



APOSTOLIC SUCCESSION

from St. Thaddeus (Addai), 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



I. SAINT THADDEUS (ADDAI), APOSTLE OF THE SEVENTY^{CO}

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

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

The succession from St. Thaddeus (Addai) to Shimun XVIII Rubil, Catholicos-Patriarch of the East, follows the list of catholicos-patriarchs kept by the Assyrian Church of the East: the same list by which the Church of the East traces its own apostolic succession to St. Thaddeus (Addai) and St. Thomas the Apostle.

St. Thaddeus (Addai) is honored as an apostle of the Seventy by the Churches of the East: by the Eastern Orthodox Church, which keeps his feast on August 21 and numbers him among the Seventy Apostles, honored together on January 4; and by the Assyrian Church of the East, the Chaldean Catholic Church, and the Syriac Orthodox Church, which honor him as the apostle of Edessa. The historian Eusebius, about A.D. 325, recorded that St. Thomas sent to Edessa "Thaddeus, an apostle, one of the Seventy."

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.

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.

SELEUCIA-CTESIPHON

The Church of the East, founded by St. Thaddeus (Addai), Apostle of the Seventy, whom St. Thomas sent to Edessa, and by his disciples Sts. Aggai and Mari. The catholicos-patriarchs of the East, whose see was at Seleucia-Ctesiphon and later at Baghdad, from St. Aggai to Shemon VII Ishoyabb.

2. Aggai	c. 66
3. St. Mari ^C	c. 81
4. Abris	c. 121
5. Abraham I	c. 159
6. Yaqob I	c. 190
7. Ahadabui	c. 204
8. Shahlufa	c. 220
9. Papa bar Aggai	c. 280
10. St. Shemon bar Sabbae ^{CO} <i>Martyr</i>	329
11. St. Shahdost ^{CO} <i>Martyr</i>	341
12. St. Barba'shmin ^{CO} <i>Martyr</i>	343
13. Tomarsa	363
14. Qayyoma	377
15. Isaac	399

16. Ahha	410
17. Yahballaha I	415
18. Maana	420
19. Farbokht	421
20. Dadisho	421
21. Babowai	457
22. Acacius	485
23. Babai	497
24. Shila	503
25. Elisha	524
26. Paul	539
27. Aba I	540
28. Joseph	552
29. Ezekiel	570
30. Ishoyahb I	582
31. Sabrisho I	596
32. Gregory	605
33. Ishoyahb II	628
34. Maremmeh	646
35. Ishoyahb III	649

36. Giwargis I	661
37. Yohannan I	680
38. Hnanisho I	686
39. Sliba-zkha	714
40. Pethion	731
41. Aba II	741
42. Yaqob II	754
43. Hnanisho II	775
44. Timothy I	780
45. Isho bar Nun	823
46. Giwargis II	828
47. Sabrisho II	831
48. Abraham II	837
49. Theodosius	853
50. Sargis	860
51. Enosh	877
52. Yohannan II	884
53. Yohannan III	893
54. Yohannan IV	900
55. Abraham III	906
56. Emmanuel I	937
57. Israel	961
58. Abdisho I	963
59. Mari II	987
60. Yohannan V	1000
61. Yohannan VI	1012
62. Ishoyahb IV	1020
63. Eliya I	1028
64. Yohannan VII	1049
65. Sabrisho III	1064
66. Abdisho II	1074
67. Makkikha I	1092
68. Eliya II	1111
69. Bar Sawma	1134

70. Abdisho III	1139
71. Ishoyahb V	1149
72. Eliya III	1176
73. Yahballaha II	1190
74. Sabrisho IV	1222
75. Sabrisho V	1226
76. Makkikha II	1257
77. Denha I	1265
78. Yahballaha III	1281
79. Timothy II	1318
80. Denha II	1336
81. Shemon II	c. 1385
82. Eliya IV	c. 1405
83. Shemon III	c. 1425
84. Shemon IV	c. 1437
85. Shemon V	1497
86. Eliya V	1502
87. Shemon VI	1504
88. Shemon VII Ishoyahb	1539

THE SHIMUN LINE

From 1553, the catholicos-patriarchs of the Shimun line, whom the Church of the East counts as the successors of Sts. Addai and Mari, to Shimun XVIII Rubil.

89. Shimun VIII Yohannan Sulaqa	1553
90. Abdisho IV Maron	1555
91. Yahballaha IV	1577
92. Shimun IX Dinkha	1580
93. Shimun X Eliya	1600
94. Shimun XI Eshuyow	1638
95. Shimun XII Yoalaha	1656
96. Shimun XIII Dinkha	1662
97. Shimun XIV Shlemon	1700
98. Shimun XV Maqdassi Mikhail	1740

- 99. Shimun XVI Yohannan 1780
- 100. Shimun XVII Abraham 1820
- 101. Shimun XVIII Rubil 1861

INDIA

From Mar Abdisho, consecrated by Patriarch Shimun XVIII in 1862 as Metropolitan of India, each bishop consecrated by the one listed before him.

- 102. Anthony Thondanatt (Mar Abdisho) 1862
- 103. Luis Mariano Soares (Mar Basilius) 1899

ENGLAND

From Mar Jacobus, consecrated in 1902 as Bishop of

Mercia, each bishop consecrated by the one listed before him.

- 104. Ulric Vernon Herford (Mar Jacobus) ... 1902
- 105. William Stanley McBean Knight (Mar Paulus) ... 1925
- 106. Hedley Coward Bartlett 1931
- 107. Hugh George de Willmott Newman (Mar Georgius) ... 1945
- 108. Richard Kenneth Hurgon 1946

SWEDEN AND AMERICA

From Bertil Persson, of Sweden, to the bishop who carried this succession to the present day.

- 109. Nils Bertil Alexander Persson 1985
- 110. Samuel Guido, Jr. 2004

111.

GARLAND F. BYERS, JR.

2013

SHARED SUCCESSION WITH THE CATHOLICOS-PATRIARCH OF THE EAST

The present Catholicos-Patriarch of the Assyrian Church of the East, Mar Awa III, and Bishop Byers share the succession of the catholicos-patriarchs of the East, as that Church keeps their list, from St. Thaddeus (Addai) down to Mar Shimun XVIII Rubil (Catholicos-Patriarch 1861–1903), who in 1862 consecrated Mar Abdisho (Anthony Thondanatt), in the line of Bishop Byers.



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

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

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.

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.



Icon of St. Thaddeus, apostle of Edessa, encaustic on panel, tenth century, from the triptych of King Abgar, St. Catherine's Monastery, Mount Sinai. Image via [Wikimedia Commons](#), public domain; cropped and resized from the original.