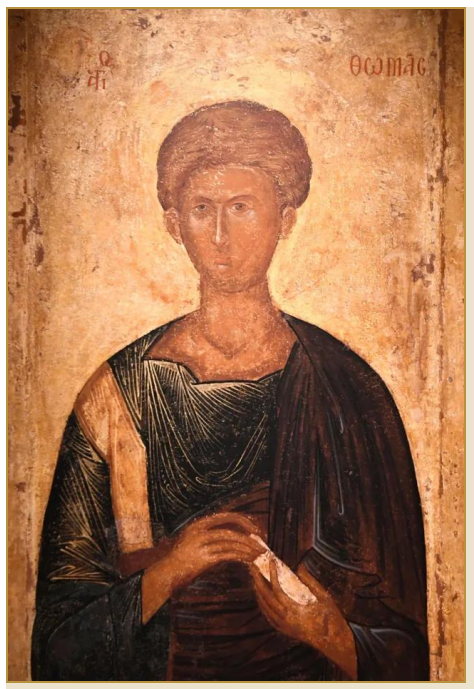




APOSTOLIC SUCCESSION

from St. Thomas the Apostle 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 THOMAS, APOSTLE AND MARTYR^{CO}

called by Christ about A.D. 30

named in Scripture: named among the Twelve (Matthew 10:3); “My Lord and my God” (John 20:28)

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

The succession from St. Thomas 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. Thomas the Apostle.

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, which holds St. Thomas the Apostle as its founder, together with St. Thaddeus (Addai), Apostle of the Seventy, whom St. Thomas sent to Edessa, and St. Mari. The catholicos-patriarchs of the East, whose see was at Seleucia-Ctesiphon and later at Baghdad, from St. Thaddeus (Addai) to Shemon VII Ishoyahb.

2. St. Thaddeus (Addai), Apostle of the Seventy ^{CO}	c. 33
3. Aggai	c. 66
4. St. Mari ^C	c. 81
5. Abris	c. 121
6. Abraham I	c. 159
7. Yaqob I	c. 190
8. Ahadabui	c. 204
9. Shahlufa	c. 220
10. Papa bar Aggai	c. 280
11. St. Shemon bar Sabbae ^{CO} <i>Martyr</i>	329
12. St. Shahdost ^{CO} <i>Martyr</i>	341
13. St. Barba'shmin ^{CO} <i>Martyr</i>	343
14. Tomarsa	363
15. Qayyoma	377
16. Isaac	399
17. Ahha	410
18. Yahballaha I	415
19. Maana	420
20. Farbokht	421

21. Dadisho	421
22. Babowai	457
23. Acacius	485
24. Babai	497
25. Shila	503
26. Elisha	524
27. Paul	539
28. Aba I	540
29. Joseph	552
30. Ezekiel	570
31. Ishoyahb I	582
32. Sabrisho I	596
33. Gregory	605
34. Ishoyahb II	628
35. Maremmeh	646
36. Ishoyahb III	649
37. Giwargis I	661
38. Yohannan I	680
39. Hnanisho I	686
40. Sliba-zkha	714
41. Pethion	731
42. Aba II	741
43. Yaqob II	754
44. Hnanisho II	775
45. Timothy I	780
46. Isho bar Nun	823

47. Giwargis II	828
48. Sabrisho II	831
49. Abraham II	837
50. Theodosius	853
51. Sargis	860
52. Enosh	877
53. Yohannan II	884
54. Yohannan III	893
55. Yohannan IV	900
56. Abraham III	906
57. Emmanuel I	937
58. Israel	961
59. Abdisho I	963
60. Mari II	987
61. Yohannan V	1000
62. Yohannan VI	1012
63. Ishoyahb IV	1020
64. Eliya I	1028
65. Yohannan VII	1049
66. Sabrisho III	1064
67. Abdisho II	1074
68. Makkikha I	1092
69. Eliya II	1111
70. Bar Sawma	1134
71. Abdisho III	1139
72. Ishoyahb V	1149
73. Eliya III	1176
74. Yahballaha II	1190
75. Sabrisho IV	1222
76. Sabrisho V	1226
77. Makkikha II	1257
78. Denha I	1265
79. Yahballaha III	1281
80. Timothy II	1318

81. Denha II	1336
82. Shemon II	c. 1385
83. Eliya IV	c. 1405
84. Shemon III	c. 1425
85. Shemon IV	c. 1437
86. Shemon V	1497
87. Eliya V	1502
88. Shemon VI	1504
89. 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.

90. Shimun VIII Yohannan Sulaqa	1553
91. Abdisho IV Maron	1555
92. Yahballaha IV	1577
93. Shimun IX Dinkha	1580
94. Shimun X Eliya	1600
95. Shimun XI Eshuyow	1638
96. Shimun XII Yoalaha	1656
97. Shimun XIII Dinkha	1662
98. Shimun XIV Shlemon	1700
99. Shimun XV Maqdassi Mikhail	1740
100. Shimun XVI Yohannan	1780
101. Shimun XVII Abraham	1820
102. 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.

103. Anthony Thondanatt (Mar Abdisho)	1862
104. 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.

- | | |
|---|------|
| 105. Ulric Vernon Herford (Mar Jacobus) | 1902 |
| 106. William Stanley McBean Knight (Mar Paulus) | 1925 |
| 107. Hedley Coward Bartlett | 1931 |

- | | |
|--|------|
| 108. Hugh George de Willmott Newman (Mar Georgius) | 1945 |
| 109. Richard Kenneth Hurgon | 1946 |

SWEDEN AND AMERICA

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

- | | |
|------------------------------------|------|
| 110. Nils Bertil Alexander Persson | 1985 |
| 111. Samuel Guido, Jr. | 2004 |

112.

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. Thomas the Apostle and 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

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

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.

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.*



Icon of St. Thomas the Apostle, fourteenth century; the original is in the Ecclesiastical Museum of the Holy Metropolis of Thessaloniki.

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