

5. Patmos

Tour:

M 20 3:00 pm ferry from Piraeus to Patmos, arr. 10:35 pm; dinner onboard.

Skala Hotel, Patmos (2 nights)

Tu 19 free day

W 20 morning: 2-hour guided tour by bus with local guide:

- Cave of the Apocalypse, where John is supposed to have received and written Revelation
- Monastery of St John (UNESCO WHS)

2:00 pm chartered ferry to Kuşadası, Turkey; arr. 7:00 pm. Our Turkish guide will meet us.

Charisma Hotel, Kuşadası (3 nights)

I. Patmos

“Europe’s most idyllic place to live... Patmos has evolved over the centuries but has not lost its air of quiet tranquility, which is one reason why people that know it return again and again” (Forbes magazine 2009)

Patmos Πάτμος is most north-west of the Dodecanese (τα Δωδεκάνησα: δώδεκα + νῆσος 12 islands) group of islands; actually 15 larger islands. At the other end (s.e.) of the chain is Rhodes, the largest and regional capital.

Brief history of the Dodecanese:

1310 after the fall of Acre (1291), the Knights Hospitaller aka Knights of St John (one of two major crusader knightly orders) conquered Rhodes and the other Dodecanese from Byzantine rule.

1522 the Ottoman Turks conquered. The Knights moved to Malta. Patmos was an autonomous religious community.

1912 taken by Italy as part of its conquest of Libya from Ottoman rule. Italy forced Italian citizenship, language and Catholic religion on the Greek Orthodox population.

1943 Nazi Germany took over the islands after Italy surrendered.

1947 joined Greece.

Patmos was designated a holy island by the Greek parliament in 1981.

Area: 13 sq mi. Pop 3,283 (2021).

Chief towns: Chora (Χωρά) elev. 790 ft; Skala (Σκάλα) the port.

UNESCO World Heritage Site: The Historic Centre (Chorá) with the Monastery of Saint-John the Theologian and the Cave of the Apocalypse on the Island of Pátmos (#942, 1999).

1. Cave of the Apocalypse

2. Monastery of St John the Theologian

1088 Byzantine Emperor Alexios I Komnenos granted island to John Christodoulos. 40 monks (2011). c 240 m, 790 ft. Treasury (museum): notable items:

Codex Petropolitanus Purpureus (Purple Codex of Saint Petersburg), 6th cent., 4 gospels.

codex purpureus: Purple Codices or Purple Uncials.

vellum dyed purple; silver ink, w. gold ink for nomina sacra.

Written in imperial scriptorium, Constantinople. Dismembered by crusaders 12th cent.

Orig. prob 462 leaves; 231 survive: 182 in St Petersburg, 33 in Patmos, 6 Vatican, 4 BL, 1 Morgan Lib. NY, 1 Byzantine

Museum, Athens, 1 Museum of Byzantine Culture, Thessaloniki.

II. One Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church

Nicene Creed:

Πιστεύω ... εἰς μίαν, Ἁγίαν, Καθολικὴν καὶ Ἀποστολικὴν Ἐκκλησίαν.
Credo in ... unam, sanctam, catholicam et apostolicam Ecclesiam.
 I believe... in one holy, catholic and apostolic Church.

catholic: καθολικός < καθόλου (generally, entirely) < κατά + ὅλος.

Ecumenical Councils:

1. Nicea 325: first version of Nicene Creed; condemned Arius (of Alexandria).
2. Constantinople 381: revised (final) version of Creed (Nicene-Constantinopolitan); condemned Arius again.
3. Ephesus 431: Mary declared *theotokos*; condemned Nestorius (Patriarch of Constantinople 428-431): Christ's human and divine natures distinct.
4. Chalcedon 451: Chalcedonian Definition; condemned monophysites: Christ's human and divine natures fused into one.

Other major dates:

633-641 Moslems captured Seleucia-Ctesiphon (633), Antioch (637), Jerusalem (638), Alexandria (641).

1054 The Great Schism

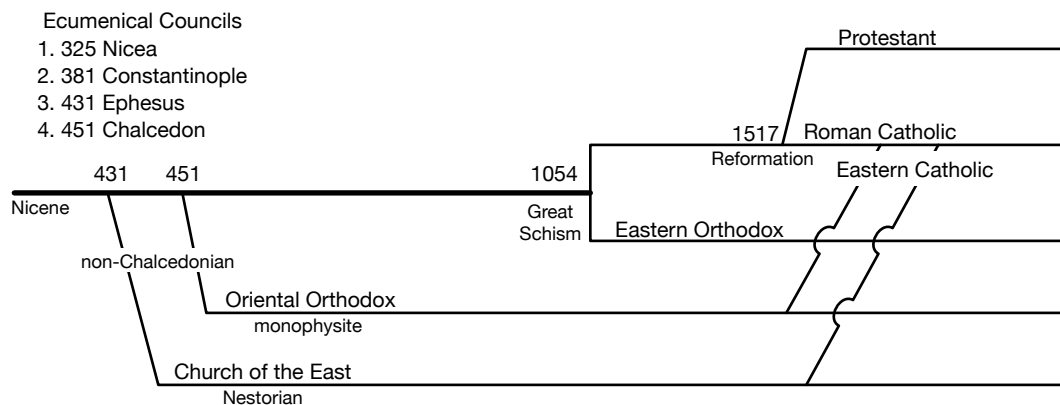
1517 Luther nailed his 95 Theses to church door in Wittenberg, 31 Oct. (Reformation Sunday: last Sun. in Oct.).

1534 Henry VIII separated the English Church from Rome.

The Ancient Patriarchates (designated 325):

1. Rome
2. Constantinople (added 381)
3. Alexandria
4. Antioch
5. Jerusalem

A. Catholic: The Churches



1. The Church of the East

Nicene, non-Chalcedonian. Nestorian (condemned 431). Recognizes Councils 1-2.

Catholicos/Patriarch of the East (Seleucia-Ctesiphon)

Today: The Assyrian Church of the East; St Thomas (Mar Toma) Christians (Malabar coast of Kerala, India).

2. Oriental Orthodox

Nicene, non-Chalcedonian. Monophysite (condemned 451; more accurately miaphysite). Recognizes Councils 1-3.

Six churches: Coptic, Ethiopian, Eritrean, Syriac, Malankara Syrian, Armenian Apostolic.

Recognize head of Coptic church (Pope in Alexandria) as first among equals.

3. Eastern Orthodox

Nicene, Chalcedonian. Recognize all 7 councils.

The Eastern Orthodox Church comprises mainly 15 autocephalous churches:

- 1. Ecumenical Patriarch of Constantinople: incl. Mount Athos, Exarchate of Patmos; Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of Thyateira and Great Britain, of Italy and Malta, of America, of Australia; etc.
- 2-4 the other three ancient patriarchies: Greek Orthodox Church of Alexandria; of Antioch (incl. Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America); of Jerusalem.
- 5-15 national orthodox churches: Orthodox Church of Russia (incl. autocephalous Orthodox Church in America, OCA), Serbia, Romania, Bulgaria, Georgia, Cyprus, Greece, Poland, Albania, Czech lands & Slovakia, Ukraine.

4. The Catholic Church

1. Roman Catholic
2. Eastern Catholic: 23 autonomous churches in full communion with the Pope. Maintain liturgical, devotional and theological traditions of the eastern churches: Eastern Orthodox, Oriental Orthodox, Church of the East—of which they were formerly part.

5. The Protestant Church

B. Apostolic

1. Apostolic Foundation

An Apostolic See claims to be founded by an apostle:

1. Rome: Peter
2. Constantinople: Andrew
3. Alexandria: Mark, one of the 70/72 apostles
4. Antioch: Paul
5. Jerusalem: James the Just
6. Babylon/Seleucia-Ctesiphon: Thomas, Bartholomew/Nathanael, Thaddeus of Edessa [Syr. Addai], one of the 70/72

Various other churches claim apostolic foundations:

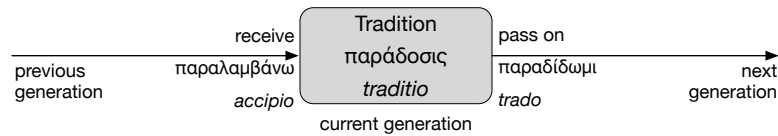
- Assyrian Church of the East: Thomas
- Mar Toma (St Thomas) Christians (Kerala): Thomas
- Ethiopian Orthodox Church: Philip
- Armenian Orthodox Church: Thaddeus/Jude, Bartholomew
- Russian Orthodox Church: Andrew (trad. visited area where Kiev is now)

2. Apostolic Succession

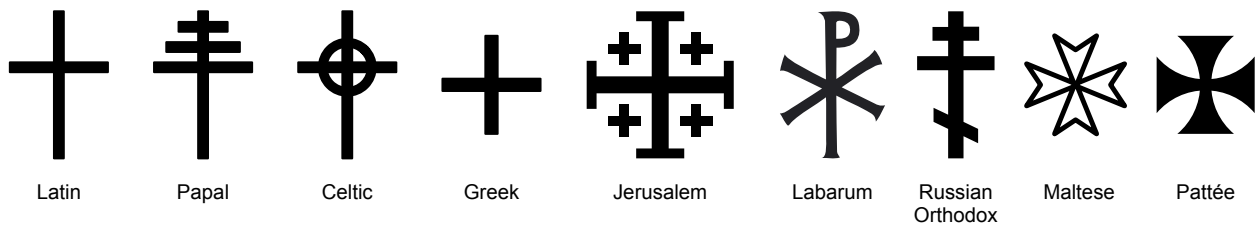
Ordination by laying on of hands by a bishop (episcopal consecration), himself ordained by a bishop, all the way back to the apostles.

Eastern Orthodox, Oriental Orthodox, Church of the East, Roman Catholic, Anglican, some Lutherans.

Tradition



Crosses



III. Icons

Icons originate in the Egyptian mummy portraits painted on wooden boards and attached to mummies in Roman Egypt; found especially in the Fayum Basin s.w. of Cairo). These are naturalistic, full-face and wide-eyed.

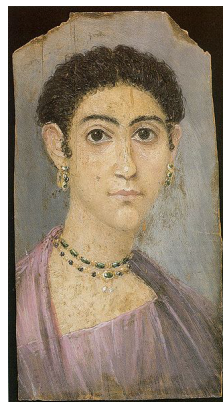
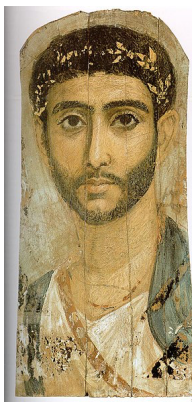
A few early pre-iconoclastic icons, similarly painted on wooden boards, survive at St Catherine's Monastery, Sinai.

1. The Iconoclastic Struggle

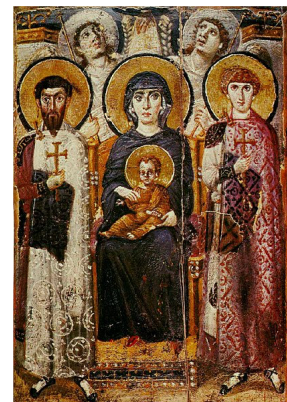
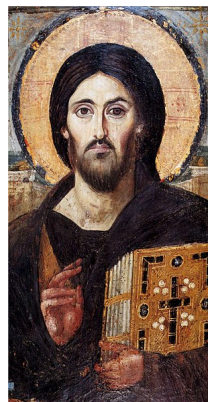
Εἰκονομαχία 726-787, 814-842. Iconoclasts (icon-smashers) vs. iconodules, iconophiles (icon-users).

The 7th ecumenical council (Nicea 787) formally legitimized icons.

Synod of Constantinople 843 after death of last iconoclast emperor; procession from Blachernae to Hagia Sophia to restore icons; first Sunday of Lent. Celebrated ever since as a Feast: The Triumph of Orthodoxy.



Fayum mummy portraits



Early icons, St Catherine's Monastery

2. Types of Icons

- Christ:
 - Pantocrator: Christ seated as ruler of all, right hand raised in sign of peace, left hand holding a book or scroll.
 - Deiesis: seated or standing Christ in center, being petitioned (δέησις petition) by standing Mary on left and John the Baptist on right.
 - Anastasis: resurrection.
- Mary: Luke painted the original icon of Mary.
 - Theotokos Hodigitria (Ὁδηγήτρια), the Mother of God pointing the way.
 - Panagia (Παναγία, All-holy), Theotokos of the Sign: Mary standing, hands raised in *orans* position (prayer); image of Jesus in a round aureole on her breast. Just after the annunciation; Mary willingly submits to God's will. Sometimes called *Platyτέρα* (Greek: Πλατυτέρα, literally *wider* or *more spacious*): Mary become larger than the cosmos; cf. Chora Church, Istanbul, she is the container of the uncontainable (ἡ χώρα του ἀχωρήτου).



Theotokos Hodigitria



Panagia or Theotokos of the Sign

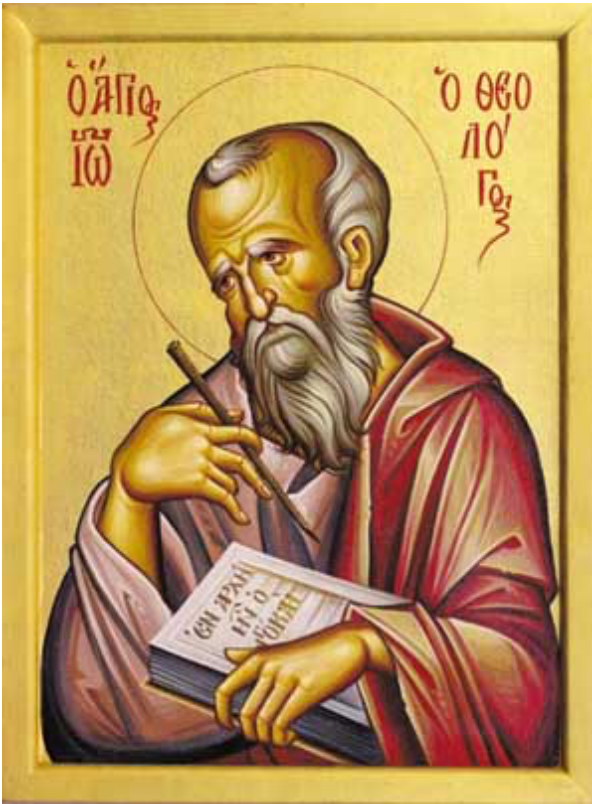
Sacra nomina: the names of Jesus and Mary are written on the icon as abbreviations (indicated by a line over the letters)

- $\overline{\text{IC}} \overline{\text{XC}}$ Ἰησους Χριστος ΙΗΣΟΥΣ ΧΡΙΣΤΟΣ, Jesus Christ
- $\overline{\text{MP}} \overline{\text{ΘΥ}}$ μητηρ θεου ΜΗΤΗΡ ΘΕΟΥ, Mother of God

Every Orthodox and Eastern Catholic church has an iconostasis on which are displayed many icons.

- Festal Days
 - Anastasis: resurrection. Pascha (Easter: the Great Feast).
 - Dodekaorton: the Twelve Feasts.
- Saints

Icons of John the Theologian



John the Theologian



John dictating to Prochorus



Vision of the Apocalypse