

The official texts of the Holy and Great Synod: Encyclical, Message and Decisions

The Holy and Great Synod of the Orthodox Church – the most important ecclesiastical event of the 21st century after 1300 years – took place at the venue of the Orthodox Academy of Crete (OAC) from 16 to 25 June, 2016. This historical event set the basis for an essential theological dialogue and constituted a landmark in the development of Church matters and the future situation of the Orthodox Church worldwide.

A total of 350 Members took part, to which a substantial number of journalists and TV-crews were added. Without doubt, the successful organization and conduct of the Holy and Great Synod of the Orthodox Church was based on the Foundation's modern facilities, which include an excellent logistical equipment with many possibilities and flexibility according to the needs of each event. At the same time, the long experience of the OAC staff members, who showed responsibility and a major sense of duty before this difficult and historic challenge, was of decisive importance in this regard.

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[Encyclical of the Holy and Great Council of the Orthodox Church](#)

Message of the Holy and Great Council of the Orthodox Church

1. The Mission of the Orthodox Church in Today's World

2. The Sacrament of Marriage and its Impediments

3. The Orthodox Diaspora

4. Autonomy and the Means by Which it is Proclaimed

5. Relations of the Orthodox Church with the Rest of the Christian World

6. The Importance of Fasting and Its Observance Today