



APOSTOLIC SUCCESSION

from St. Stachys, Apostle of the Seventy, 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 STACHYS, APOSTLE OF THE SEVENTY^{CO}

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

named in Scripture: greeted by St. Paul as "Stachys my beloved" (Romans 16:9)

first bishop of Byzantium, A.D. 38

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

The succession from St. Stachys to St. Vladimir, Metropolitan of Moscow, follows the lists of bishops kept by the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople and the Russian Orthodox Church: the same lists by which the Eastern Orthodox Church traces its own apostolic succession to St.

Stachys and St. Andrew, the First-Called.

St. Stachys, whom St. Paul greets as "Stachys my beloved" (Romans 16:9), is honored as an apostle of the Seventy by the Eastern Orthodox Church, which keeps his feast on October 31, with the Apostles Amplias and Urban, and numbers him among the Seventy Apostles honored together on January 4. The Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople holds him as the first bishop of Byzantium, set over that church by St. Andrew, and places him at the head of its list of bishops.

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.

CONSTANTINOPLE

The see of Byzantium, later Constantinople, which holds St. Andrew the First-Called as its founder and St. Stachys as its first bishop. The patriarchs from Onesimus, who succeeded St. Stachys, to Nicholas II Chrysoberges, in whose time the first metropolitan of Kiev was sent to the newly baptized people of Rus’.

2. Onesimus	54
3. Polycarp I	69
4. Plutarch	89
5. Sedecion	105
6. Diogenes	114
7. Eleutherius	129
8. Felix	136
9. Polycarp II	141
10. Athenodorus	144
11. Euzois	148
12. Laurence	154
13. Alypius	166
14. Pertinax	169
15. Olympianus	187

16. Mark I	198
17. Philadelphus	211
18. Cyriacus I	214
19. Castinus	230
20. Eugenius I	237
21. Titus	242
22. Dometius	272
23. Rufinus I	284
24. Probus	293
25. St. Metrophanes ^{CO}	306
26. St. Alexander ^{CO}	314
27. St. Paul I ^{CO} <i>Martyr</i>	337
28. Eusebius	339
29. Macedonius I	342
30. Eudoxius	360
31. Evagrius	370
32. Demophilus	370
33. St. Gregory of Nazianzus ^{CO}	379
34. St. Nectarius ^{CO}	381
35. St. John Chrysostom ^{CO}	398

36. Arsacius	404
37. St. Atticus ^{CO}	406
38. Sisinnius I	426
39. Nestorius	428
40. Maximian	431
41. St. Proclus ^{CO}	434
42. St. Flavian ^{CO} <i>Martyr</i>	446
43. St. Anatolius ^{CO}	449
44. St. Gennadius I ^{CO}	458
45. Acacius	472
46. Fravitta	489
47. Euphemius	490
48. Macedonius II	496
49. Timothy I	511
50. John II	518
51. Epiphanius	520
52. Anthimus I	535
53. St. Menas ^{CO}	536
54. St. Eutychius ^{CO}	552
55. John III	565
56. St. John IV ^{CO}	582
57. Cyriacus II	596
58. Thomas I	607
59. Sergius I	610
60. Pyrrhus	638
61. Paul II	641
62. Peter	654
63. Thomas II	667
64. John V	669
65. Constantine I	675
66. Theodore I	677
67. George I	679
68. Paul III	688
69. Callinicus I	693

70. Cyrus	706
71. John VI	712
72. St. Germanus I ^{CO}	715
73. Anastasius	730
74. Constantine II	754
75. Nicetas I	766
76. St. Paul IV ^{CO}	780
77. St. Tarasius ^{CO}	784
78. St. Nicephorus I ^{CO}	806
79. Theodotus I	815
80. Anthony I	821
81. John VII	837
82. St. Methodius I ^{CO}	843
83. St. Ignatius ^{CO}	847
84. St. Photius ^O	858
85. Stephen I	886
86. Anthony II	893
87. St. Nicholas I ^{CO}	901
88. Euthymius I	907
89. Stephen II	925
90. Tryphon	928
91. Theophylact	933
92. Polyeuctus	956
93. Basil I	970
94. Anthony III	974
95. Nicholas II	984

KIEV

The metropolitans of Kiev and all Rus', the first of them sent from Constantinople, to St. Peter, who moved the metropolitan see to Moscow.

96. St. Michael ^O	988
97. Leontius	992
98. John I	c. 1008

99. Theopemptus	1037
100. St. Hilarion [○]	1051
101. Ephraim	1055
102. George	1062
103. John II	1077
104. John III	1089
105. Nicholas	1097
106. Nicephorus I	1104
107. Nicetas	1122
108. Michael II	1130
109. Clement	1147
110. Constantine I	1156
111. Theodore	1161
112. John IV	1164
113. Constantine II	1167
114. Nicephorus II	1182
115. Matthew	1201
116. Cyril I	1224
117. Joseph	1236
118. Cyril II	1247
119. Maximus	1283
120. St. Peter [○]	1308

MOSCOW

The metropolitans and patriarchs of Moscow, and, from the eighteenth century, when the Church of Russia was governed by the Holy Synod, the archbishops and metropolitans of Moscow, to St. Vladimir.

121. Theognostus	1328
122. St. Alexius [○]	1354
123. St. Cyprian [○]	1381
124. St. Photius [○]	1408
125. Isidore	1437
126. St. Jonah [○]	1448
127. Theodosius	1461

128. Philip I	1464
129. Gerontius	1473
130. Zosimus	1490
131. Simon	1495
132. Barlaam	1511
133. Daniel	1522
134. Joasaph	1539
135. St. Macarius [○]	1542
136. Athanasius	1564
137. St. Philip II [○] <i>Martyr</i>	1566
138. Cyril	1568
139. Anthony	1572
140. Dionysius	1581
141. St. Job [○]	1587
142. St. Hermogenes [○] <i>Martyr</i>	1606
143. Philaret	1619
144. Joasaph I	1634
145. Joseph	1642
146. Nikon	1652
147. Joasaph II	1667
148. Pitirim	1672
149. Joachim	1674
150. Adrian	1690
151. Joseph (Volchansky)	1742
152. Platon (Malinovsky)	1748
153. Timothy (Shcherbatsky)	1757
154. Ambrose (Zertis-Kamensky)	1768
155. Platon (Levshin)	1775
156. Augustine (Vinogradsky)	1818
157. Seraphim (Glagolevsky)	1819
158. St. Philaret (Drozdov) [○]	1821
159. St. Innocent (Veniaminov) [○]	1868
160. Macarius (Bulgakov)	1879
161. Joannicius (Rudnev)	1882

162. Leontius (Lebedinsky)	1891
163. Sergius (Lyapidevsky)	1893
164. St. Vladimir (Bogoyavlensky) ^O	1898
<i>Martyr</i>	...

AMERICA

From Evdokim, consecrated at Moscow in 1904 and later Archbishop of the Aleutians and North America, each

bishop consecrated by the one listed before him.

165. Evdokim (Meschersky)	1904
166. Aftimios (Ofesh)	1917
167. Sophronios (Bishara)	1928
168. John Chrysostom (More-Moreno)	1933
169. Perry Nikolaus Cedarholm	1949
170. Nils Bertil Alexander Persson	1971
171. Samuel Guido, Jr.	2004

172.

GARLAND F. BYERS, JR.

2013



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. Stachys, wall painting, 1192, Church of Panagia tou Arakos, Lagoudera, Cyprus. Photograph: Byzantine Institute and Dumbarton Oaks Fieldwork Records and Papers, Dumbarton Oaks, Trustees for Harvard University, Washington, D.C., via [Wikimedia Commons](#), dedicated to the public domain under [CC0 1.0](#); cropped and resized from the original.