

Apostolic Lines of Succession for ✠The Right Rev. Dewayne Messenger✠

“Have you an apostolic succession? Unfold the line of your bishops.”

Tertullian, 3rd century A.D.

A special visible expression of Apostolic Succession is given in the consecration/ordination of a bishop through the laying on of hands by other bishops who have, themselves, been ordained in the same manner through a succession of bishops leading back to the apostles of Jesus. The role of the bishop must always be understood within the context of the authentic handing on of the faith from one generation to the next generation of the whole Church, beginning with the Christian community of the time of the Apostles. Thus, as the Church is the continuation of the apostolic community, so the bishops are the continuation of the ministry of the college of the apostles of Jesus within that apostolic community. It is essentially collegial rather than monarchical. This tradition is affirmed in the teaching ministry of Church leadership, and authentically celebrated in the sacraments, with particular attention to the sacrament of holy orders (ordination) and the laying on of hands. Apostolic Succession is the belief of Catholic Christians that the bishops are successors of the original apostles of Jesus. This is understood as the bishops being ordained into the episcopal collegium or “sacramental order.”

More than ninety percent of Catholic bishops active today trace their episcopal lineage back to one bishop ordained in 1541, Scipione Rebiba. The records and documentation from Rebiba, 1541 to the present, are available for study; however, many of the records and documentation prior to 1541 cannot be located or are incomplete.

Most autocephalous catholic jurisdictions in the United States come from three apostolic lines: Bishop Arnold Matthew (Old Catholic), Joseph Rene’ Vilatte (Syrian Orthodox) and Carlos Duarte-Costa (Brazilian Catholic Apostolic Church). These three lines are recognized as illicit, yet valid by the Roman Catholic Church.

Main Apostolic Line Through Chief-Consecrator **Michael J. Scalzi**

Bishop Michael was initially consecrated for the American Catholic Church – New England. While there were five consecrators, the following line is only from the chief consecrator. This apostolic line comes through the Joseph Rene’ Vilatte succession.

Ignatius Peter III,
Patriarch of the Syrian Orthodox Church,
in 1889 consecrated Mar Julius I (Antonio F.X. Alvarez).

Mar Julius I (Antonio F.X. Alvares),
along with Gregorius, Paulos, Geevarghese of the Syrian Orthodox Church)
on May 29, 1892 consecrated Joseph Rene’ Vilatte

Joseph Rene' Vilatte
in 1915 consecrated Frederick E. Lloyd.

Frederick E Lloyd
in 1923 consecrated Gregory Lines.

Gregory Lines
in 1928 consecrated Justin A Boyle.

Justin A Boyle
in 1940 consecrated Lowell Paul Wadle.

Lowel Paul Wadle
along with Charles H. Hampton and H. Francis Marshall
in 1957 consecrated Herman A. Spruit.

Herman Adrian Spruit,
along with W. Billinger
in 1988 consecrated Paul Michael Clemens.

Paul Michael Clemens
along with Richard Alston Gundrey
in 1991 consecrated Joseph Philip Sousa.

Joseph Philip Sousa
in 1993 consecrated Willibrord J. Van Campen.

Willibrord J. Van Campen
in 1993 consecrated William D. Donovan.

William Dennis Donovan
in 1995 consecrated Robert J. Allmen.

Robert J. Allman
along with Ray Laliberte and Sharon DiSummo
on December 13, 1997 consecrated Michael J. Scalzi.

Michael J. Scalzi
along with Steve Roscqweski, Martin Shanahan, Rick Hollingsworth, and Rafe Adams
on April 20, 2024 consecrated Dewayne J. Messenger.

Because of a concern about the legitimacy of one of the co-consecrators, Bishop Michael was subsequently reconsecrated (sub conditione consecrates) for the American Catholic Church – New England. For this consecration, there were four co-consecrators, and all of their apostolic line comes from the Carlos Duarte-Costa succession.

Gian Pietro Carafa (Pope Paul IV),
in 1541 consecrated Scipione Rebiba.

Scipione Cardinal Rebiba,
on March 12, 1566 consecrated Giulio Cardinal Santori.

Giulio Antonio Cardinal Santorio,
on September 7, 1586 consecrated Girolamo Cardinal Bernerio.

Girolamo Cardinal Bernerio,
on April 4, 1604 consecrated Galeazzo Sanvatale.

Galeazzo Sanvitale
on June 7, 1621 consecrated Lodovico Cardinal Ludovisi.

Lodovico Cardinal Ludovisi,
along with Galeazzo Sanvatale, Volpi,
on June 12, 1662 consecrated Luigi Cardinal Caetani.

Luigi Cardinal Caetani,
along with Francesco Gonzaga, and Briceno,
on October 7, 1630 consecrated Ulderico Cardinal Carpegna.

Ulderico Cardinal Carpegna,
along with Alteri, and Rospigliosi.
on May 2, 1666 consecrated Paluzzo Cardinal Altieri.

Paluzzo Cardinal Altieri,
along with Stefano Brancaccio and Constanzo Zani,
on February 2, 1675 consecrated Vincenzo Maria Orsini.

Vincenzo Maria Orsini (Pope Benedict XIII),
along with Bussi and Zucchlli,
on December 27, 1724 consecrated Prospero Lambertini.

Prospero Lambertini (Pope Benedict XIV)
along with Lercari, Millo and other bishops,
on March 19, 1743 consecrated Carlo Rezzonico.

Carlo Rezzonico (Pope Clement XIII),
on April 26, 1767 consecrated Bernardino Cardinal Giraud.

Bernardino Cardinal Giraud

on February 23, 1777 consecrated Alessandro Cardinal Mattei.

Alessandro Cardinal Mattei

along with Bernadino Cardinal Giraud and others
on September 12, 1819 consecrated Pietro Cardinal Galleffi.

Pietro Francesco Cardinal Galleffi

along with Alessandro Cardinal Mattei, and Cingari
on December 8, 1822 consecrated Giacomo Cardinal Fransoni.

Giacomo Filippo Cardinal Fransoni,

along with Pietro Francesco Cardinal Galleffi, and d' Angelis
on June 8, 1851 consecrated Carlo Cardinal Sacconi.

Carlo Cardinal Sacconi,

along with Giacomo Filippo Cardinal Fransoni and Randi
on June 30, 1872 consecrated Edward Cardinal Howard.

Edward Cardinal Howard,

along with Carlo Sacconi and Bilotti
on December 8, 1882 consecrated Mariano Cardinal Rampolla.

Mariano Cardinal Rampolla de Tindaro,

along with Santos de Menezes and Edward Howard
on October 26, 1890 consecrated Joaquim Cardinal Arcoverde.

Joaquim Cardinal Arcoverde de Albuquerque Cavalcanti,

along with Julio Duarte and Joa Braga
on June 4, 1911 consecrated Sabastiao Cardinal Leme.

Sabastiao Cardinal Leme de Slivera Cintra,

along with Alberto Jose Goncaves, and Benedito Paulo Alves de Souza
on December 8, 1924 consecrated Carlos Duarte-Costa.

Carlos Duarte-Costa,

along with Salomao Ferraz and Antidio Jose Vargas,
on May 3, 1948 consecrated Luis F. C. Mendez.

Luis Fernando Castillo Mendez,

in 1978 or 1981 (exact dates vary) consecrated Justo R. G. Trininio.

Justo Roque Gonzalez Trininio

along with Raul Gonzalez, and Walter Dobrzynski,
on January 6, 1985 consecrated Willard Earl Schultz.

Willard Earl Schultz,
along with Lorane Bufford, Benjamin Evans and Francisco Betancourt
on August 19, 2006 consecrated (sub conditione) Michael J. Scalzi.

Michael J. Scalzi,
along with Bishop Steve Rosczewski, Martin Shanahan,
Rafe Adams and Richard Hollingsworth,
on April 21, 2024 consecrated Dewayne J. Messenger.

Main Apostolic Line Through Co-Consecrator
Steve Michael Rosczewski

*With various other lineage through the Apostolic Episcopal Church and
the Orthodox Catholic Church*

Gian Pietro Carafa, (later elected as Paul IV)
Roman Catholic Bishop of Chieti,
in 1555 consecrated Scipione Rebiba.

Scipione Rebiba,
Roman Catholic Bishop of Pisa,
in 1566 consecrated Giulio Antonio Santori.

Giulio Antonio Santori,
Roman Catholic Bishop of Santa Severina,
in 1568 consecrated Girolamo Bernerio, O.P.

Girolamo Bernerio, O.P.,
Roman Catholic Bishop of Ascoli Piceno,
in 1604 consecrated Galeazzo Sanvitale.

Galeazzo Sanvitale,
Roman Catholic Bishop of Bari,
in 1621 consecrated Ludovico Ludovisi.

Ludovico Ludovisi,
Roman Catholic Bishop of Bologna,
in 1622 consecrated Luigi Caetani.

Luigi Caetani,
Roman Catholic Bishop of Capua,
in 1630 consecrated Giovanni Battista Scannaroli.

Giovanni Battista Scannaroli,
Roman Catholic Titular Bishop of Sidon,
in 1655 consecrated Antonio Barberini.

Antonio Barberini,
Roman Catholic Bishop of Frascati,
in 1668 consecrated Charles Maurice LeTellier, S.J.

Charles Maurice LeTellier, S.J.,
Roman Catholic Bishop of Rheims,
in 1670 consecrated Jacques Benigne Boussuet.

Jacques Benigne Boussuet,
Roman Catholic Bishop of Meaux,
in 1693 consecrated Jacques Goyon DeMatignon.

Jacques Goyon DeMatignon,
Roman Catholic Bishop,
in 1719 consecrated Dominique Marie Varlet.

Dominique Marie Varlet,
Roman Catholic Bishop of Ascalon,
in 1739 consecrated Petrus Johannes Meindaerts.

Petrus Johannes Meindaerts,
Old Catholic Bishop of Utrecht,
in 1745 consecrated Johannes van Stiphout.

Johannes van Stiphout,
Old Catholic Bishop of Haarlem,
in 1768 consecrated Gualterus Michael van Niewenhuizen.

Gualterus Michael van Niewenhuizen,
Old Catholic Bishop of Utrecht,
in 1778 consecrated Adrian Johannes Broekman.

Adrian Johannes Broekman,
Old Catholic Bishop of Haarlem,
in 1797 consecrated Johannes Jacobus van Rhijn.

Johannes Jacobus van Rhijn,
Old Catholic Bishop of Utrecht,
in 1805 consecrated Gilbert Cornelius de Jong.

Gilbert Cornelius de Jong,
Old Catholic Bishop of Deventer,
in 1814 consecrated Willibord van Os.

Willibord van Os,
Old Catholic Bishop of Utrecht,
in 1819 consecrated Johannes Bon.

Johannes Bon,
Old Catholic Bishop of Haarlem,
in 1824 consecrated Johannes van Santen.

Johannes van Santen,
Old Catholic Bishop of Utrecht,
in 1854 consecrated Hermann Johannes Heykamp.

Hermann Johannes Heykamp,
Old Catholic Bishop of Deventer,
in 1873 consecrated Casparus Johannes Rinkel.

Casparus Johannes Rinkel,
Old Catholic Bishop of Haarlem,
in 1892 consecrated Gerard Gul.

Gerard Gul,
Old Catholic Bishop of Utrecht,
in 1908 consecrated Arnold Harris Mathew.

Arnold Harris Mathew,
Old Catholic Bishop of Great Britain,
in 1913 consecrated Rudolphe Francois Edouard Hamilton.

Rudolphe Francois Edouard Hamilton,
Old Catholic Bishop
in 1916 consecrated Henry Carmel Carfora.

Henry Carmel Carfora,
Old Catholic Bishop for America,
in 1926 consecrated Jose Macario Lopez y Valdes.

Jose Macario Lopez y Valdes,
Bishop of the Mexican National Catholic Church,
in 1930 consecrated Alberto Luis Rodriguez y Durand.

Alberto Luis Rodriguez y Durand,
Bishop of Mexican National Catholic Church,
in 1955 consecrated Emile Federico Rodriguez y Fairfield.

Emile Federico Rodriguez y Fairfield,
Bishop of the Mexican National Catholic Church,
in 1983 consecrated Patrick Joseph Callahan.

Patrick Joseph Callahan,
Bishop of the Ecumenical Catholic Diocese of California,
in 1985 consecrated R. Augustin Sicard.

R. Augustin Sicard,
Bishop of the Ecumenical Catholic Diocese of the Americas,
in 1995 consecrated C. Daniel Gincig.

C. Daniel Gincig,
Bishop of the American Old Catholic Church of Colorado,
in 1996 consecrated Peter Elder Hickman.

Peter Elder Hickman,
Presiding Bishop of the Ecumenical Catholic Communion,
in 2011 consecrated Steven Michael Rosczewski

Steven Michael Rosczewski
with Co-Consecrators Bishop Michael Scalzi, and Martin Shanahan
from the Old Catholic Communion
along with Co-Consecrators Bishop Rick Hollingsworth, and Bishop Rafael Adams, ofr
of the Catholic Diocese of Mid-America
on April 20, 2024 consecrated Dewayne Messenger.

Main Apostolic Line Through Co-Consecrator,
Richard Kent Hollingsworth:

*With various other lineage through Ancient British Church, the Free Protestant
Episcopal Church, the Reformed Episcopal Church, the Apostolic Episcopal Church,
and the Protestant Episcopal Church*

Mar Julius I (Antonio Francisco Xavier Alvares)
along with Mar Athanasius Paulos of Kottayam and
Mar Gregorius Gewargis of Niranam,
on May 29, 1892 consecrated Joseph René Vilatte.

Joseph Rene Vilatte,
in 1918 consecrated Victor J. Alexander de Kubinyi.

Henry Carmel Carfora,
Old Catholic Bishop for America,
in 1925 consecrated Victor J. Alexander de Kubinyi.

Victor J. Alexander de Kubinyi.
in 1934, co-consecrated Charles William Keller.

Charles William Keller, Apostolic Episcopal Church,
in 1945 consecrated Hugh George de Willmott Newman.

Hugh George de Willmott Newman,
Catholic Apostolic Church and Catholicate of the West,
in 1956 consecrated Charles Dennis Boltwood.

Charles Dennis Boltwood,
Free Protestant Episcopal Church,
in 1966 consecrated Albert J. Fuge, Sr.

Albert J. Fuge, Sr.,
Free Protestant Episcopal Church,
in 1972 consecrated John Lawrence Brown.

John Lawrence Brown,
Free Protestant Episcopal Church,
in 1975 consecrated Donald Lawrence Jolly-Gabriel.

Donald Lawrence Jolly-Gabriel,
Independent Catholic Church International,
in 1991 consecrated Mark Steven (Shirey) Shirilau.

Mark Steven (Shirey) Shirilau,
Ecumenical Catholic Church,
in 2004 consecrated Richard Kent Hollingsworth
for the Ecumenical Anglican Church.

Richard Kent Hollingsworth
with Co-Consecrators Rafael Adams, Bishop Michael Scalzi,
Bishop Steven M. Rosczewski and Bishop Martin Shanahan
on April 20, 2024 consecrated Dewayne J. Messenger
for the Catholic Diocese of Mid-America.

Main Apostolic Line Through Co-Consecrator, Rafael Adams:

Gerard Gul,
Old Catholic Bishop of Utrecht,
in 1908 consecrated Arnold Harris Mathew,

Arnold Harris Mathew,
Old Catholic Bishop of Great Britain
on June 29, 1913 consecrated
Rudolf De Landis Berghes as the Old Catholic Missionary to Scotland

Rulolf de Landis Burghes
on October 4, 1916, consecrated Carmel Henry Carfora

Carmel Henry Carfora
North American Old Roman Catholic Church
on July 30, 1942, consecrated Hubert Augusts Rogers

Hubert Augustus Rogers
North American Old Roman Catholic Church
on January 25, 1948, consecrated James Hubert Rogers

James Hubert Rogers
North American Old Roman Catholic Church
on February 4, 1989, consecrated Rafael Adams,

Rafael Adams
along with Richard Hollingsworth, Michael Scalzi,
Steven Rosczewski and Martin Shanahan,
on April 20, 2024, consecrated Dewayne Messenger

Secondary Apostolic Line Through Rafael Adams:

Carmel Henry Carfora
Richard Aurthur Marchenna,
Gerard George Shelley
John Joseph Humphries
Rafael Adams

Third Apostolic Line Through Rafael Adams:

Carmel Henry Carfora
Richard Aurthur Marchenna,
Robert Alfred Burns
Andrew Johnson-Cantrell
Francis Peter Facione,
Rafael Adams

Main Apostolic Line Through Co-Consecrator, Martin Kelly Shanahan:

Other lines not included

Roman Catholic

1. Dominic Marie Varlet, Roman Catholic Bishop of Baylon (prior to his consecration, the lines of Vatican Church prevail).

Church of Utrecht

2. Peter John Meindaerts, Archbishop of Utrecht (October 17, 1739)
3. John van Stiphout, Bishop of Haarlem, the Netherlands (July 11, 1745)
4. Walter Michael van Nieuwenhuizen, Archbishop of Utrecht (February 7, 1768)
5. Adrian Brockman, Bishop of Haarlem (July 21, 1778)
6. John Jacob van Rhijn, Archbishop of Utrecht (July 5, 1797)
7. Gisbert de Jong, Bishop of Deventer, the Netherlands (November 7, 1805)
8. Willibrord van Os, Archbishop of Utrecht (April 24, 1814)
9. John Bon, Bishop of Haarlem (April 25, 1819)
10. John van Santon, Archbishop of Utrecht (November 13, 1825)
11. Herman Hykamp, Bishop of Deventer (July 17, 1854)
12. Gaspard John Rinkel, Bishop of Haarlem (August 11, 1873)
13. Gerard Gul, Archbishop of Utrecht, (May 11, 1892)

British Church

14. Arnold Harris Matthew, Regionary Old Catholic Bishop of Great Britain (April 28, 1908)
15. Rudolph Francis, Prince de Landas-Berghes, Bishop of Austria, but sent to USA during WWI, (June 29, 1913)

American Church

16. Henry Carmel Carfora, Archbishop of Canada for the North American Old Catholic Church (October 4, 1916)
17. Francis Xavier Resch, Archbishop of the Old Catholic Church of America (December 8, 1940)
18. Walter Xavier Brown, Archbishop of the Old Catholic Church of America (August 25, 1963)
19. Jack Earl (Cyprian) Holman, Missionary Bishop of Minnesota (March 15, 1969)
20. Carl Allen Jimenez, Bishop of the Old Catholic Church, Matthew Succession (February 22, 1997)
21. Robert T. Fuentes, Bishop of the Old Catholic Diocese of Napa (July 11, 2004)
22. Martin Kelly Shanahan Jr., Bishop of Holy Cross Old Catholic Diocese of Minesota (October 29, 2016)
23. Martin Shanahan along with Steven Rosczewski, Michael Scalzi, Richard Hollingsworth, and, Rafael Adams on April 20, 2024, consecrated Dewayne Messenger