



APOSTOLIC SUCCESSION

from St. Evodius, Apostle of the Seventy, through the Syriac Orthodox Patriarchate of Antioch, to the present time

in the line of

THE MOST REVEREND

GARLAND F. BYERS, JR., J.D., D.D.

Bishop to the Nations, under Apostolic Commission



1. SAINT EVODIUS, APOSTLE OF THE SEVENTY^{CO}

sent by Christ among the Seventy about A.D. 30 (Luke 10:1)

first bishop of Antioch after St. Peter, about A.D. 53

This line of apostolic succession extends from the Apostle Evodius, about A.D. 30, to the present day, a span of 1,996 years as of 2026.

The succession from St. Evodius to Ignatius Peter IV, Patriarch of Antioch, follows the list of the patriarchs of Antioch kept by the Syriac Orthodox Church: the same list by which that Church traces its own apostolic succession to St. Peter, first bishop of Antioch, whom St. Evodius succeeded.

St. Evodius is honored as an apostle of the Seventy by the Eastern Orthodox Church, which keeps his feast on September 7 and numbers him among the Seventy Apostles honored together on January 4.

The Roman Catholic Church honors him as St. Evodius, bishop of Antioch, on May 6, and the Oriental Orthodox Churches, the Syriac Orthodox among them, likewise honor him. The historian Eusebius, about A.D. 325, recorded him as the first bishop of Antioch after St. Peter, and the Apostolic Constitutions, about A.D. 380, record that St. Peter appointed him.

Consecrations to the office of bishop were made, one to the next, through the churches named below.

Some bishops in this line are also honored as saints. The marks beside their names concern holiness of life only. They do not bear on the validity of any consecration: every bishop listed

holds his place in the succession equally, whether or not he is honored as a saint.

St. Saint: one whom a Church publicly honors as having lived a life of heroic holiness and as now being with God, and whose memory it keeps in its calendar. In the early Church saints were recognized by the acclaim of the faithful and their bishops; later, by formal canonization in the Roman Catholic Church and glorification in the Eastern Orthodox Church.

Bl. Blessed: in the Roman Catholic Church, one who has been beatified, the formal step that precedes canonization as a saint.

C Honored as a saint or blessed by the Roman Catholic Church.

O Honored as a saint by the Eastern Orthodox Church.

CO Honored as a saint by both the Roman Catholic and the Eastern Orthodox Churches.

Red Martyr: one who gave his life for the faith.

The Churches do not always agree on who is a saint. One may honor a person whom another does not, and the marks show which Church honors each.

ANTIOCH

The see of Antioch, where “the disciples were called Christians first” (Acts 11:26), founded by St. Peter before he went to Rome. The bishops and patriarchs of Antioch from St. Ignatius, who succeeded St. Evodius, to Severus, the last patriarch whom both the Syriac Orthodox and the Greek Orthodox Churches count in common.

2. St. Ignatius ^{CO} <i>Martyr</i>	68
3. Heron I	100
4. Cornelius	127
5. Heron II	151
6. St. Theophilus ^{CO}	169
7. Maximus I	188
8. St. Serapion ^{CO}	191
9. St. Asclepiades ^{CO}	212
10. Philetus	218
11. Zebinus	232
12. St. Babylas ^{CO} <i>Martyr</i>	240
13. Fabius	253
14. Demetrian	256

15. Amphilochius	263
16. Paul of Samosata	267
17. Domnus I	270
18. Timaeus	273
19. Cyril	277
20. Tyrannion	299
21. Vitalius	308
22. St. Philogonius ^{CO}	314
23. Paulinus	324
24. St. Eustathius ^{CO}	325
25. Eulalius	332
26. Euphronius	333
27. Flacillus	334
28. Stephen I	341
29. Leontius	345
30. Eudoxius	350
31. St. Meletius ^{CO}	354
32. Anianus	357
33. Euzoius	360

34. Dorotheus	370
35. Paulinus II	371
36. Vitalius II	376
37. St. Flavian I ^{CO}	384
38. Porphyrius	404
39. Alexander	408
40. Theodotus	418
41. John I	427
42. Domnus II	443
43. Maximus II	450
44. Basil	459
45. Acacius	459
46. Martyrius	461
47. Peter the Fuller	465
48. Julian	466
49. John II	475
50. Stephen II	490
51. Stephen III	493
52. Calandion	495
53. John Codonatus	495
54. Palladius	497
55. Flavian II	505
56. Severus	513

THE SYRIAC ORTHODOX PATRIARCHATE

From the deposition of Severus in 518, the Syriac Orthodox Patriarchs of Antioch, as that Church keeps their list, to Ignatius Peter IV, who in 1877 consecrated Paulose Mar Athanasius, Bishop of Kottayam, for the Church in India.

57. Sergius of Tella	544
58. Paul II the Black	564
59. Peter III of Callinicum	581
60. Julian II	591
61. Athanasius I Gammolo	595

62. John III of the Sedre	631
63. Theodore	649
64. Severus II bar Masqeh	668
65. Athanasius II Baldoyo	684
66. Julian III	687
67. Elias I	709
68. Athanasius III	724
69. Iwannis I	740
70. George I	758
71. Joseph	790
72. Quriaqos of Tagrit	793
73. Dionysius I Telmaharoyo	818
74. John IV	846
75. Ignatius II	878
76. Theodosius Romanus	887
77. Dionysius II	897
78. John V	910
79. Basil I	923
80. John VI	936
81. Iwannis II	954
82. Dionysius III	958
83. Abraham I	962
84. John VII Sarigta	965
85. Athanasius IV Salhoyo	987
86. John VIII bar Abdoun	1004
87. Dionysius IV Yahyo	1031
88. John IX bar Abdun	1049
89. Athanasius V Yahyo	1058
90. John X bar Shushan	1064
91. Basil II	1074
92. John bar Abdun	1075
93. Dionysius V Lazarus	1077
94. Iwannis III	1086
95. Dionysius VI	1088

96. Athanasius VI bar Khamoro	1091
97. John XI bar Mawdyono	1130
98. Athanasius VII bar Qatra	1139
99. Michael I the Syrian	1166
100. Athanasius VIII bar Salibi	1199
101. John XII	1208
102. Ignatius III David	1222
103. Dionysius VII Angur	1252
104. John XIII bar Ma'dani	1252
105. Ignatius IV Yeshu	1264
106. Philoxenus I Nemrud	1283
107. Michael II	1292
108. Michael III Yeshu	1312
109. Basil III Gabriel	1349
110. Philoxenus II	1387
111. Basil IV Simon	1421
112. Ignatius Behnam Hadloyo	1445
113. Ignatius Khalaf	1456
114. Ignatius John XIV	1484
115. Ignatius Noah	1494
116. Ignatius Yeshu I	1509
117. Ignatius Jacob I	1512
118. Ignatius David I	1519
119. Ignatius Abdullah I	1521
120. Ignatius Ni'matallah	1557
121. Ignatius David II Shah	1576
122. Ignatius Pilate	1591
123. Ignatius Hidayat Allah	1598
124. Ignatius Simon	1640

125. Ignatius Yeshu II	1655
126. Ignatius Abdulmasih I	1662
127. Ignatius George II	1687
128. Ignatius Isaac II	1709
129. Ignatius Shukrallah II	1723
130. Ignatius George III	1746
131. Ignatius George IV	1768
132. Ignatius Matthew	1782
133. Ignatius Yunan	1817
134. Ignatius George V	1819
135. Ignatius Elias II	1838
136. Ignatius Jacob II	1847
137. Ignatius Peter IV	1872

INDIA, CEYLON, AND AMERICA

From Paulose Mar Athanasius, each bishop consecrated by the one listed before him. With St. Gregorios of Parumala, Mar Athanasius and Mar Julius I consecrated Joseph René Vilatte at Colombo, Ceylon, in 1892, by favour of the Patriarch.

138. Paulose Mar Athanasius	1877
139. Antonio Francisco Xavier Alvares (Mar Julius I)	1889
140. Joseph René Vilatte (Mar Timotheos)	1892
141. Francis John Edmund Barwell- Walker	1923
142. Emile Rodriguez y Fairfield	c. 1961
143. Nils Bertil Alexander Persson	1986
144. Samuel Guido, Jr.	2004

145.

GARLAND F. BYERS, JR.

2013

SHARED SUCCESSION WITH THE SYRIAC ORTHODOX PATRIARCH OF ANTIOCH

The present Syriac Orthodox Patriarch of Antioch and All the East, Patriarch Ignatius Aphrem II, and Bishop Byers share the same line of apostolic succession from St. Evodius down to Patriarch Ignatius Peter IV (Patriarch of Antioch 1872–1894). By his own hands Patriarch Peter IV consecrated the bishops from whom both lines descend: in the line of Patriarch Aphrem II, Gregorios Abded Aloho, later Patriarch Ignatius Abded Aloho II, in 1872; in the line of Bishop Byers, Paulose Mar Athanasius, Bishop of Kottayam, in 1877.



HOLY ORDERS

Ordination

August 17, 2008, by the laying on of hands, at St. Paul's Lutheran Orthodox Chapel, Palmerton, Pennsylvania.

Consecration to the Holy Order of Bishop

April 20, 2013, by the laying on of hands during the celebration of the Holy Eucharist, at St. Paul's Lutheran Orthodox Chapel, meeting that day at American Legion Post 16, Slatington, Pennsylvania.

Principal consecrator

The Most Reverend Samuel Guido, Jr.

Co-consecrators

Bishop Bradley A. Varvil

Bishop Michael Byus

Bishop James Thompson

The certificates of ordination and consecration, with photographs of the consecration, are presented on the [About the Bishop](#) page.

SERVICE

Consecrated to the Holy Order of Bishop on April 20, 2013, within the Lutheran Orthodox Church, Inc., in which he subsequently served as Archbishop of the Diocese of Western North Carolina. Bishop Byers is no longer affiliated with that body.

Doctor of Divinity (*honoris causa*), conferred by the Lutheran Orthodox Church, Inc., April 20, 2013.



St. Evodius of Antioch, Italian school, seventeenth century. Via [Wikimedia Commons](#), public domain; resized from the original.