
A Timeline of Ecumenical Councils

Year(s)	Name	Significant Teaching(s)
Circa 50	Council of Jerusalem Not an ecumenical council proper; called an "apostolic council"	Gentile converts are not bound to Mosaic Law
325	First Council of Nicaea	Denounced Arianism Declared Christ "consubstantial" with the Father Set the date of Easter Recognized primacy of the sees of Rome, Alexandria and Antioch
381	First Council of Constantinople	Repudiated Arianism and Macedonianism Declared that Christ is "born of the Father before all time"
431	Council of Ephesus	Repudiated Nestorianism and Pelagianism Declared Mary <i>Theotokis</i>
451	Council of Chalcedon	Repudiated Monophysitism Defined the dual natures of Christ
553	Second Council of Constantinople	Repudiated Nestorianism
680-681	Third Council of Constantinople	Repudiated Monothelitism and Monoenergism
787	Second Council of Nicaea	Repudiated iconoclasm Restored veneration of icons
869-870	Fourth Council of Constantinople	Deposed Patriarch Photios I of Constantinople; reinstated St. Ignatius of Constantinople
1123	First Council of the Lateran	Repudiated lay investiture
1139	Second Council of the Lateran	Reaffirmed Lateran I Addressed ecclesial morals and dress

1179	Third Council of the Lateran	Restricted papal election to the Cardinals Condemned simony Set minimum ages for ordination
1215	Fourth Council of the Lateran	Defined transubstantiation Addressed papal primacy
1245	First Council of Lyon	Deposed Emperor Frederick II Instituted a levy to support the Holy Land
1274	Second Council of Lyon	Attempted reunion with Eastern Churches Approved Franciscan and Dominican orders
1311-1312	Council of Vienne	Disbanded the Knights Templar
1414-1418	Council of Constance	Resolved Great Western Schism
1431-1445	Council of Basel, Ferrara and Florence	Addressed Church reform and reunion with the Eastern Churches
1512-1514	Fifth Council of the Lateran	Addressed Church reform
1545-1563	Council of Trent	Repudiated Protestantism Defined canon of Scripture Defined seven sacraments Addressed clerical discipline Reformed priestly training
1870	First Council of the Vatican	Defined papal infallibility
1962-1965	Second Council of the Vatican	Addressed the relation of the Church to the modern world Called for liturgical reforms Restored permanent diaconate