

## Timeline of Church History (Post-Roman Schism (1054-1453))

The **History of the Church** is a vital part of the Orthodox Christian faith. Orthodox Christians are defined significantly by their continuity with all those who have gone before, those who first received and preached the truth of [Jesus Christ](#) to the world, those who helped to formulate the expression and worship of our faith, and those who continue to move forward in the unchanging yet ever-dynamic [Holy Tradition](#) of the [Orthodox Church](#).

### Post-Roman Schism (1054-1453)

- 1054 Cardinal [Humbert](#) excommunicates [Michael Cerularius](#), patriarch of Constantinople, a major centre point in the formation of the [Great Schism](#) between East and West; First Letter of Michael Cerularius to Peter of Antioch.
- 1059 Errors of Berengar of Tours condemned in Rome; term *transubstantiation* begins to come in to use, ascribed to [Peter Damian](#).
- 1064 [Seljuk Turks](#) storm Anatolia taking Caesarea and Ani, conquering Armenia.
- 1065 Death of [George the Hagiorite](#).
- 1066 Normans invade England flying banner of Pope of Rome, defeating King [Harold of England](#) at Battle of Hastings.
- 1066-1171 Beginning reformation of English church and society to align with Latin continental ecclesiology and politics.
- 1068 By the time of the arrival of the first [Seljuk Turks](#) to Anatolia, the religious war between Byzantium and Islam had run a course of four centuries.
- 1071 [Seljuk Turks](#) defeat Byzantines at the [Battle of Manzikert](#), beginning Islamification of Asia Minor; Norman princes led by [Robert Guiscard](#) capture Bari, the last Byzantine stronghold in Italy, bringing to an end over five centuries of [Byzantine rule in the south](#).
- ca. 1071-1176 Byzantine epic poem "[Digenes Akrites](#)".
- 1073 Hildebrand becomes Pope [Gregory VII](#) and launches the [Gregorian reforms](#) (celibacy of the clergy, primacy of papacy over empire, right of Pope to depose emperors); Seljuk Turks conquer Ankara.
- 1074 Death of [Theodosius of the Kiev Caves](#).
- 1075 [Dictatus Papae](#) document advances Papal supremacy.
- 1077 The Seljuk Turks capture Jerusalem and kill 3,000 citizens; Seljuks capture Nicaea.
- 1082 [Council of Constantinople](#).
- 1084 Antioch is captured by the Seljuk Turks from the Byzantines.
- 1087 Translation of the relics of [Nicholas of Myra](#) from Myra to Bari.
- 1088 Founding of monastery of [John the Theologian](#) on Patmos; election of Pope [Urban II](#), a prominent member of the [Cluniac Reform movement](#).
- 1095 Launching of the [First Crusade](#).
- 1096 Persecution of Jews by Crusaders.
- 1098 Anselm of Canterbury completes *Cur Deus homo*, marking a radical divergence of Western theology of the atonement from that of the East.
- 1098 Crusaders capture Antioch.
- 1099 Crusaders capture Jerusalem founding the [Latin Kingdom of Jerusalem](#) and other crusader states known collectively as "[Outremer](#)."
- 1108 Death of Nicetas of [Kiev Caves](#), Bishop of Novgorod.
- 1113 Latin Order of [Knights Hospitaller](#) founded as a religious/military order under its own charter, charged with the care and defence of the Holy Land and pilgrims.
- 1118 Latin Order of [Knights Templar](#) founded.

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- 1118-1137 Imperial [monastery of Christ Pantocrator](#) founded.
- ca. 1131-45 Coptic Pope of Alexandria [Gabriel II](#) initiates addition of Arabic as a liturgical language with his Arabic translation of the [Liturgy](#).
- ca. 1120-1220 Spread of Aristotelian philosophy throughout Western Europe, mostly via the translations of [Averroes](#) and [Maimonides](#).
- 1120 [Council of Nablus](#) is held in Crusader Kingdom of Jerusalem.
- 1127-1145 [Constantinople largest city in the world](#) by population.
- 1144 Bernard of Clairvaux calls for a [Second Crusade](#) to rescue the besieged Latin kingdom of Jerusalem; Kings Louis VII of France and Konrad III of Germany join Crusaders, but are defeated by Muslims; Muslims take Christian stronghold of Edessa.
- 1147 Moscow founded by Prince Yuri Dolgoruki, a ruler of the north eastern Rus'; [Roger II of Sicily](#) takes Corfu from the Byzantine Empire, and pillages Corinth, Athens and Thebes.
- 1148 Death of [Anthony the Roman](#), Abbot and Wonder-worker of Novgorod.
- 1149 On the 50th anniversary of the taking of Jerusalem by the First Crusade, Crusaders begin to renovate [Church of the Holy Sepulchre](#) in Romanesque style, adding a bell tower; in August, 1149, Abbot [Suger of St. Denis](#) together with [Bernard of Clairvaux](#) laid plans for a series of councils which would summon all of France to a new crusade to the [Holy Land](#); this call to crusade included voices such as [Peter, Abbot of Cluny](#) who demanded vengeance on the [Byzantine Empire](#) over the failure of the Second Crusade and had correspondence with [Roger of Sicily](#) calling for an expedition against [Constantinople](#).<sup>[1]</sup>
- 1156-57 [Council of Constantinople](#) (Synod of Blachernae) is held under Patr. [Luke Chrysoberges](#) to condemn the errors of Soterichus Pantengenus, patriarch-elect of Antioch, and of some others, who asserted that the Sacrifice upon the [Cross](#) was offered to the [Father](#) and to the [Holy Spirit](#) alone, and not to the Word, the [Son of God](#).
- 1159 [John of Salisbury](#) authors *[Policraticus](#)*, a treatise on government drawing from the [Bible](#), the [Codex Justinianus](#), and arguing for [Divine Right of Kings](#).
- 1164 Uncovering of the relics of [Leontius of Rostov](#).
- 1166 [Council of Constantinople](#).
- 1170 Miracle of the weeping icon of the [Theotokos "of the Sign"](#) at Novgorod; Anglo-Norman invasion of Ireland; city of Dublin captured by the Normans.
- 1173 Death of [Richard of Saint Victor](#), prior of the famous Augustinian [abbey of Saint-Victor](#) in Paris (1162-1173) and one of the most important mystical theologians of 12th century Paris.
- 1176 [Sultanate of Rum](#) defeats Byzantine Empire in the [Battle of Myriokephalon](#), marking end of Byzantine attempts to recover Anatolian plateau; Al-Adil I, Muslim ruler of Egypt, suppresses a revolt by Christian Copts in city of Qift, hanging nearly 3,000 of them.
- 1177 Latin King Baldwin of Jerusalem and his knights, with Templar's, defeat Muslim army of Saladin at [Battle of Montgisard](#).
- 1179 Death of [Hildegard von Bingen](#).
- 1180 Last formal acceptance of Latin's to communion at an Orthodox altar in Antioch.
- 1182 [Maronites](#), who assisted the Crusaders during the Crusades, reaffirm their affiliation with Rome in 1182; dedication of [Monreale Cathedral](#) in Sicily, containing the largest cycle of Byzantine mosaics extant in Italy.
- 1185 [Second Bulgarian Empire](#) founded; Death of [John](#), Bishop of Novgorod.

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- 1186 Byzantine Empire recognizes independence of Bulgaria and Serbia.
- 1187 [Saladin](#) retakes Jerusalem after destroying crusader army at [Battle of Hattin](#), and returns Christian holy places to [Orthodox Church](#).
- 1189 [Third Crusade](#) led by King Richard the Lion-Hearted of England, King Philip Augustus II of France, and Emperor Frederick Barbarossa.
- ca. 1189 Ethiopian Emperor [Gebre Mesqel Lalibela](#) orders construction of [Lalibela](#).
- 1191 Cyprus taken from Byzantines by English King Richard I the Lion-hearted.
- 1198 Cyprus sold by England to Frankish crusaders.
- 1204 Fourth Crusade [sacks Constantinople](#), laying waste to the city and stealing many [relics](#) and other items; [Great Schism](#) generally regarded as having been completed by this act; Venetians use the imperial [monastery of Christ Pantocrator](#) as their headquarters in Constantinople; [Theodore I Lascaris](#) establishes the [Empire of Nicaea](#); death of Jewish philosopher [Moses Maimonides](#), author of [Guide for the Perplexed](#) which harmonized the Old Testament with Aristotle.
- ca.1207 [Stephen Langton](#) divides the Bible into the defined modern chapters in use today.
- 1211 Venetian crusaders conquer Byzantine Crete, retaining it until ousted by Ottoman Turks in 1669.
- 1212 [Children's Crusade](#), led by 12-year-old Stephen of Cloyes, sets out for Holy Land from France.
- 1213 Death of [Tamar of Georgia](#).
- 1216 Latin [Dominican Order](#) formally recognized.
- 1217-21 [Fifth Crusade](#).
- ca.1220 English Bp. [Richard Le Poore](#) is said to have been responsible for the final form of the "[Use of Sarum](#)", which had the sterling reputation of being the best liturgy anywhere in the West.
- 1223 Latin [Franciscan Order](#) formally recognized.
- 1226 Latin [Carmelite order](#) formally recognized.
- 1228 [Sixth Crusade](#) results in 10-year treaty starting in 1229 between Holy Roman Emperor Frederick II and Egyptian sultan; Jerusalem ceded to Franks, along with a narrow corridor to the coast, as well as Nazareth, Sidon, Jaffa and Bethlehem.
- 1231 [Papal Inquisition](#) initiated by Pope Gregory IX, charged with suppressing heresy.
- 1235 Death of [Sava of Serbia](#).
- 1236 Córdoba was recaptured from the Muslim army by King Ferdinand III of Castile, and the [Great Mosque of Córdoba](#) was re-converted into a Christian church.
- 1237 Golden Horde begin [subjugation of Russia](#).
- 1240 Mongols sack Kiev; Prince [Alexander Nevsky](#) defeats Swedish army at [Battle of the Neva](#).
- 1242 [Alexander Nevsky](#)'s Novgorodian force defeats Teutonic Knights in [Battle of Lake Peipus](#), a major defeat for the Catholic crusaders.
- 1244 Jerusalem conquered and razed by [Khwarezmian](#) mercenaries (Oghuz Turks) serving under the [Ayyubid](#) ruler of Egypt Salih Ayyub, triggering Seventh Crusade.
- 1245 First [Council of Lyons](#) in the Roman Catholic Church mandates red hat for cardinals and a levy for the Holy Land.
- 1247 [Ayyubids](#) conquer Jerusalem, driving out the Khwarezmian Turks.
- 1248-54 [Seventh Crusade](#).
- 1258 [Michael VIII Palaiologos](#) seizes the throne of the Nicaean Empire, founding the last Roman (Byzantine) dynasty, beginning re conquest of Greek peninsula from Latin's; [Salisbury Cathedral](#) is consecrated.

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- 1259 Byzantines defeat Latin [Principality of Achaia](#) at the [Battle of Pelagonia](#), marking the beginning of the Byzantine recovery of Greece.
- ca. 1259-80 Martyrdom by Latin's of monks of [Iveron Monastery](#).
- 1260 Subjugation of [Church of Cyprus](#) to the [Roman Catholic Church](#).
- 1261 End of Latin occupation of Constantinople and restoration of Orthodox patriarchs; Emperor [Michael VIII Palaiologos](#) makes [Mystras](#) seat of the new [Despotate of Morea](#), where a Byzantine renaissance occurred.
- 1268 Egyptian Mamelukes capture Antioch.
- 1269 Orthodox patriarch returns to Antioch after a 171-year exile and usurpation by Latin patriarch.
- 1270 [Eighth Crusade](#) launched by King [Louis IX](#) of France.
- 1271-72 [Ninth Crusade](#) led by [Prince Edward](#) of England to Acre, considered to be the last of the medieval Crusades to the Holy Land.
- 1274 Second [Council of Lyons](#) held, proclaiming union between the Orthodox East and the Roman Catholic West, but generally unaccepted in the East; death of [Thomas Aquinas](#), Latin [scholastic](#) philosopher and theologian, author of the [Summa Theologica](#).
- 1275 Unionist Patriarch of Constantinople [John XI Bekkos](#) elected to replace Patriarch [Joseph I Galesiotes](#), who opposed the Second Council of Lyons; 26 martyrs of Zographou monastery on [Mt. Athos](#), martyred by the Latin's.
- ca. 1280 [Kebra Nagast](#) ("Book of the Glory of Kings") compiled, a repository of Ethiopian national and religious feelings.
- 1281 [Pope Martin IV](#) authorizes a Crusade against the newly re-established [Byzantine Empire](#) in Constantinople, excommunicating Emperor [Michael VIII Palaiologos](#) and the Greeks and renouncing the union of 1274; French and Venetian expeditions set out toward Constantinople but are forced to turn back in the following year.
- 1285 [Council of Constantinople](#) (Second Synod of Blachernae) discussed and rejected the pro-western interpretation of the Trinity as enunciated by Patr. [John XI Bekkos](#), as well as rejecting the decisions of the Council of Lyons of 1274, and condemning the Roman (Byzantine) "latinophrones".
- 1287 Last record of [Western Rite](#) Monastery of Amalfion on [Mount Athos](#).
- 1291 Fall of Acre; end of crusading in Holy Land.
- 1298 [Ambrose](#), [Augustine](#), [Jerome](#), and [Pope Gregory I](#) are named collectively as the first Great [Doctors](#) of the Western Church.
- 1302 Papal Bull [Unam Sanctum](#) issued by Pope [Boniface VIII](#) proclaims Papal supremacy.
- 1326 Metr. [Peter](#) moves his see from Kiev to Vladimir and then to Moscow.
- 1309 Rhodes falls to the [Knights of St. John](#), who establish their headquarters there, renaming themselves the "Knights of Rhodes."
- 1311-12 Council of Vienne in the Roman Catholic Church disbands the Knights Templar.
- 1332 [Amda Syon](#), Emperor of Ethiopia begins his campaigns in the southern Muslim provinces, allowing for the spread of Christianity to frontier areas.
- 1336 [Meteora](#) in Greece established as a centre of Orthodox [monasticism](#).
- 1338 [Gregory Palamas](#) writes *Triads in Defence of the Holy Hesychasts*, defending the Orthodox practice of [hesychast spirituality](#) and the use of the [Jesus Prayer](#).
- 1340 [Holy Trinity-St. Sergius Lavra](#) founded by [Sergius of Radonezh](#).
- 1341-47 Byzantine civil war between John VI Cantacuzenus (1347–54) and John V Palaeologus (1341–91).

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- 1341-51 Three sessions of the [Ninth Ecumenical Council](#) held in Constantinople, affirming [hesychastic](#) theology of [Gregory Palamas](#) and condemning rationalistic philosophy of [Barlaam of Calabria](#).
- 1342 Patriarchate of Antioch transferred to Damascus under [Ignatius II](#).
- 1344 Death of [Amda Syon](#), Emperor of Ethiopia.
- 1349 Prince [Stephen Dushan](#) of Serbia assumes the title of *Tsar* (Caesar); principality of [Galicia](#) (Halitsh) comes under Polish control.
- 1352 Death of [Ewostatewos](#) (Eustathius), Ethiopian monk and religious leader.
- 1353 Death of Sergius and Herman, Abbots of [Valaam](#).
- 1354 Ottoman Turks make first settlement in Europe at Gallipoli.
- 1359 Death of [Gregory Palamas](#).
- 1360 Death of [John Koukouzelis](#) the Hymnographer.
- 1365 Crusaders under Latin King [Peter I of Cyprus](#) sack Alexandria, Egypt.
- 1378 Death of [Alexis of Moscow](#).
- 1379 Western Great Schism ensues, including simultaneous reign of three Popes of Rome; death of the venerable [Philotheus I \(Kokkinos\) of Constantinople](#) in exile, an anti-unionist who opposed Emperor John V in his intent to negotiate re-union of the churches with Popes Urban V and Gregory XI.
- ca. 1380 English Church reformer John Wyclif writes that the true faith is preserved only in the East, "among the Greeks."
- ca.1380-1534 [Lollard Movement](#) in England; Lollards were effectively absorbed into Protestantism during the [English Reformation](#), in which Lollardy played a role.
- 1382-95 [First English Bible](#) translated by John Wyclif.
- 1383 [Stephen of Perm](#), missionary to Zyrians, consecrated bishop; appearance of [Theotokos of Tikhvin](#) icon.
- 1385 [Kreva Agreement](#) provides for conversion of Lithuanian nobles and all pagan Lithuanians to Roman Catholicism, joining Grand Duchy of Lithuania with the Kingdom of Poland through a dynastic union.
- 1387 [Lithuania converts to Roman Catholicism](#), while most [Ruthenian](#) lands (Belarus and Ukraine) remain Orthodox.
- 1389 Serbs defeated by Ottoman Turks of Sultan Murad I at the battle of Kosovo Polje; death of [Lazar](#), prince of Serbia.
- 1390 Ottomans take [Philadelphia](#), last significant Byzantine enclave in Anatolia.
- 1391-98 Ottoman Turks unsuccessfully besiege Constantinople for the first time.
- 1410 Iconographer [Andrei Rublev](#) paints his most famous icon depicting the three angels who appeared to Abraham and Sarah, the angels being considered a type of the [Holy Trinity](#).
- 1414-18 Council of Constance in Roman Catholic Church represents high point for [Conciliar Movement](#) over authority of pope.
- 1417 End of Western Great Schism at the [Council of Constance](#).
- 1418 Latin monk [Thomas à Kempis](#) authors [The Imitation of Christ](#).
- 1422 [Second unsuccessful Ottoman siege](#) of Constantinople.
- 1423-24 [Council of Siena](#) in the Roman Catholic Church was the high point of [conciliarism](#), emphasizing the leadership of the bishops gathered in council, but the conciliarism expressed there was later branded as a heresy.
- 1433 [Nicolas of Cusa](#) writes his major work on church government, *The Catholic Concordance* (*De concordantia catholica*), a manifesto of [conciliarism](#), advancing the notion of a constitutional papacy subject to the authority of a council representative of the different parts of Christendom, balancing hierarchy with consent.

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- 1439 Ecclesiastical reunion with West attempted at [Council of Florence](#), where only [Mark of Ephesus](#) refuses to capitulate to demands of delegates from Rome.
- 1440-41 Encyclical Letter of [Mark of Ephesus](#).
- 1444 [Donation of Constantine](#) proved forgery.
- 1448 [Church of Russia](#) unilaterally declares its independence from the [Church of Constantinople](#); [Vatican Library](#) formally established by Pope Nicholas V.
- 1452 Unification of Roman Catholic and Greek Orthodox Churches in Hagia Sophia on West's terms, when Emperor [Constantine XI Palaiologos](#), under pressure from Rome, allows the union to be proclaimed.
- 1453 [Constantinople falls](#) to invasion of the Ottoman Turks, ending Roman Empire; [Hagia Sophia](#) turned into a mosque; martyrdom of [Constantine XI Palaiologos](#), last of the [Byzantine Emperors](#); many Greek scholars escape to the West with books that become translated into Latin, triggering the [Renaissance](#).