

Table of Councils.

By Œcumenical or General Councils, are understood those Assemblies of Bishops which have been held at different times, and have been supposed to represent the whole body of the Christian Church These are generally reckoned, viz.,—

1. The First Council of Nice, A.D. 325.
2. The First Council of Constantinople, A.D. 381.
3. The Council of Ephesus, A.D. 431.
4. The Council of Chalcedon, A.D. 451.
5. The Second Council of Constantinople, A.D. 553.
6. The Third Council of Constantinople, A.D. 680.
7. The Second Council of Nice, A.D. 787.
8. The Fourth Council of Constantinople, A.D. 869.

To those the Romanists add the following: but they have no claim to the title of “Œcumenical,” or “General,” from their having been attended by none but the Pope’s Bishops, and from their not having been *free*,—

9. The First Council of Lateran, in Rome, A.D. 1123.
10. The Second Council of Lateran, A.D. 1139.
11. The Third Council of Lateran, A.D. 1179.

12. The Fourth Council of Lateran, A.D. 1215.
13. The Council of Lyons, A.D. 1245.
14. The Second Council of Lyons, A.D. 1274.
15. The Council of Vienna, A.D. 1311.
16. The Council of Florence, A.D. 1439
17. The Fifth Council of Lateran, A.D. 1512.
18. The Council of Trent, A.D. 1545.
19. The Council of the Vatican, A.D. 1870.

Besides the above, there was a Council held at Constance, A.D. 1414, which condemned Huss and Jerome of Prague, and denied the cup to the laity. This Council is allowed by the Romanists to have the authority of a General Council with respect to its last Sessions.

The Second Council of Nice, A.D. 787, was convened by the influence of the Empress Irene, a woman of depraved character, and a partizan of images. Charlemagne, in the Caroline Books, protested against its decrees in favour of images, and reproached the Council for being guided by a woman. The Council of Frankfort, A.D. 794, protested against the decrees of the Second Council of Nice.

The Fourth Council of Constantinople, A.D. 869, was rejected by the Greek Church.