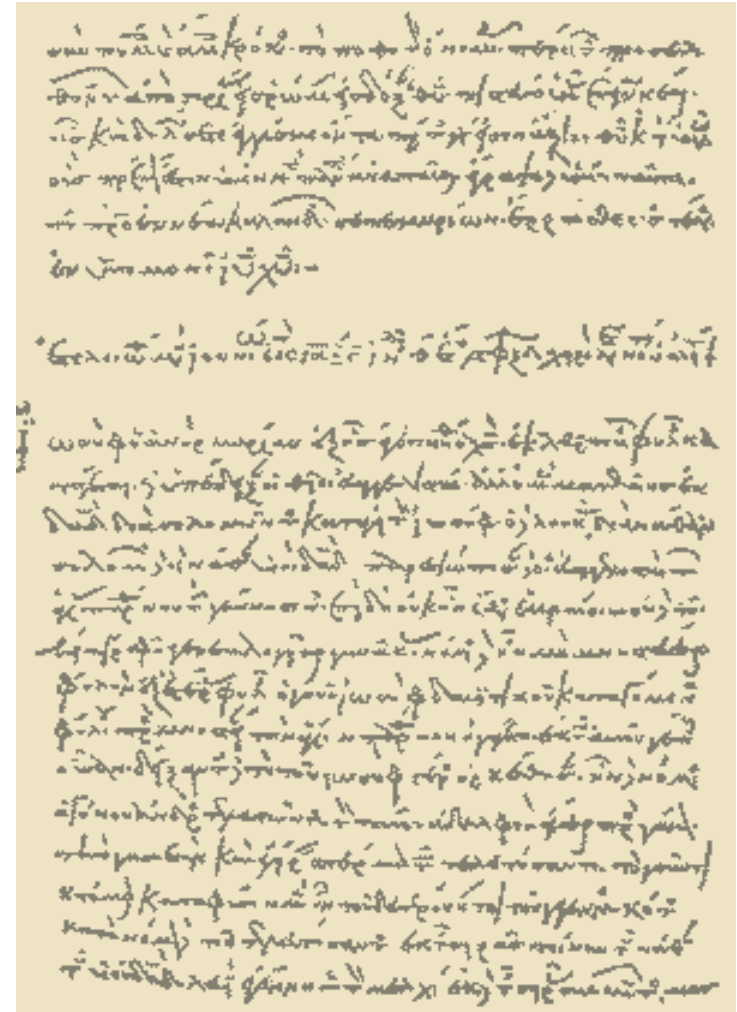
Writings

Didache ("Teaching"):

A compendium of moral precepts, instructions on organization of church communities, liturgical worship and regulation.

It contains oldest Eucharistic prayer, directions on Baptism, fasting, prayer, treatment of bishops, deacons, prophets .

The Didache



Barnabas

Personal

Surname of Joseph, a member of the early Christian Church in Jerusalem (Acts 4:36)

Companion of Paul

Did missionary work with Mark (Acts 15:39)

Place and dates

Jerusalem?

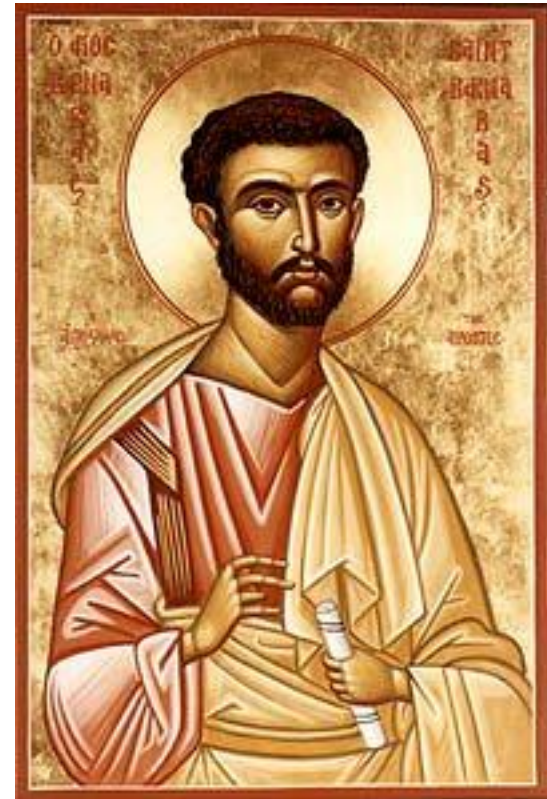
c. 130

Writings

Epistle of Barnabas

Allegorical interpretation of the
Old Testament

The Epistle of Barnabas



Papias of Hierapolis

Personal

Contemporary of Polycarp

Knew of a collection of the "sayings of the Lord" to have been written in Aramaic or Hebrew by Matthew

Place and dates

Phrygia

120?

Writings

Five Books of Exegeses of the Dominical Oracles:

Quoted by Irenaeus

Witness to the existence of Jewish Christianity

Papias



Hermas

Personal

Little known

Place and dates

Rome

140?

Writings

Mandates

Similitudes

The Shepherd: a vivid description of
early Christianity



The Shepherd of Hermas



Justin (Martyr), St.

Personal

Philosopher, theologian, early apologist, martyr

Convert to Christianity

Place and dates

Rome

100-165

Writings

Apologies for the Christians: erudite of Christians against charges of atheism and sedition;

Dialogue with Trypho the Jew: a record of an actual discussion at Ephesus; valuable information about 2nd century Christian Church .

First Apology

Second Apology

Dialogue with Trypho



Irenaeus, St.

Personal

Heard the preaching of Polycarp the disciple of
John the Evangelist
Appointed the bishop of Lyon (177)

Place and dates

Asia Minor
140?-202?

Writings

Against the Heresies: written against the
Gnostics; contributed to the knowledge
of Gnosticism

Against Heresies / Adversus Haereses, Book 1



Clement of Alexandria

Personal

Greek theologian
Converted from paganism
Ordained a presbyter
A teacher of Origen

Place and dates

Athens
150?-215?

Writings

Hortatory Address to the Greeks: a defense of the faith

The Tutor: instruction in manners and morals

The Miscellanies: a discussion of various points of doctrinal theology designed to guide the mature Christian to perfect knowledge .



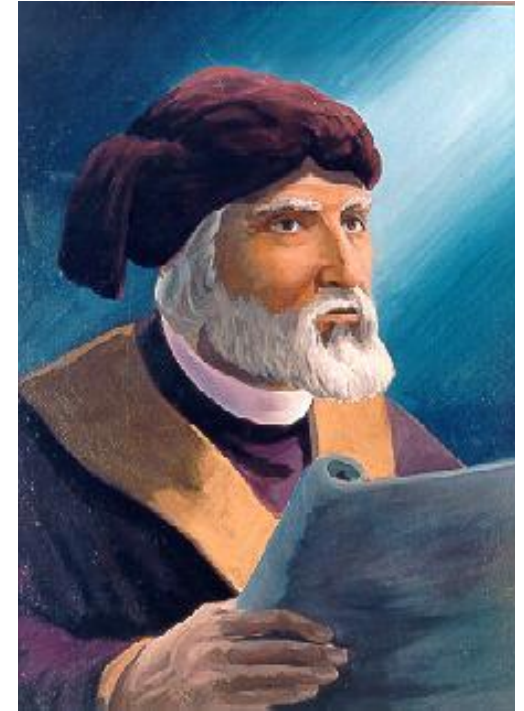
Tertullian

Personal

Converted to Christianity between 190 and 195
Became a presbyter of the Church (197)
Zealous champion of Christianity
Profoundly influences later Church fathers
Embraced and became a leader of
the Montanists (207?) a sect later declared
heretical

Place and dates

Rome
160?-220?



Writings

Apologeticus (c. 197): his most famous work; a defense of
Christians against pagan charges
On the Claims of Heretics: argues that the Church alone has
the authority to declare what is and is not orthodox Christianity
On Baptism
On Prayer: throws light on contemporary religious practices



Origen

Personal

A student of Clement
Ordained a presbyter
The most accomplished biblical scholar
of the early Church
Father of the allegorical method of
scripture interpretation
He developed the idea of Christ as
Logos or Incarnate Word



Place and dates

Alexandria
185?-254?

Writings

Against Celsus: closely reasoned apologetic work refuting the arguments advanced by the Celsus, the first serious critic of Christianity



Cyprian, St.

Personal

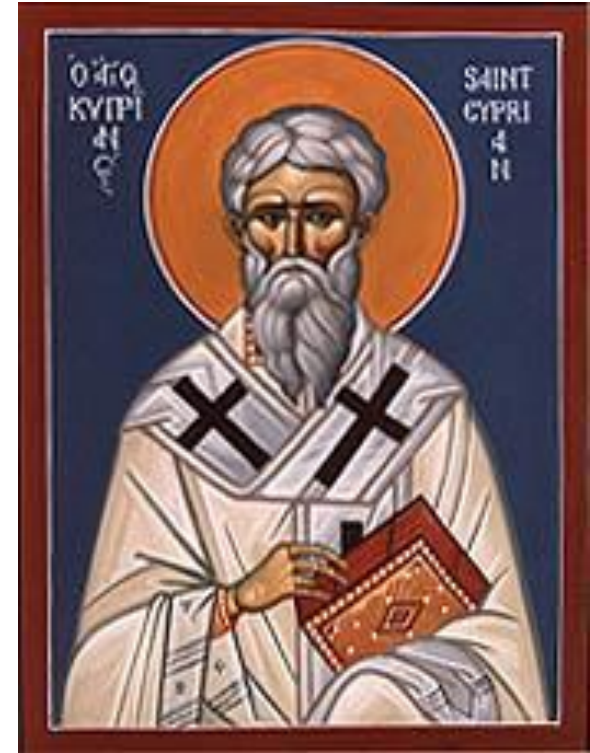
Convert to Christianity c. 245

Bishop of Carthage, 248

One of the most authoritative Fathers
of the Church

Involved in controversy over treatment
of those who had left the Church, and
those who were baptized by heretics:

Accepted the teaching of Rome.



Place and dates

Carthage

200-258

Writings

On Unity of the Catholic Church: exposition of the hierarchical
organization of the Church



Athanasius, St.

Personal

Played a prominent role in the theological struggle in the Council of Nicea (325)

Opposed Arius (256-336) who maintained that the Son was of a different substance from that of the Father, and was merely a creature

Formulated the "homousian doctrine" that the Son of God is the same essence of substance of the Father

Became bishop of Alexandria (328)

Place and dates

Alexandria

293-373

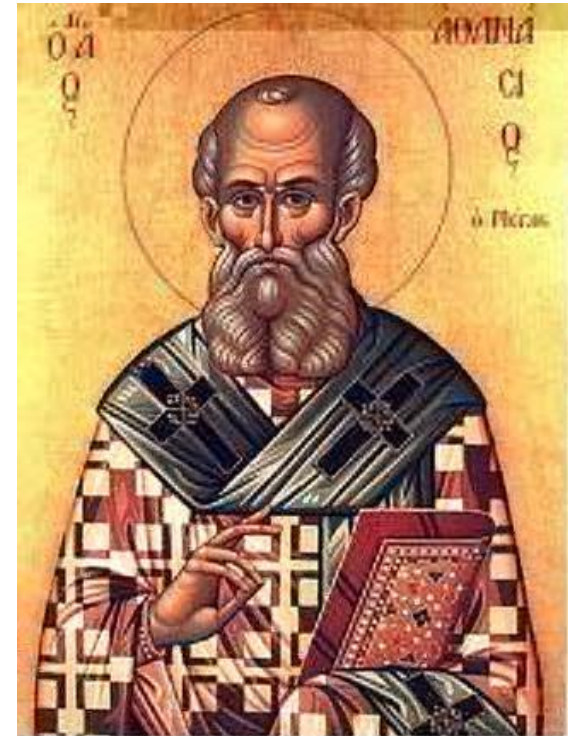
Writings

Discourses Against the Arians

History of the Arians

Apology Against the Arians

On the Decrees of the Nicene Synod



Cyril of Jerusalem

Personal

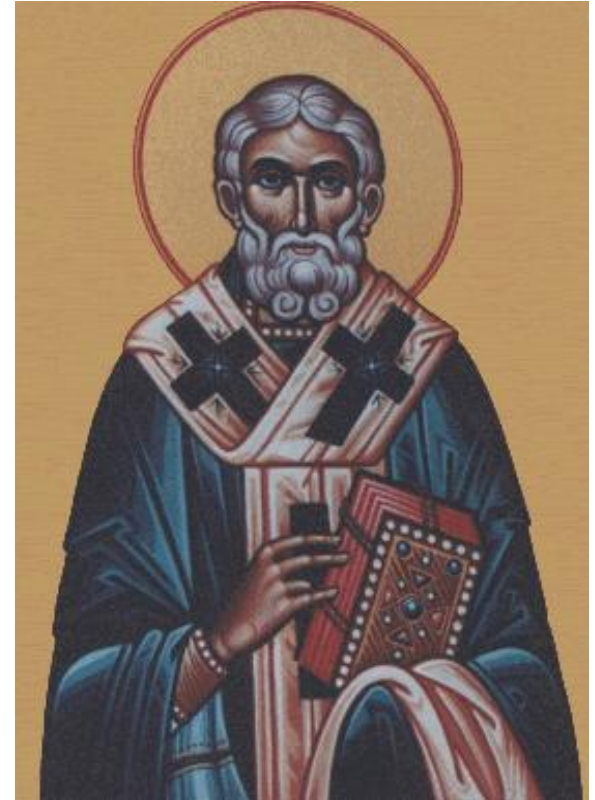
Bishop of Jerusalem in 351
Embroided in controversy over
episcopal duties

Place and dates

Jerusalem
315?-387?

Writings

23 Treatises: addressed to catechumens and newly baptized; some treatises are doctrinal and present the creed of the Church; some are concerned with ritual and present a detailed account of Baptism, Eucharist and chrism



Basil, St.

Personal

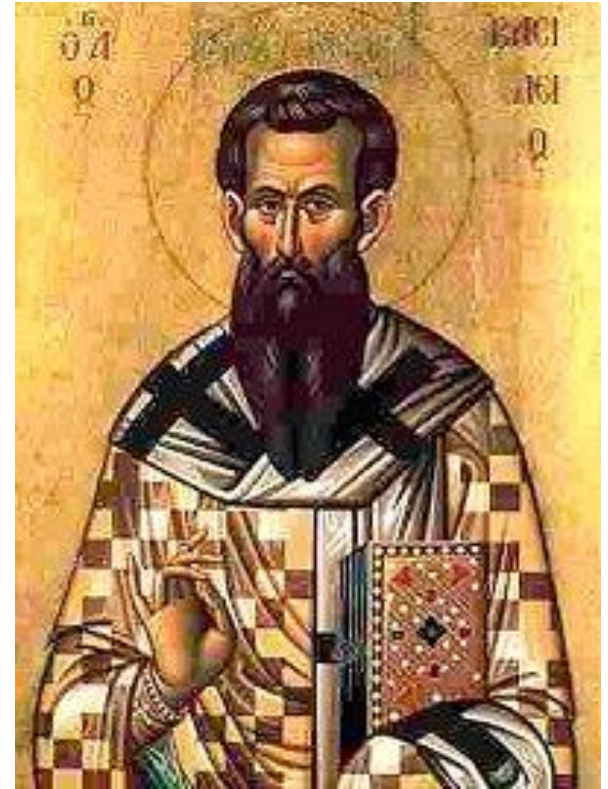
Brother of Gregory of Nyssa and a friend of Gregory of Nazianzus
Patriarch of Eastern monasticism
Wrote a rule of the monastic way of life
Founded the Basilian monks (360)
Bishop of Caesarea (370).

Place and dates

Caesarea Mazaca
329?-379

Writings

Against Eunomius: written against the Arian leader Eunomius
On the Holy Spirit: a doctrinal treatise
Moralia: an anthology of New Testament verses
Liturgy of St. Basil



Gregory of Nazianzus, St.

Personal

Bishop of Sasima (371)

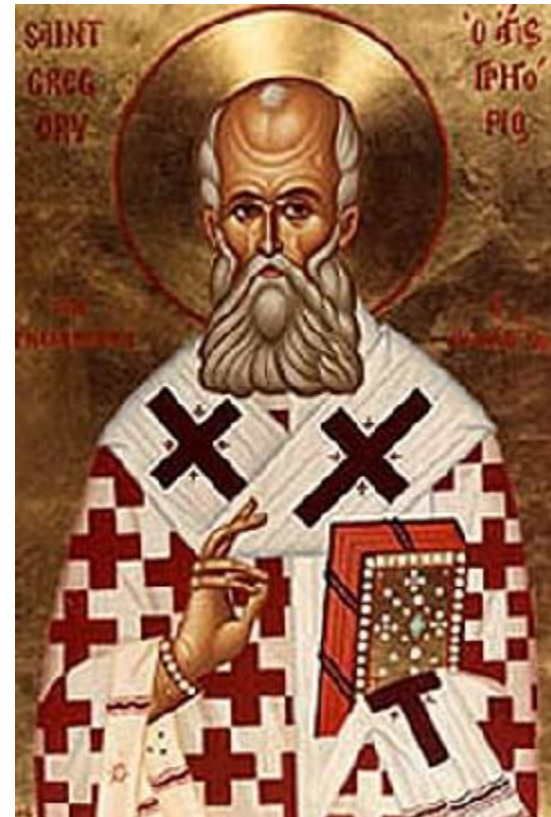
Took charge of the Nicene congregation of Constantinople where he delivered five discourses on the Trinity that earned him fame as "The Theologian"

Place and dates

Nazianzus in Capadocia, now Turkey
329?-389

Writings

Philokalia (Love of the Beautiful):
an anthology of the writings of Origen



Gregory of Nyssa, St.

Personal

Bishop of Milan (374)

Fame is chiefly as a theologian

Place and dates

Neocaesarea, now in Turkey

335?-394

Writings

Against Eunomius: a defense of the Nicene Creed

Great Catechetical Discourse: a defense of the Christian faith against Jews and pagans

On Faith: a treatise against the Arians

Ten Syllogisms: directed against the Apollinarists



Ambrose, St.

Personal

Bishop of Milan (374)

Defended the churches of Milan against Arianism

Friend of Monica, mother of Augustine, and finally brought Augustine into the Church

Place and dates

Tier, now in W. Germany

340?-397

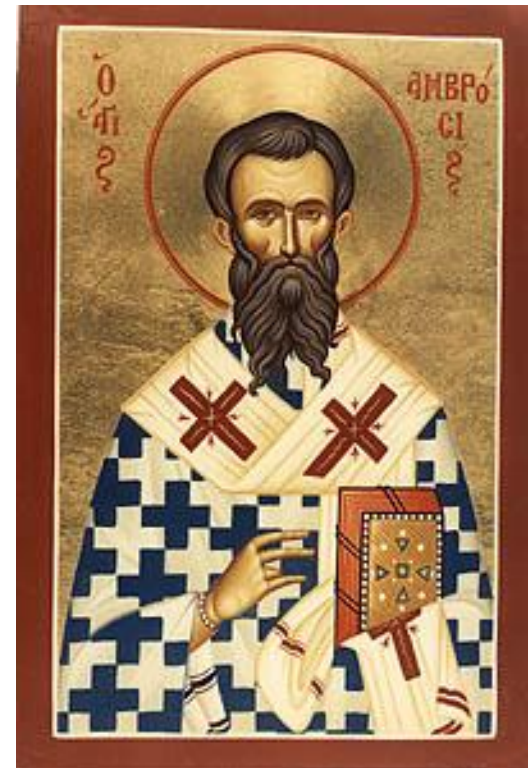
Writings

On Faith: a Christian morals manual

On the Sacraments: an exegetical treatise

On the Holy Spirit: an exegetical treatise

Composed many hymns



Jerome, St.

Personal

Biblical scholar
Ordained a priest in 386
Secretary to Pope Damasus I in 382
Confronted many heresies,
especially Pelagianism

Place and dates

Stridon, present day Yugoslavia
345?-419

Writings

The Vulgate: translated the Bible from
Hebrew and Greek into Latin, 383-384,
in Rome



John Chrysostom, St.

Personal

Ordained a priest in 386
Greatest orator of the early Church
Patriarch of Constantinople in 398

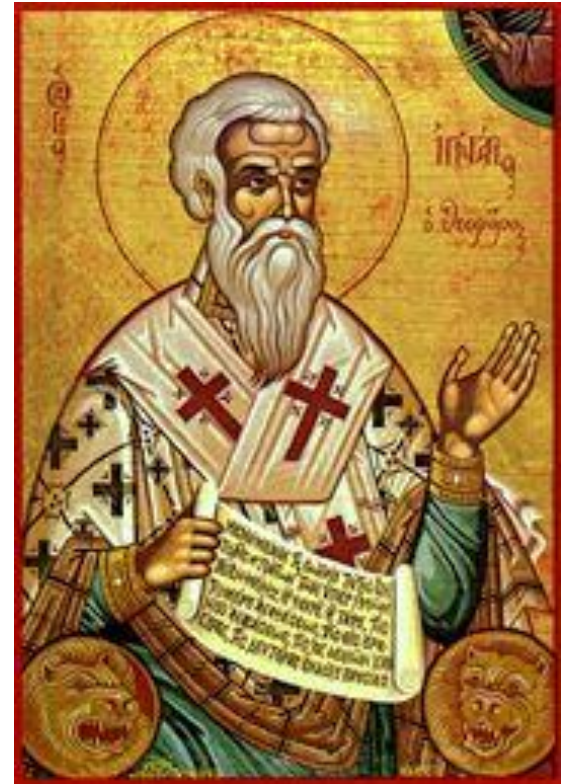
Place and dates

Antioch, Syria
349?-407

Writings

On the Priesthood
Homilies

Wrote commentaries, epistles, treatises,
and liturgies



Augustine, St.

Personal

Son of Monica (332?-387)

Born a pagan

Converted in 387 and baptized by Ambrose

Ordained a priest in 391

Bishop of Hippo (395)

Combated Manichean heresy (conflict of Good and Evil)

Martin Luther and John Calvin were students of the works of Augustine

Place and dates

Numidia, now Algeria

354-430

Writings

Confessions (c. 400): his autobiography

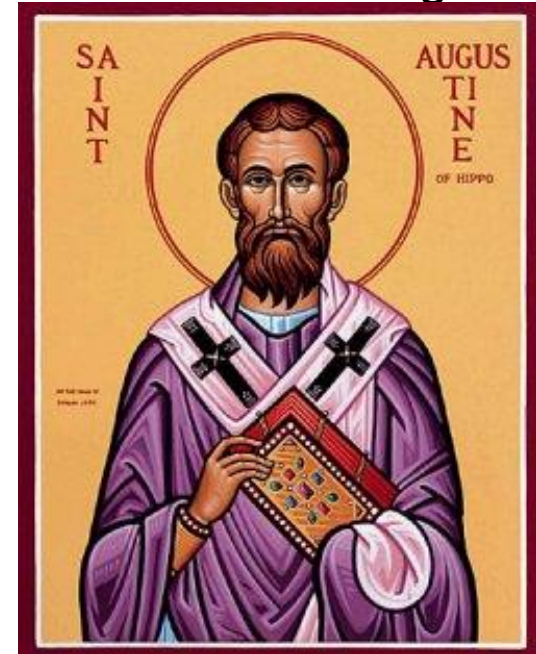
The City of God (413-426); *Retractions* (428);

Epistles (386-429), *On Free Will* (388-395)

On Christian Doctrine (397)

On Baptism: Against the Donatists (400)

On the Trinity (400-416); *On Nature and Grace* (415) and *Homilies*



Cyril of Alexandria, St.

Personal

Patriarch of Alexandria in 412

Leader of the Council of Ephesus, 431

Instrumental in condemning Nestorianism

Place and dates

Alexandria

376-444

Writings

Against Nestorius

Against Julian the Apostate

Prolific writer



Gregory I, St. ("The Great")

Personal

Prefect of Rome in 570

Became a monk in 575

Elected pope (r. 590-604)

Enhanced prestige of the papacy

Upheld Rome's traditional claims of church primacy over the patriarch of Constantinople; Extensive pastoral activity.

Introduced liturgical reforms and Gregorian chant

Place and dates

Rome

540?-604

Writings

Moralia: a commentary on the *Book of Job*

Pastoral Care: describes the ideal bishop; instruction on the practice and nature of preaching

Dialogues: legends of saints of his own time.



John Damascene, St.

Personal

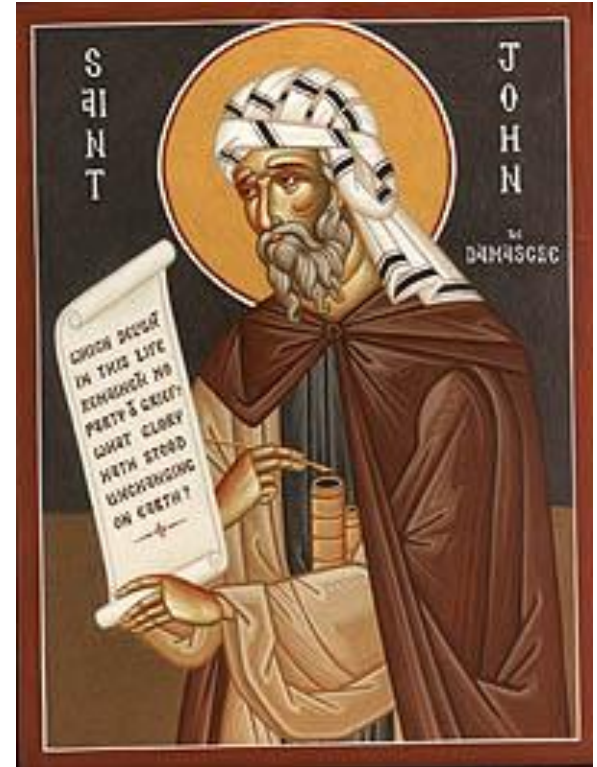
Financial officer to Saracen caliph
Resigned in 700
Entered a monastery and ordained a priest
Opposed the Iconoclasts

Place and dates

Damascus, Syria
675-749

Writings

Source of Knowledge: three part text of dogmatic theology in the early Greek church; contains a complete theological system based on the early Greek fathers and synods of 4th-7th centuries



Ephrem The Syrian, St.

Personal

Deacon, monk

Noted for his defense of the Church, the mysteries of Our Lord and the honor of the Virgin Mary.

Named **Doctor** in 1920 by Benedict XV

Place and dates

Syria

306?-373

Writings

Wrote exegetical works and hymns



Hilary of Poitiers, St.

Personal

Pagan, convert in 350

Bishop of Poitiers, 353

Defended the decrees of the Council of Nicaea

Named **Doctor** in 1851 by Pius IX

Place and dates

Poitiers

15?-368?

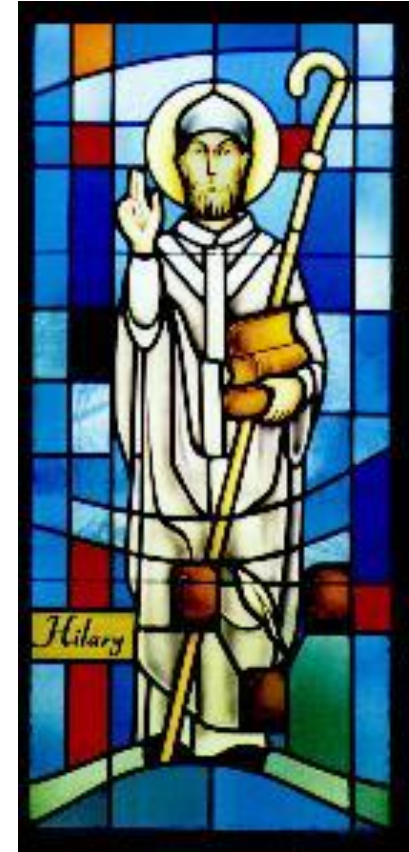
Writings

De Trinitate: against the Arians

De Synodis

Commentary of the Psalms

Commentary of Matthew's Gospel



Peter Chrysologus, St.

Personal

Called *chrysologus* (golden-mouthed) because of exceptional preaching eloquence

Archbishop of Ravenna, 433-450

Named **Doctor** in 1729 by Benedict XIII

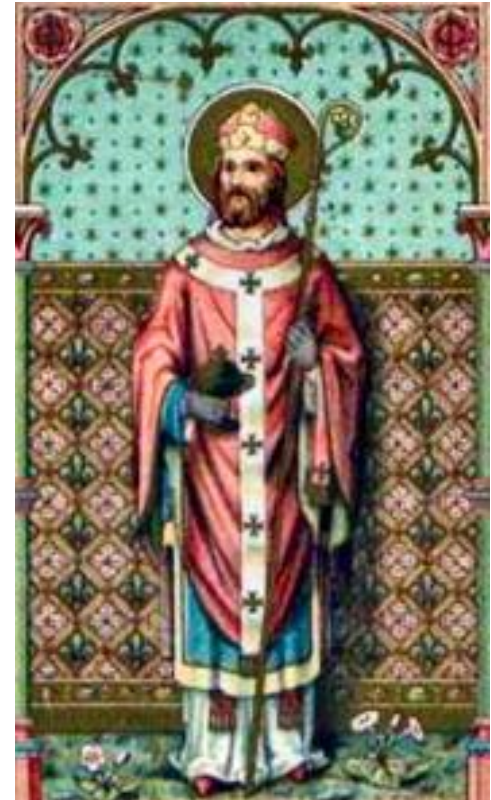
Place and dates

Ravenna

406-450

Writings

Many sermons survive



Leo The Great, St.

Personal

Pope, 440-461

Confirmed the doctrine of the Incarnation (Council of Chalcedon, 451)

Held the doctrinal primacy of Rome

Persuaded Attila the Hun not to invade Rome

Named **Doctor** in 1754 by Benedict XIV

Place and dates

Rome

461

Writings

143 surviving letters

96 sermons



Gregory I, St.

Personal

The Great

Western theologian

Named **Doctor** in 1298 by Boniface VIII

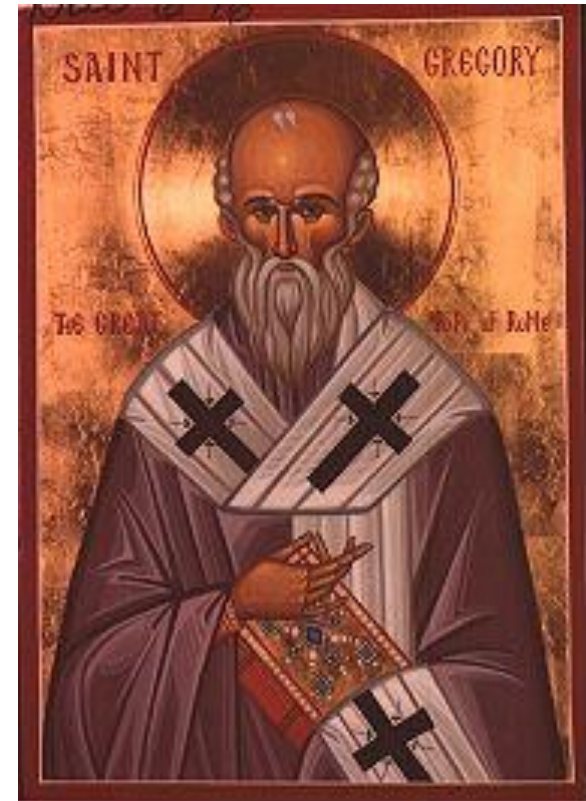
Place and dates

Rome

540?-604

Writings

See Post-Apostolic Fathers' list



Isidore of Seville, St.

Personal

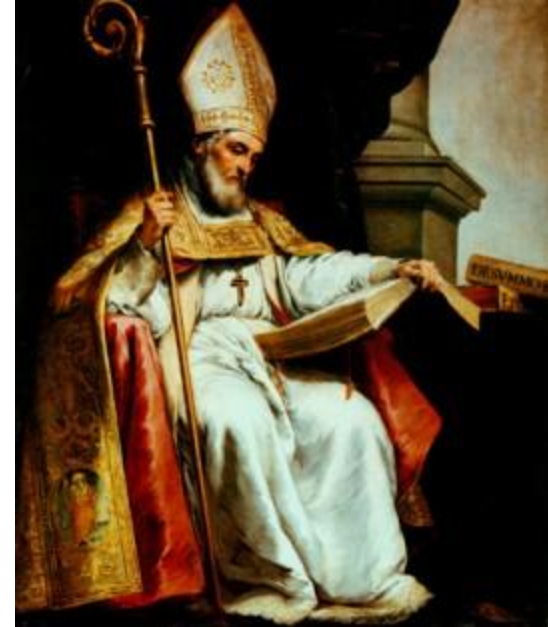
Encyclopedic knowledge
Archbishop of Seville
Conversion of Visigoths
Organizing the church in Spain
Named **Doctor** in 1722 by Innocent XIII

Place and dates

Seville
560?-636?

Writings

De Natura Rerum
Etymologies: an encyclopedia
Chronica Majora: a compilation
from church historians
Biographies
A summary of Christian doctrine



Bede The Venerable, St.

Personal

English Benedictine monk

Prolific writer

Named **Doctor** in 1899 by Leo XIII

Place and dates

England

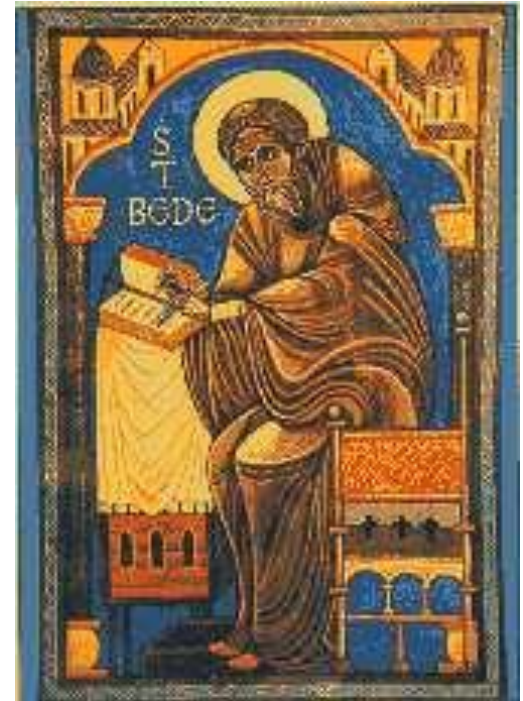
673?-735

Writings

*Ecclesiastical History of the English
People* (731)

On the Reckoning of Time (725)

Historia Abbatum (725)



Anselm, St.

Personal

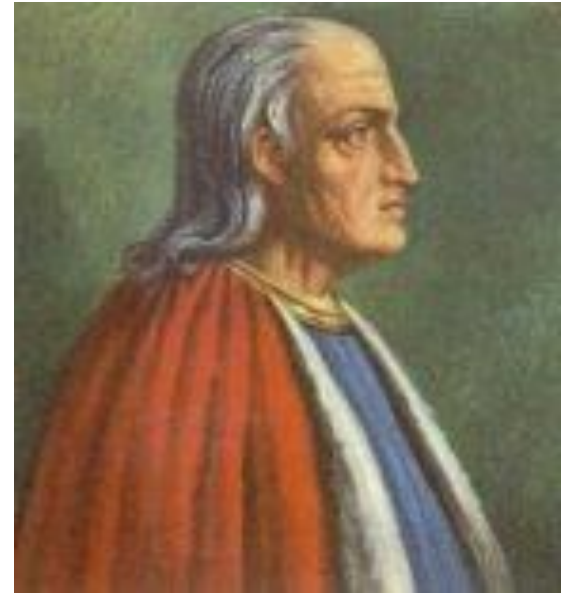
Benedictine monk

Theologian

Philosopher; proposed famous argument
for existence of God

Archbishop of Canterbury, 1093-1100

Named **Doctor** in 1720 by Clement XI



Place and dates

Canterbury

1033-1109

Writings

Monologium (1077): God as highest being and His attributes

Proslogium (1078): Faith seeking understanding

Cur Deus Homo (1093): On the Incarnation and crucifixion



Bernard of Clairvaux, St.

Personal

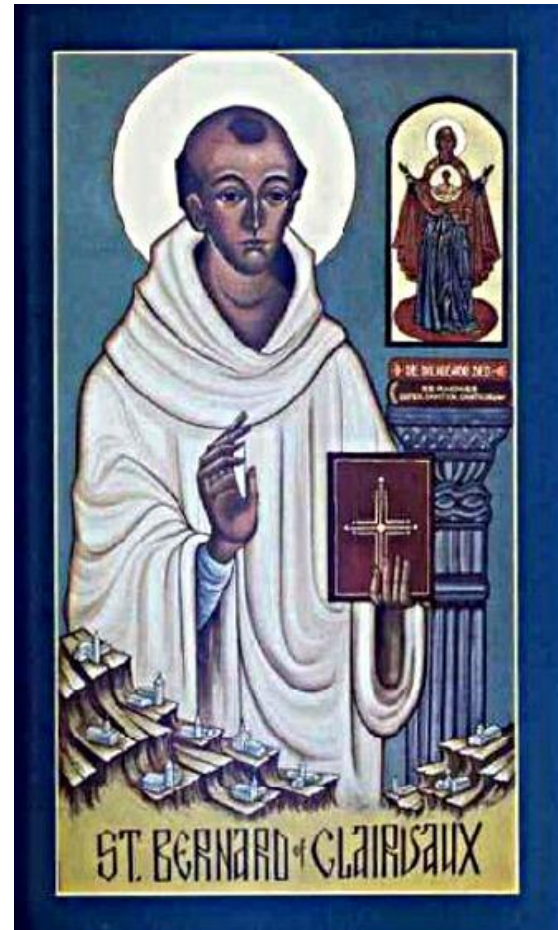
Cistercian monk
Preacher of the Second Crusade
Founded over 90 monasteries
Named **Doctor** in 1830 by Pius VIII

Place and dates

Clairvaux
1090-1153

Writings

The Love of God (1127)
Consideration to Eugene III (1148)



Anthony of Padua, St.

Personal

Franciscan monk

Theologian

Exceptional intellectual and
oratorical gifts

Named **Doctor** in 1946 by Pius XII

Place and dates

Padua

1195-1231

Writings

Lector in theology: taught at Bologna,
Montpellier, and Toulouse

Countless sermons exist

(franciscan-archive.org/antoniush/opera/ant-hd00.html)



Albert The Great, St.

Personal

Bishop of Ratisbon, 1260-1293

Introduced Greek and Arabic science and philosophy into the medieval world

Dominican, Order of Preachers

Teacher of Thomas Aquinas

Named **Doctor** in 1932 by Pius XI



Place and dates

Ratisbon

1206-1280

Writings

Summa Theologiae (1270): attempted to reconcile Aristotelianism and Christianity

Sentences: a commentary on Peter the Lombard

De Unitate Intellectus: against the Averrhoists



Bonaventure, St.

Personal

Franciscan friar

Philosopher, theologian

Cardinal archbishop of Albano

Assisted at Council of Lyons

Named **Doctor** in 1588 by Sixtus V

Place and dates

Albano

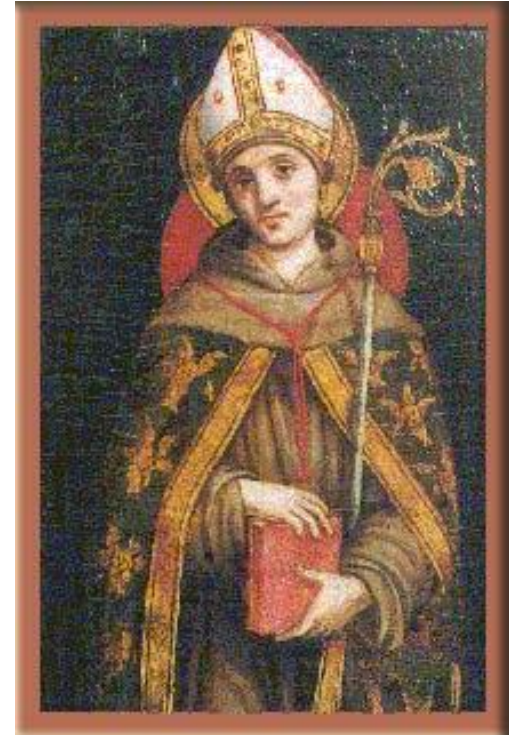
1217-1274

Writings

Breviloquium (1254): Commentary on
Sacred Scripture

Journey of the Mind to God (1259)

Life of St. Francis of Assisi (1263)



Thomas Aquinas, St.

Personal

Theologian

Named in 1568 by Pius V

Italian philosopher

Educated at Monte Cassino

Ordained a priest in 1250

Advisor and lecturer to the papal court,
1259-1268; named **Doctor** in 1568
by Pius V

Place and dates

Fossa Nuova

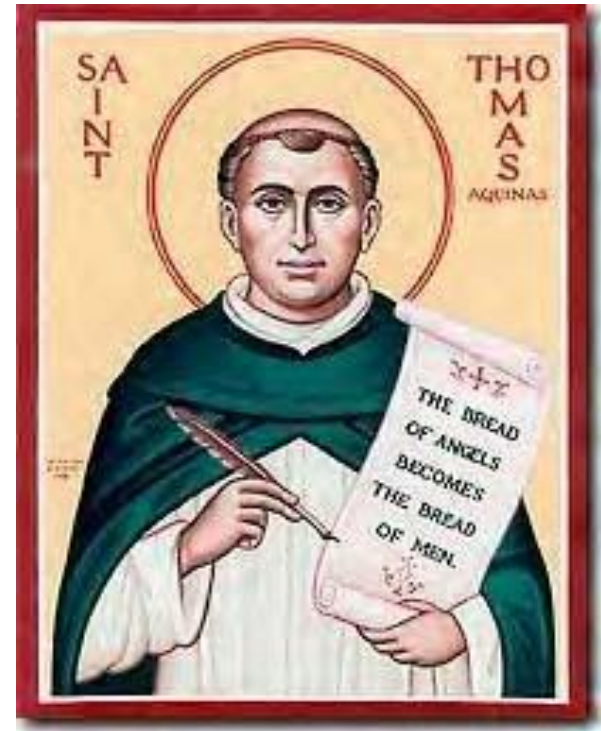
1225-1274

Writings

Eighty works are ascribed to him

Summa Contra Gentiles: "On the Truth of Catholic Faith,"
1261-1264: one of his greatest works, closely reasoned treatise
on the truth of Christianity

Summa Theologica: a summary of theology, (1265-1273)



Catherine of Siena, St.

Personal

Western mystic

Joined the Dominican Order in 1353

Convinced Pope Gregory XI to return to Rome from Avignon

Noted for works of charity and unity in the Church

Named **Doctor** in 1970 by Pope Paul VI;

Place and dates

Siena

1347-1380

Writings

Letters on spiritual matters

Dialogue: her ideals of reform and
repentance



Theresa of Avila, St.

Personal

Western mystic

Foundress of the Order of Discalced Carmelites

Entered the convent in 1535

Worked with the aid of St. John of the Cross,
Spanish mystic and Doctor of the Church

Named **Doctor** in 1970 by Pope Paul VI

Place and dates

Avila

1515-1582

Writings

The Way of Perfection: (1565) advice to her nuns

The Interior Castle: (1577) an eloquent description of the contemplative life

The Foundations: (1573-1582) the origins of the Discalced Carmelites



Peter Canisius, St.

Personal

Jesuit

Second great Apostle of Germany

Leader, Counter-Reformation

Named **Doctor** in 1925 by Pius XI

Place and dates

Fribourg

1521-1597

Writings

Catechism (1560): instructed the faithful to defend their Faith



Robert Bellarmine, St.

Personal

Jesuit theologian
Cardinal archbishop of Capua
Revision of the Vulgate (1592)
Leader of the Counter Reformation
Named **Doctor** in 1931 by Pius XI

Place and dates

Capua
1542-1621

Writings

*Disputations on the Controversies of the
Christian Faith: (1568-93)*



Lawrence of Brindisi, St.

Personal

Capuchin

Worked for the conversion of the Jews

Confronted the rise of Lutheranism

Organized Catholic princes against

Turkish invasion

Named **Doctor** in 1959 by John XXIII

Place and dates

Brindisi

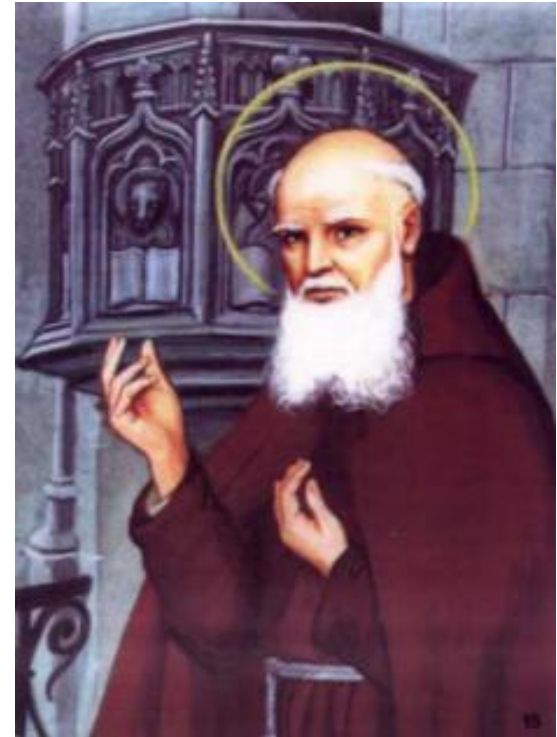
1559-1619

Writings

Sermons

A commentary on Genesis

Writings against Lutheranism



John of the Cross, St.

Personal

Western mystic

Combined mysticism with the theology and philosophy of Aquinas

Became a Carmelite monk in 1563

Ordained a priest in 1567

Organized the Discalced Carmelites in 1568

Imprisoned for monastic reform 1576-1577

Named **Doctor** in 1926 by Benedict XV

Place and dates

Ubeda, Andalusia

1542-1591

Writings

Spiritual Canticle: a mystical poem

Living Flame of Love: a mystical poem

Dark Night of the Soul: describes the soul's progress in union with God



Francis De Sales, St.

Personal

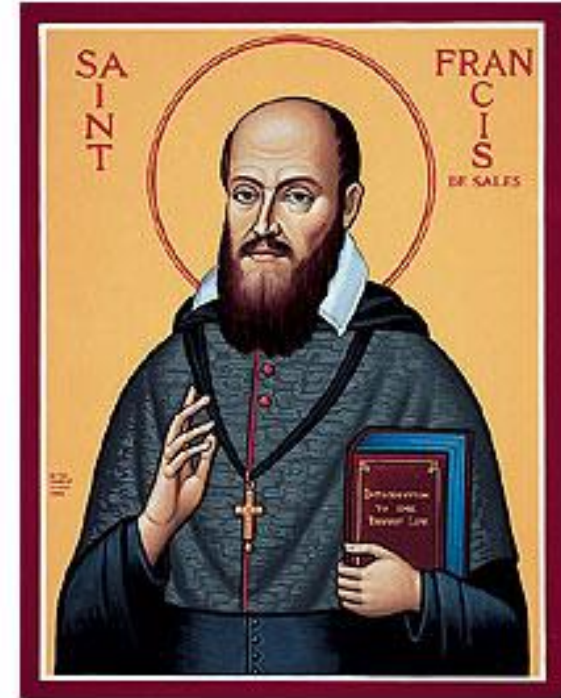
Bishop of Geneva, 1602-1622
Founded the Order of the Visitation
Confronted the rise of Calvinism
Named **Doctor** in 1877 by Pius IX

Place and dates

Geneva
1567-1622

Writings

Introduction to the Devout Life: (1609)
shows how ordinary life can be
sanctified .



Alfonso Liguori, St.

Personal

Founded the Redemptorist Order in 1732

Bishop of St. Agatha, 1756-1775

Named **Doctor** in 1871 by Pius IX

Place and dates

Nocera de' Pagani

1696-1787

Writings

Moral Theology

Glories of Mary. (1750)



Theresa of Lisieux, St.

Personal

Carmelite Nun: Sister Theresa of the Child Jesus

Also known as "The Little Flower of Jesus"

Canonized: May 17, 1925

Created a **Doctor** of the Church

by Pope John Paul II, October 19, 1997

The third woman among 33 Doctors

Place and dates

Born: Alencon, France, January 2, 1873

Died: Lisieux, France, September 30, 1897

Writings

Autobiography of a Saint. Letter and
Spiritual Counsels



Peter Damien, St.

Personal

Benedictine monk
Cardinal and Bishop of Ostia
Ecclesiastical statesman and reformer
Named **Doctor** in 1828 by Leo XII

Place and dates

Ostia
1007-1072

Writings

Notable poet
Wrote reforms for popes, clergy, monks



Popes' Mosaic Icons

There are many iconographies on the Supreme Pontiffs, from St. Peter to the present day. The set used in this timeline is the one highly valued and officially acknowledged by the Vatican. It is found in the naves of the Patriarchal Basilica of St. Paul-Outside the Walls in Rome, Italy. The reproductions in the Pope Chart* are from this collection. The collection is made of medallions in mosaic; each one has the Pontiff's name written in Latin and the period of his pontificate in Roman numbers. This iconography was started by St. Leo the Great in 498 and historically updated in 1947.

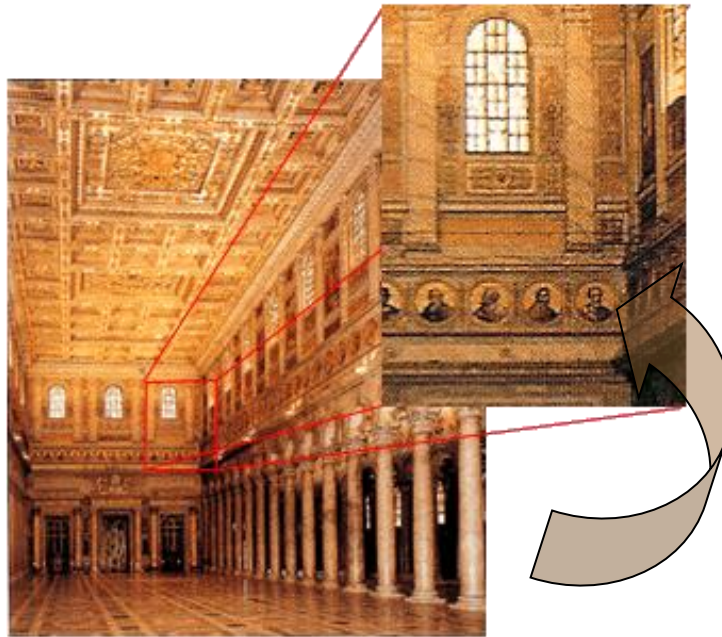


St. Peter
42-67
The first Pope



The Patriarchal Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Walls, Rome, Italy.

Enlarged section of the Basilica showing the mosaics



Interior of St. Paul's Outside the Walls

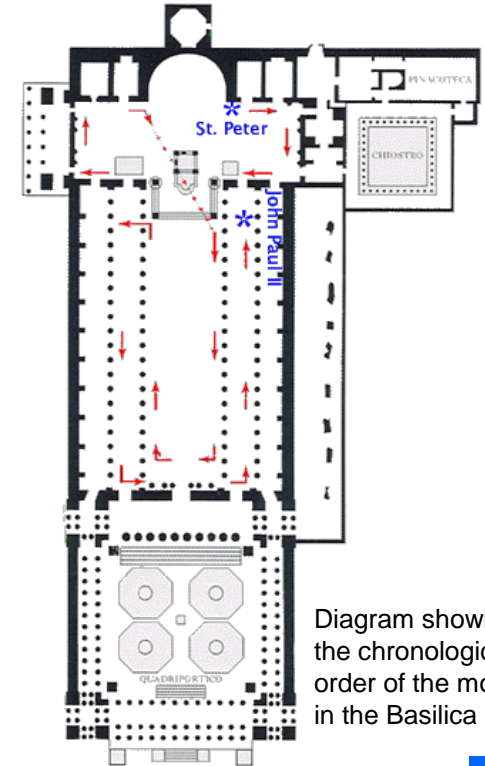


Diagram showing the chronological order of the mosaics in the Basilica

* Chart copies of the mosaics available at: www.popechart.com/history.htm; adapted here for teaching purposes.

- Questions or comments?
 - Email
 - [Paul Flanagan \(pdflan@catholicapologetics.org\)](mailto:pdflan@catholicapologetics.org)
- To Download a Copy of the Text Notes:
www.catholicapologetics.org/CBANotes.pdf