

TERMINOLGY

Abbreviations

aka - also known as

Ap.- Apostle

Bp.- Bishop

b - born (b. -), may also be in combination with "c."

Card.- Cardinal

c - circa (c. -), approximate year

(-) - dash, as an example for "-82" or "-1024" means "to the year".

d - died (d. -), may also be in combination with "c."

HRE - Holy Roman Emperor

N.T.- New Testament

O.T.- Old Testament,

P.- preceding a specific pope

refer - reference. May include a date, dates or direction to more detail in the "Elaboration" section.

r - reign (r. -)

S. or SS.- Saint or Saints

Chronology

BC - "Before Christ", BCE - "Before the Common Era", AD - "anno Domini" ("the year of the Lord") from the birth of Christ, CE - "Common Era" (also called ACE - "After Common Event")

A.U.C. - Latin for "*ab urbe condita*". This refers to the year of the founding of Rome, legend holds, by Romulus in 754 BC. Most historians settled on this date after estimating a range between 758 and 728 BC.

Dionysius Exiguus placed Christ's birth in this 754th year after Rome. His birth year, once placed between 8 BC and 4 BC, is currently held to be 6 BC.

AD refers to this approximate birth year of Jesus Christ.

Cover background Vatican Coat of Arms

The crossed keys symbolize the keys of Simon Peter.

The keys are gold and silver to represent the power of binding and loosing given to the Church.

The triple crown (the tiara) represents the pope's three functions as "supreme pastor", "supreme teacher" and "supreme priest".

The gold cross surmounting the triple crowns symbolizes the crucifixion of Jesus.

Forms of Address- Roman Catholic and Orthodox

Addressee - Pope
Form - His Holiness
Salutation - Your Holy Father / Most Holy Father

Addressee - Patriarch (of...) / Reverend Lord (location)
Form - His Beatitude the...
Salutation - Most Reverend Lord of (location) / Patriarch of (location) / His Holiness

The two above forms also apply to the Archbishop of Constantinople, New Rome, and some others.

Addressee - Ecumenical Patriarch
Form - His All - Holiness
Salutation - All Holiness

Addressee - Archdeacon
Form - Most Reverend
Salutation - Venerable

Addressee – Archbishop / Bishop
Form - Most Reverend
Salutation - Your Excellency / Bishop

Addressee - Dean (of a cathedral)
Form - Dean/Very Reverend
Salutation - Very Reverend

Addressee - Monsignor
Form - The Right Reverend
Salutation - Monsignor

Addressee - Priest
Form - Reverend
Salutation - Father