The Orthodox Christian Church

"One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church"

New Testament Era
(Gospels of Matthew, Mark, & Luke are written in 45-80 AD)

Era of Christian Persecution
(Pagan Roman Empire martyrs tens of thousands of Christians)

Era of Ecumenical Councils
(Flourishing of the Eastern Roman "Byzantine" Empire)

- **33** Pentecost (Acts 2:1-41)
- **49** Council at Jerusalem (Acts 15:1-29)
- **70** Destruction of Jerusalem, as foretold by Christ
- **95** St. John writes his Gospel and the Book of Revelation
- **150** St. Justin Martyr describes the Divine Liturgy
- **215-290** Rise of Christian schools in Alexandria and Antioch
- **313** Edict of Milan – Christianity permitted within Roman Empire
- **325** First Ecumenical Council – Nicene Creed formulated
- **397** Council of Carthage ratifies Canon of the Bible (which books are included, which are not)
- **451** Fourth Ecumenical Council, in Chalcedon – Christ has two natures: fully God, fully Man
- **563** The Great Church, Hagia Sophia, consecrated in Constantinople
- **787** Seventh Ecumenical Council – Icons upheld
- **963** First monastery founded on Mt. Athos, Greece
- **988** Conversion of the Slavic people begins (Prince Vladimir is baptized)

1054 Great Schism

Roman Catholicism

- **1066** Norman conquest of Britain – Orthodox bishops are replaced with those loyal to Rome

1204 Crusaders sack Constantinople

Crusades 1095-1291

- **1250** Thomas Aquinas – Scholastic influence in Western Christian theology; Development of atonement theory

1333 St. Gregory Palamas defends Orthodox spirituality

1453 Turks overtake Constantinople

- **1455** Gutenberg Bible printed

1517 Luther's 95 Theses (Reformation begins)

Protestantism

- **1523** Reformed movement begins
- **1524** Anabaptist movement begins
- **1534** Church of England separates from Roman Catholic church

1589 Patriarch in Russia

1794 Russian Missionaries arrive in Alaska

- **1729** Methodist church formed

1821 Greece freed from Ottoman Empire

- **1845** Southern Baptist church formed

1854 Dogma of Immaculate Conception

1870 Dogma of Infallibility of the Pope

1917 Communist Revolution in Russia

- **1916** Pentecostal church formed

2020 Nearly 2,000 years of Orthodox Christianity

- **2020** More than 20,000 Christian denominations