



TRANSLATION FROM THE ORIGINAL SYRIAN MANUSCRIPT OF THE ORDINATION
AND CONDEGRATION OF ANTHONY J. ANEED AS BISHOP OF THE GREEK MELCHITE
CATHOLIC CHURCH BY ATHANASIOS SAWOYA, D.D. ARCHBISHOP OF BEYROUT

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS that Rev. Anthony J. Aneed, who is one of our secular priests and now as Secretary of our Archdiocese of Beyrouth, in his character as a minister of God, and being of a thorough and real Christian faith, with eminent and high notable principles in performing with his best ability all the duties we charge to him, which are meritorious of our praise and satisfaction, and in consideration of his distinguished services and labors among our Catholic people, we hereby grant him the dignity of Exarchus during a Solemn High Mass which has been celebrated at our Cathedral St. Elias Church at Beyrouth, (according to a special privilege granted by several Holy Synods to The Eastern Church;) and we do authorize him to use, and wear, the decoration thereof, the veil, the Cross and the ring, on civil occasions, and the Mitre and Sceptre on the religious ceremonies. We fully trust that he will continue to work with more energy for the Glory of God, the salvation of souls, and the establishment of The Holy Catholic Faith. In witness whereof, we have given him this document of which we keep a copy in our Episcopal register. Issued from Episcopal Court, in Beyrouth, Syria, this 29th day of October Nineteen Hundred and Ten (1910).

P. S. This privilege is not valuable outside of our Archdiocese until the approbation has been given by the Rt. Rev. Ordinaries where the Exarch may apply for some spiritual welfare.

TRANSLATION FROM THE ORIGINAL DOCUMENT IN FRENCH OF THE CONSECRATION
OF JOSEPH ANTHONY ANEED AS A BISHOP IN THE GREEK MELCHITE CATHOLIC
CHURCH, ALSO BY ATHANASIOS SAWOYA, ARCHBISHOP OF BEYROUT.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

The Very reverend Monsigneur Antoine Joseph Aneed, Exarch of the Diocese of Beyrouth and of Gebell etc. in his Apostolic zeal, performing his duty to our satisfaction and the Glory of God, and to save the souls of the faithful; We, the undersigned Athanasios Sawoya, Archbishop of Beyrouth and Gebell etc., Finding the aforesaid Monsigneur the Exarch Antoine Joseph Aneed, worthy of being elevated to the hierarchy of the Prelate, and inspired by The Holy Spirit, we have consecrated him as Assistant Bishop on the altars of Our Greek Melchite Catholic Church during the celebration of Holy Mass in our private Chapel in Brooklyn, New York, The United States of America, during our visit in that country on the 9th. day of October 1911 at the Celebration of St. James the Apostle. We intend to take up this urgent case of consecration with his Beatitude The Patriarch of Antioch on our return to that country. (Syria) In witness thereof this document has been certified by our Episcopal Seal and given to our Confreres the new Bishop, in Brooklyn N. Y. on the 9th day of the month of October 1911.

ATHANASIOS SAWOYA, ARCHBISHOP OF BEYROUT ETC.

Translations made by Prof. Ashby, Asst. Prof. Modern Languages
University of Idaho.



HIS HOLINESS PIUS X,

Sovereign Pontiff of the Roman Catholic Church.

His Beatitude Cyrill VIII, Patriarch of the Melchite Catholic Church; His Grace Athanasius Sawaya, D. D., Archbishop of Beyrouth, (Syria), with his Secretary Exarch Anthony J. Aneed. This Photograph was taken at Rome on the occasion of the Centenary of Saint John Chrysostom in 1908.



HIS HOLINESS PIUS X,

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His Beatitude Cyril VIII, Patriarch of the Melchite Catholic Church; His Grace Athanasius Sawaya, D. D., Archbishop of Beyrouth, (Syria), with his Secretary Exarch Anthony J. Aneed. This Photograph was taken at Rome on the occasion of the Centenary of Saint John Chrysostom in 1908.

Prelate of Orthodox Church Visits, Busy

By ERNEST W. PETERSON

His Beatitude, the Most Rev. Antonius Joseph (Aneel) I, patriarch in the United States and Canada of the Byzantine Universal Orthodox church, arrived here Wednesday for a five-day visit.

His schedule includes conferences with the priest and officials of St. George's Syrian Orthodox church, 3830 SE 62d avenue, and celebration of pontifical high mass in the church at 10 a. m. Sunday. During that service he will advance the Rev. Harold MRLs Eroh from priest to archpriest.

The service will be conducted in three languages. The liturgy will be in Greek, the sermon to the older generation in Arabic and a sermonette to the younger generation in English. A pastoral letter from Exarch Joseph to the congregation will be read by Father Eroh. A reception will follow.

The patriarch maintains headquarters in San Francisco. His home is at Arlington, Cal., near Riverside, where his chapel, Everest, was dedicated two years ago. He first came to the United States in 1910 as exarch, or domestic representative, of the archbishop of Beyrouth, Lebanon. In 1944 he was elevated to the post of archbishop and in January, 1946, at San Francisco, became head of the first American patriarchate. This high elevation resulted from inability of the bishops of four Eastern churches to keep in touch with their ruling officials, due to internal troubles and religious persecutions in those lands.

So the bishops in this country of the American Catholic, old Roman Catholic, Gregorian Orthodox and Melkite rite met in San Francisco and bestowed the apostolic rites of each church on each bishop. Now each bishop is authorized to conduct



SYRIAN PATRIARCH — His Beatitude, Antonius Joseph (Aneel) I, patriarch in the United States and Canada of the Byzantine Universal Orthodox church, is in Portland to visit the local congregation and conduct solemn religious rites.

the rites of either of the four churches. This includes mass, baptisms, weddings and funerals.

Exarch Joseph, of the Melkite rite, was elected the first patriarch of this non-papal group of bishops. Since then several Russian Orthodox priests in America have asked the patriarch to give episcopal supervision to their churches. The Syrians have eight churches in the United States and four in Canada. To date, the American agreement does not include some of the old established Syrian parishes in America connected with the patriarchs at Damascus, Beirut and several other ancient Syrian communities, the visitor stated.

5. Churches Deriving Their Orders from Eastern Orthodox and Other Eastern Sources

A number of church bodies in the United States and Canada trace the episcopal succession of their prelates, at least in part, to three individuals who in turn claimed to have derived their own episcopal orders from Eastern sources—Joseph René Vilatte, Julius Ferrete, and Anthony Aneed. These church bodies are not easy to classify in every case. In spite of the source of their episcopal orders, some of these church bodies are by their own choice more Western than Eastern in both theology and liturgy. Again, some of these bodies trace their prelates' lines of episcopal succession not only to one or more of these three persons, but also to other bishops. Indeed, in order to multiply the lines of succession that they incorporate in their own persons, some of the prelates in these bodies have deliberately sought conditioned reconsecration from bishops in other lines of episcopal descent. Accordingly, some of the church bodies in this section could be quite appropriately catalogued under another head. The church bodies here discussed either (a) claim to perpetuate organizations founded by one or the other of these three persons, or (b) they are explicitly, at least in large part, Eastern in their theological and liturgical orientation, or (c) their primates hold membership in one of the two North American synods that link bishops of these successions—the Holy Orthodox Catholic Patriarchate of America, and the Holy Synod of the Orthodox Catholic Churches in America.

Anthony Aneed began his ecclesiastical career as a priest of the Roman Catholic Melkite Rite. After service as secretary to Archbishop Athanasius Sawaya of Beirut, he became a Melkite priest in New York. In 1911, according to Aneed, Archbishop Sawaya visited the United States after Pius X had explicitly forbidden him to do so. In the course of this visit, Archbishop Sawaya allegedly consecrated Aneed as auxiliary bishop of Beirut and exarch of the archbishop of the Melkites in the United States.

In 1942 Aneed broke off all connections with the Roman Catholic Church, formed the now apparently defunct Byzantine American Catholic Church, incorporated it in California in 1944, and took the title of patriarch-president of the Federated Independent Catholic and Orthodox Churches. Among those that he raised to the episcopate were the late Frank B. Robinson of Moscow, Idaho, founder of the now-defunct Psychiana movement, in 1945; Odo Acheson Barry, founder of the now apparently defunct Canadian Catholic Church, as Mar Columba, in 1946; and Nikolai Urbanovich of Winnipeg, Canada, a priest of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church in the United States, in 1949.³

Says Aneed Was Never Consecrated

This department has carried two articles recently about the claim of Dr. Frank Robinson of Moscow, Idaho, founder of the "Psychiana religion," to have been ordained a priest and consecrated a Bishop of the so-called "Byzantine American Catholic Church — Eastern Rite." The question is of some importance because Dr. Robinson has a large following, which he built up by advertising his "rediscovery" of "the same identical power taught and used by Jesus in the performance of His many outstanding miracles." Psychiana offers to teach the use of this power. The pupils pay \$25 for the course. Enough persons enroll that almost 100 girls are kept busy in Moscow mailing replies. Dr. Robinson refers to himself as a "Catholic Bishop."

His line of ordination and consecration came from three sources, all very small sects, which entered a "concordat" and thus formed the "Byzantine American Catholic Church." The ordaining and consecrating "Archbishop" was A. J. Aneed, who claimed that his Episcopacy stemmed from the Melchite Rite of the Catholic Church, an Eastern Rite in unity with Rome (Aneed did not claim to be in union with Rome now). The assistant consecrators were Lowell Paul Wadle and Edgar Ramon Verostok, both of whose lines of Orders we showed as probably invalid.

Now we are informed that Aneed, though ordained a priest in the Melchite Rite of the Catholic Church, was never consecrated a Bishop. We have received the following communication from the Rt. Rev. Michael Abraham, Sacred Heart church, 1001 W. 8th street, Michigan City, Indiana:

"I know Father Aneed very well from the time that he was pastor of St. George's church in Milwaukee. From this parish he went to New London, Connecticut. Here he married, had a child, and was suspended. He was never consecrated a Bishop or made an Archbishop. He was a simple priest."

"The Greek Orthodox Bishop Beshir told me personally that Father Aneed asked him to take him into the Greek Orthodox Church as a priest because the Catholic Church had put him out. The Bishop refused to accept him. Then he appealed to Monsignor Gossom, a Melchite priest in New York, to restore him to the Catholic Church. Father Aneed refused to accept the conditions of giving up the woman and doing penance in a monastery. He then declared himself to be the head of the Independent Catholic Church in California."

No simple priest is able to ordain another man to the priesthood, much less to raise him to the Episcopacy. If Aneed did not receive consecration as a Bishop before he left the Catholic Church, he cannot claim that he is able to impart Holy Orders through the line that stems from the Melchite Rite of the Catholic Church.

As we pointed out two weeks ago, genuine Orders can be handed down in heretical or schismatical sects, provided the proper matter, form, and intention are present, and those sects have kept the line of valid Orders. Orders given by such men are, of course, illicit.

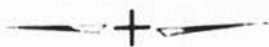
*We hereby grant the Rev. Anthony Aneed the
permission of using the vestments of
a priest in his parish and
within the limits of our jurisdiction.*

June 17, 1918.

J. J. McManis



ATANASIOS SAWOYA
DEI ET SEDIS APOSTOLICAE GRATIA
ARCHEVEQUE DE BEYROUTH et DE GEBEIL "SYRIE"



اعلام كل طلع عليه سلام وكرمة
اثنا يوس بنعمة الله تعالى مبرو بوليت بيروت وخيل وتولمها
والغايوس طران بعبك وطلبها في السادس من شهر كانون الثاني سنة ١٩١٩ بعلتسان نعمة الروح
القدس قد اشركنا بوضع ايدينا نحن ارشنان على صانعة ولدا الرؤوس الكسوفون انطونيوس يوسف عني
احد كهنه الكليرون الخامس وترطنا. فوفقتن على برشية بيوت جوس يكون لنا عوننا في مهام
الحزم الروحية الملقاة من الله على هذا الضيف من دائرة ابرشنة القزيزة المحروسة من الله وقد
استدعينا. فمبقا لهذه الفاية المقدسة من مركز جوس في ملوكي وكسن بعد ان استمعنا له ابادة
من رئيس القانوني في تلك المدينة. ولما كنا بعيدين عن مركزنا الرعايا في مدة الحرب العالمة الكبرى
وكلنا ما عينا بالني والوعام وكانت وطاة المرض واستعصا مرضا على من اولها وحققنا الصحة جيت
في طهرية يد ولم ين من ثم واسطة تدو تعد بفضيلة البطريرك لصموده الموصوت خالتنا راحة
هذه ان نقوم بخدمة الشرونية المقدسة في مدينة مرسيا اوفرنية وكان ذلك موافقا بعد عمار
السيد اميخ اي في ٦ كانون الثاني سنة ١٩١٩ وبيان اولي هذه الهك في التاريخ نفسه

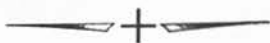


+ اسسور صونا
طران بروكس
دوس

+ اعابو مقل
مقلد بعبك



ATHANASIOS SAWOYA
DEI ET SEDIS APOSTOLICAE GRATIA
ARCHEVEQUE DE BEYROUTH et DE GEBEIL "SYRIE"



A CEUX QUI CONCERN.

Le Très Rev. Monseigneur Antoine Joseph Aneed, Exarque de L'Archdiocèse de Beyrouth et de Gébail etc. dans son zèle apostolique, accomplissant son devoir a notre satisfaction pour la Gloire de Dieu et sauver les âmes de nos fidèles, Nous, Le sousigné ATHANASIOS SAWOYA, Archevêque de Beyrouth et de Gébail etc.; en trouvant le dit Monseigneur l'Exarque Antoine Joseph Aneed, digne d'être élevé à l'hierarchy du Prélat, ce pourquoi, Nous avons été inspiré par le, SAINT ESPRIT, et nous lui avons consacré comme Assistant Evêque sur l'Autels de Notre Eglise Grèque Melchite Catholique pendant que nous célébrons La Saint Messe, dans notre Chapelle privée a Brooklyn, New York, dans les Etats-Unies, pendant notre visit dans ce pay le neuvième jour du mois d'Octobre, 1911, Fête de St. Jacques l'Apôtre.

Nous avons l'intention de prendre ce cas urgent de consecration avec Sa Beatitude le Patriarche d'Antioche, dès notre retour en Syrie.

Pour testimonier la vérité, Nous avons remis cet act certifié par notre seal Epscopale, a notre Confrère le nouvel Evêque, à Brooklyn, New York, U.S.A. le neuvième jour du mois d'Octobre, 1911.

سید الی
ابو عیسیٰ بن سید

Ibrahim Gebail
Khalil Khayat
سید الی

+ Athanasios Sawoya
Archevêque de Beyrouth
et de Gébail

