

The Revelation of God

Revelation

“God is the Lord, and has revealed Himself unto us; blessed is He who comes in the Name of the Lord.” (Psalm 118:26-27)

“In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God; all things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made.

“In him was life and the life was the light of men. The lights shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

“The true light that enlightens every man was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world knew him not.

“And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth; we have beheld his glory, glory as of the only-begotten Son from the Father.

“And from his fullness have we all received, grace upon grace. For the law came through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

“No one has ever seen God; the only-begotten Son who is in the bosom of the Father, he has made him known.” (St. John 1:1-5,9-10,14,18)

John 12:27-30

What is Doctrine?

“And they devoted themselves to the apostles’ doctrine ...” (Acts 2:42)

Holy Tradition: The Source of the Orthodox Faith

“O Timothy, guard what has been entrusted to you.” (I Timothy 6:20)

“So then, brethren, stand firm and hold to the traditions which you were taught by us, either by word of mouth or by letter.” (II Thessalonians 2:15)

“I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, ...”
(I Corinthians 15:3)

“I commend you because you remember me in everything and maintain the traditions even as I have delivered them to you.” (I Corinthians 11:2)

“Tradition is the life of the Holy Spirit in the Church.” Vladimir Lossky

“Tradition” and “traditions”:

Differing levels of authority within the Tradition:

Tradition is the Witness of the Holy Spirit: “When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth.” (St. John 16:13)

Outward forms of the Tradition of the Church

The Scripture — The Bible

(see Canonical Book List)

Councils

The Seven Ecumenical Councils and the Creed

(see list of the Seven Ecumenical Councils)

Local and Later Councils

The Fathers

The Divine Liturgy and Liturgical Life of the Church

Lex orandi lex credendi. “The law of prayer is the law of faith.” Men’s faith is expressed in their prayers.

Canon Law

Liturgical Arts: Icons & Music