

GLOSSARY

Word	Definition
Archbishop	The leading church officer, and all bishops have the same sacramental position in guiding the people of God. He may be called archbishop or metropolitan, the latter simply meaning the bishop of a chief city, or a metropolis.
Archon	An archon is a servant leader in the Orthodox church. An archon is an honored titled given by the Ecumenical Patriarch to an Orthodox Christian community leader. They are committed to preserving the Orthodox faith and religious freedom.
Ecumenical Council	An ecumenical council, also called general council , is a meeting of bishops and other church authorities to consider and rule on questions of Christian doctrine, administration, discipline, and other matters in which those entitled to vote are convoked from the whole world (oikoumene) and which secures the approbation of the whole Church.
Ecumenical Patriarch	The Ecumenical Patriarch has the historical, canonical, and theological responsibility to initiate and coordinate actions among all Orthodox Churches, whether under his jurisdiction, independent or autonomous. This includes assembling and convening councils, facilitating inter-Church and inter-faith dialogue, and addressing the issues of the day.
Faith	<p><u>Faith is a means by which believers come to God and put their trust in Him for salvation.</u></p> <p><u>According to the Bible, faith is the conviction of things not seen, the assurance of things hoped for.</u></p> <p><u>The Dictionary of Bible Themes defines faith as a constant outlook of trust towards God, whereby human beings abandon all reliance on their own efforts and put their full confidence in him, his word, and his promises</u></p>
Five Issues of Concern for the Ecumenical Patriarchate (read more at archons.org)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Legal Identity • Election of Patriarch • Halki Seminary • Confiscation of Property • Ecumenical Status
Halki Seminary	Formally referred to as the Theological School of Halki. Founded in 1844 on the island of Halki. In 1971, the Turkish parliament enacted a law banning private higher education institutions. An international campaign to reopen this theological school is ongoing. The hope is to reopen this seminary so that future Orthodox priests can learn, thrive, and continue to spread the Orthodox faith around the world.

Martyr	A martyr is someone who suffers persecution and death for advocating, renouncing, or refusing to renounce or advocate, a religious belief .
Orthodoxy/Orthodox Faith	<p>The purpose of Orthodox Christianity is the salvation of every human person, uniting us to Christ in the Church, transforming us in holiness, and giving us eternal life. This is the Gospel, the good news, that Jesus is the Messiah, that He rose from the dead, and that we can be saved as a result.</p> <p>Historically, the Orthodox Church is the oldest of all Christian churches. Ultimately, all Christian communities can trace their own history back to the Orthodox Church. In the pages of the New Testament, we read the beginnings of the Orthodox Church, and even today Orthodox Christianity continues to live on in most of the places mentioned in the New Testament where the Apostles first preached the Gospel. This is the Church that wrote, compiled, and canonized the Holy Scriptures, which formulated the traditional doctrines of Christianity, and that has believed and lived the same faith for 2,000 years.</p> <p>Today, Orthodox Christianity’s largest communities exist primarily in Eastern Europe and the Middle East, though there are also sizable communities in North America, Western Europe, Africa, Asia, and Australia, primarily through immigration in the 19th and 20th centuries, but also through a growing number of converts to the faith. It is the second largest Christian communion in the world, smaller only than the Roman Catholic Church. The Orthodox Church is sometimes referred to as “Greek Orthodox” or “Eastern Orthodox,” but the best term is simply Orthodox Christian.</p>
Phanar	Is a neighborhood midway up the Golden Horn, within the borough of Fatih, in Istanbul, Turkey (formerly Constantinople). The streets in the area are full of historic wooden houses, churches , and synagogues dating from Byzantine and Ottoman times. The name <i>phanar</i> comes from Greek "fanari" (φανάρι), meaning <i>lantern</i> . After the fall of Constantinople on May 29 , 1453, the Phanar district became the home to most of the Greeks who remained in the city.
Religious Freedom	Religious freedom refers to the right of individuals or communities, both in public and private settings, to manifest their religion or belief through teaching, practice, worship, and observance. It encompasses the ability to live, speak, and act according to one’s religious convictions without interference from the government or external authorities.
Saint	In Christian belief, a saint is a person who is recognized as having an exceptional degree of holiness, likeness, or closeness to God.