

# Visits of Ecumenical Patriarchs to Rome and Popes to the Ecumenical Patriarchate

The official meetings of the Primate of the Churches have always been ecclesiastical events of great importance, for the reinforcement, and hopefully, the restoration of the unity of faith in the nexus of love. Such visits are in accordance with the commandment of the Divine Founder of the Church, our Lord Jesus Christ.

The Ecumenical Patriarchate, with its open and ecumenical spirit, developed a series of ecumenical initiatives of historical importance in the well-known Encyclicals of 1902, 1904 and 1920. These encyclicals aimed at the unity of all Christians in the communion of faith and sacraments. These initiatives of the Ecumenical Patriarchate have led to a Theological Dialogue of the Orthodox Church with the sister Roman-Catholic Church “on equal terms.”

It has been the goal that beyond all other fraternal gestures, the mutual visits of Popes to Constantinople and Ecumenical Patriarchs to Rome have marked a new era in the relations between the two Churches. It has helped in the understanding of the people of God, that there be effort, from both sides, for the achievement of the unity, so “that all may be one”, according to the words of the Lord in His High Priestly Prayer (John: 17)

Check out [ApostolicPilgrimage.org/historic-meetings-popes-patriarchs](http://ApostolicPilgrimage.org/historic-meetings-popes-patriarchs) for further information

## TIMELINE OF MEETINGS BETWEEN POPES AND ECUMENICAL PATRIARCHS

### The Visits of the Popes of Rome to Constantinople During the First Millennium

During the first millennium, there were no visits of the Primate of Constantinople to Rome because New Rome (Constantinople) had become the capital of the Empire.

**536** The visit of Pope Agapetus of Rome to Constantinople

**547** The visit of Pope Vigilius of Rome to Constantinople

**711** The visit of Pope Constantine of Rome to Constantinople

### The Efforts for Unification of the Two Churches After the Schism (1054)

**1438–1439** The journey of Ecumenical Patriarch Joseph to Italy

The first contacts of Ecumenical Patriarch Athenagoras with the Roman-Catholic Church

**1964** (5–6 January) The Meeting of Pope Paul

VI and Ecumenical Patriarch Athenagoras in Jerusalem

**1967** (25 July) The visit of Pope Paul VI to the Ecumenical Patriarchate



**1967** (26–28 October) The visit of Ecumenical Patriarch Athenagoras to the Church of Rome

**1979** (29–30 November)

The visit of Pope John Paul II to the Ecumenical Patriarchate



**1987** (3–7 December) The visit of Ecumenical Patriarch Dimitrios to the Church of Rome

**1995** (27–30 June) The First Visit of Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew to the Church of Rome

**2002** (23–25 January) The Second Visit of Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew to the Church of Rome



**2004** (28 June–2 July) The Third Visit of Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew to the Church of Rome

**2004** (26–27 November) The Fourth Visit of Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew to the Church of Rome

**2005** (7–8 April) The Journey of Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew to the Church of Rome for the funeral service of Pope John Paul II

**2006** (November 29–December 1) The Visit of Pope Benedict XVI to the Ecumenical Patriarchate



**2007** (21 October) Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew attends an Interfaith Peace Summit hosted by Pope Benedict XVI in Naples

**2008** (6 March) Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew visits Pope Benedict XVI at the Vatican

**2008** (28–30 June) Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew visits Pope Benedict XVI at the Vatican



**2008** (18 October) Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew participated in the XII Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops at the Sistine Chapel



**2011** (27 October) Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew attends an

Interfaith Peace Summit hosted by Pope Benedict XVI in Assisi

**2012** (10–11 October) Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew visits the Church of Rome on the Occasion of the 50th Anniversary of Vatican Council II



**2013** (19–20 March) Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew visits the Church of Rome for the inaugural mass of Pope Francis

**2014** (25–26 May) Apostolic Pilgrimage of His Holiness Pope Francis and His All-Holiness Ecumenical



Patriarch Bartholomew to Jerusalem to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the historic meeting between Pope Paul VI and Ecumenical Patriarch Athenagoras

For a detailed version please visit: [www.bit.ly/historic-meetings](http://www.bit.ly/historic-meetings)



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