

The Ordinal

IV . XXIV . MMXXVI

THE *Episcopal* APOLOGY

In every generation, the Holy Church is called to preserve apostolic succession not merely in ceremony, but in conviction, ensuring that those whom God has called are rightly consecrated, set apart, and entrusted with the sacred responsibilities of the episcopal office. For though consecration marks a moment, episcopacy is a lifetime. It is not simply an event to be observed, but a covenant to be embraced, a divine commissioning that binds the servant to the service of Christ and His Church.

This sacred gathering stands as such a moment, a time of divine appointment and holy affirmation of God's sovereign will. We assemble in solemn joy to witness the Episcopal Consecration of Bishop-Elect Byron Thomas Brazier, one whom God has called, the Church has recognized, and the apostolic witness now confirms through the laying on of hands.

In this solemn act, the sacred lineage of the Church is both honored and extended, as the rite of consecration is administered by Archbishop David Michael Copeland, serving as Chief Consecrator, together with Bishop Liston Page II and Bishop Horace E. Smith as Co-Consecrators. Through their hands, we bear witness not merely to tradition, but to transmission, the passing of apostolic authority, spiritual responsibility, and divine grace from one generation to the next.

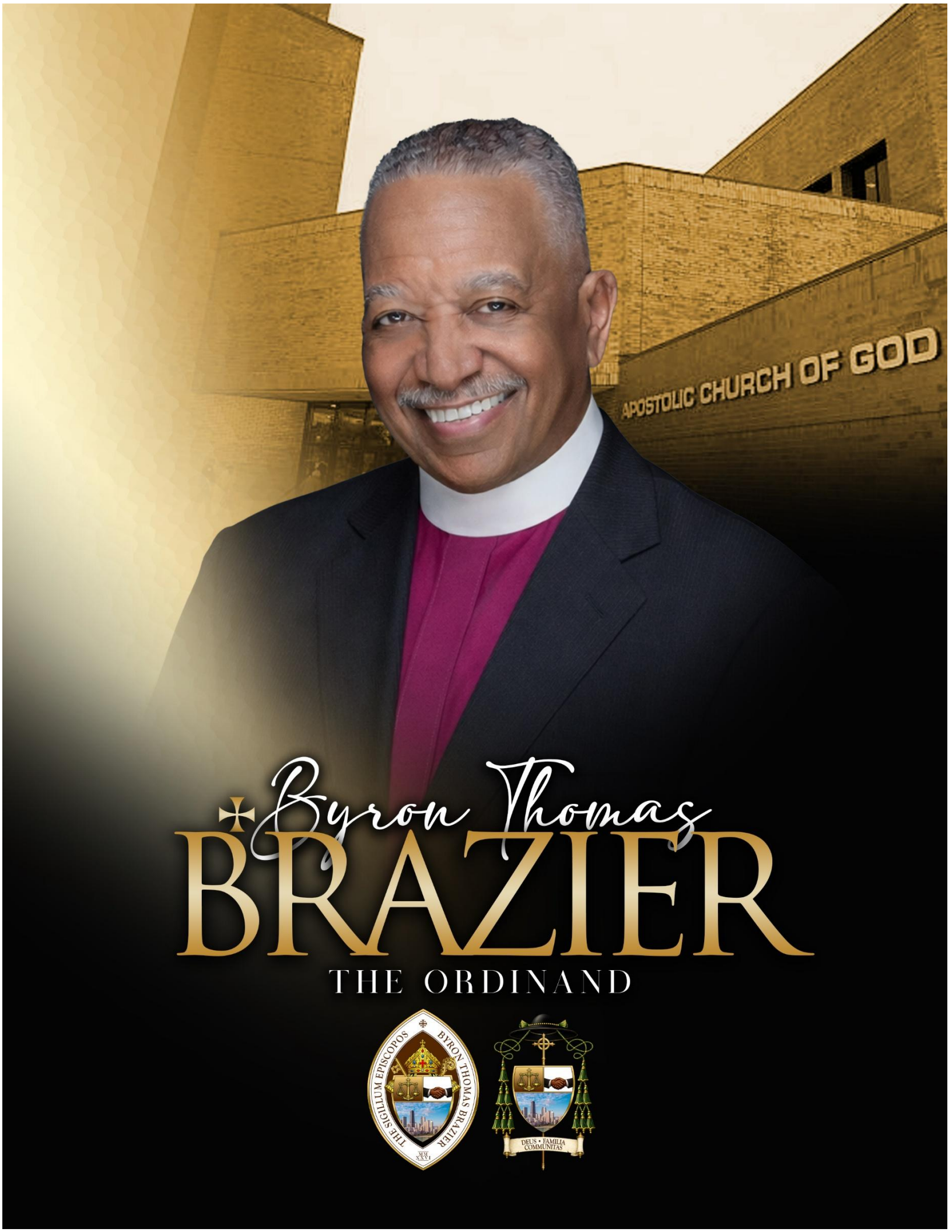
The Church, under the unction of the Holy Ghost, affirms that the office of a Bishop is both sacred and weighty. It is the charge to feed the flock of God, to guard the faith once delivered unto the saints, and to stand as both shepherd and sentinel in the household of faith. This consecration therefore signifies not elevation for honor's sake, but consecration for service, not the granting of status, but the embracing of sacrifice.

We acknowledge that ministry is a journey marked not only by calling, but by obedience; not only by authority, but by accountability. The Bishop's ring symbolizes covenant; his staff, guidance; his mitre, humility; and his seal, responsibility. These sacred symbols are not ornamental, but instructional, reminding both the bearer and the Body that the grace bestowed in this moment must be stewarded with diligence, integrity, and fear of the Lord.

As the Church witnesses this holy act, we declare that the call of God is irrevocable, His grace sufficient, and His purpose sure. Through this consecration, Bishop Brazier enters fully into the sacred rhythm of episcopal leadership, to teach with clarity, to govern with wisdom, to intercede with compassion, and to lead with integrity. The anointing that rests upon him is not of human origin, but divine impartation, confirmed in this moment and sustained by the Spirit of the Living God.

May this consecration ignite within him the fire of apostolic purpose, establish within him the heart of a true shepherd, and anchor him firmly in the unchanging truth of God's Word. And may the Body of Christ be reminded that when God calls a man, He also equips him, sustains him, and establishes him for His glory.

To God be the glory for the gift of new episcopal leadership, for the faithfulness of His Church in every generation, and for the enduring witness of the Body of Christ, which stands steadfast, unmovable, and ever abounding in the work of the Lord.



APOSTOLIC CHURCH OF GOD

✠ *Byron Thomas*
BRAZIER

THE ORDINAND



THE VITAE OF THE RIGHT REVEREND

Byron Thomas BRAZIER

The second of Bishop Arthur and Isabelle Brazier's four children, Dr. Byron T. Brazier was born and raised on Chicago's South Side. Dr. Brazier has three sisters: Lola, Janice, and Rosalyn.

Dr. Brazier was educated in the Chicago Public Schools system, attending and graduating from Doolittle Elementary School and Wendell Phillips High School. He received his bachelor's degree from Roosevelt University after first attending Wilson Junior College (Kennedy-King) and Northern Illinois University. Dr. Brazier also received a Masters of Arts in Theological Studies and a Doctor of Ministry Degree from McCormick Theological Seminary.

In 1972, Dr. Brazier started his professional career as a production supervisor at Johnson & Johnson. In 1973, he joined the data processing division of IBM Corporation as a salesman. He later became a marketing instructor in Dallas, Texas and was promoted to several positions at IBM. In 1991, he transitioned from IBM reaching top-level management as a business unit executive over the public sector. During his tenure at IBM, he received national recognition for his service and leadership on several occasions.

In 1991, Dr. Brazier founded Brazier and Associates and was appointed Chief Information Officer for the Chicago Housing Authority, where he remained until 1995, the year he became the general administrator of the Apostolic Church of God.
Ministry

Dr. Brazier served his father for thirteen years before being named as pastor of the Apostolic Church of God in 2008. His primary motivation was for the congregation to grow in the grace they have received from God, to build their spiritual identity, character, and vision, and to enjoy being a part of the body of Christ. As an apologetic-styled teacher and proclaimer of the Jesus Christ, being "Saved by Grace and Grace Alone" remains the ultimate understanding for a child of God.

While preparing the church to live out its mission, his desire is to show forth the power of God in the life of the church as the church confronts a society that is more secular, more individualist, and more concerned about materialistic consumption.

Dr. Brazier is also preparing to write the first of two books. The first book will focus on the application of the church's moral authority to convene and unify the Woodlawn community to achieve self-determination. The second book will be about the power of God to transform the community through the church.
Community Outreach

As an advocate for the community, Dr. Brazier continues to ensure that the church remains a beacon of light and an agent of change in the community. Through the establishment of the Bishop Arthur M. Brazier Foundation, Dr. Brazier has been able to obtain support from philanthropic organization to support the development of the Woodlawn community in the area of education, public safety, and economic development. Beginning in 2010, Dr. Brazier proposed the development of the Network of Woodlawn and its pillars, which has provided a unifying vision for Woodlawn. Finally, Dr. Brazier established a Social Enterprise manufacturing company that provides workforce development services for residents in robotics controls while the revenue from the social enterprise will be reinvested into the Woodlawn community.

Currently, Dr. Brazier is the chairman of the board of the Network of Woodlawn and its pillars, the Bishop Arthur M. Brazier Foundation, and BSD Industries L3C. He also is a member of the Cook County Sheriff's Merit Board, the Metropolitan Planning Council, and the Museum of Science and Industry.
Family Life

Since 1976, Dr. Brazier has been married to his wife, Mary Brazier. They are the proud parents of two children, the late April James, whose memory they cherish, and Byron II.

"As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them. And when they had fasted and prayed, and laid their hands on them, they sent them away."
Acts 13:2-3

THE PARTICIPANTS

HIS GRACE
THE MOST REVEREND *David*
M. COPELAND
CHIEF CONSCRATOR

HIS GRACE, THE RIGHT REVEREND
Liston **PAGE II**
CO-CONSECRATOR

HIS GRACE, THE RIGHT REVEREND
Horace E. **SMITH**
CO-CONSECRATOR

HIS GRACE, THE MOST REVEREND
Joseph W. **WALKER III**
HOMILIST

HIS GRACE, THE RIGHT REVEREND
Alan P. **WALKER**
EPISCOPAL CONSULTANT | LITURGIST

HIS GRACE, THE RIGHT REVEREND
Shawn R. **MASON II**
ADJUTANT GENERAL

IV ❖ XXIV ❖ MMXXVI

THE ORDER OF *Worship & Consecration*

✠ | WHERE INDICATED, PLEASE STAND

Worship & Adoration

A MEDLEY OF PSALMS, HYMNS, AND SPIRITUAL SONGS

✠ *The Great Processional*

INTROIT, "ANTHEM OF PRAISE"

THE CROSS BEARER
THE FIRST FAMILY
THE OFFICIAL BOARD & DIACONATE
THE VISITING MINISTERIUM
THE CLERGY OF APOSTOLIC CHURCH OF GOD
THE VISITING PRELATES
THE KERYGMATIST
THE ADJUTANT BISHOP
CEREMONIAL CHAPLAINS
THE ORDINAND
THE LITURGIST
THE CO-CONSECRATORS
THE METROPOLITAN

✠ *The Scripture of Consecration*

THE RIGHT REVEREND ALAN P. WALKER, D.MIN.

"And Zadok the priest took a horn of oil out of the tabernacle and anointed Solomon. And they blew the trumpet; and all the people said God save King Solomon. And all the people came up after him, and the people piped with pipes, and rejoiced with great joy, so that the earth rent with the sound of them." (1 Kings 1:39-40)

✠ *The Call to Consecration*

THE MOST REVEREND DAVID M. COPELAND, D.MIN.

The Metropolitan: Bless the Lord who forgives our sins.

People: HIS MERCY ENDURES FOREVER.

The Metropolitan: Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires are known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of Your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify Your Holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: AMEN!

The Presentation

DEACON CORTEZ X. TROTTER

The Bishops and the people sit. The Deacon will publicly present the Bishop-Elect by saying:

Your Eminence, The Most Reverend David M. Copeland, Metropolitan Archbishop in the Christ's holy Church, we the clergy and lay faithful of Apostolic Church of God, trusting in the guidance of the Holy Spirit, consent to the consecration of The Reverend Dr. Byron Thomas Brazier to the office of Bishop. We therefore ask you to lay hands on him and in the power of the Holy Spirit to consecrate him as Bishop in the One, Holy, and Universal Church.

The Metropolitan directs that the testimonials be read:

THE EVIDENCE OF ORDINATION | THE BULL OF EPISCOPAL INTENT | THE CERTIFICATE OF EPISCOPAL ELECTION

LETTERS OF TESTIMONY

THE SPOUSE | **EVANGELIST MARY BRAZIER**

CHURCH BOARD REPRESENTATIVE | **SECRETARY GWENETTA BUTLER**

CIVIC COMMUNITY

**REP. JONATHAN JACKSON | GOVERNOR J.B. PRITZKER |
PRES. TONI PRECKWINKLE | MAYOR BRANDON JOHNSON**

The Chief Consecrator then requires the following promise from the Ordinand.

The Declaration

The Candidate makes the following Declaration

“In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, I, **BYRON THOMAS BRAZIER**, chosen to be Bishop of the Church solemnly declare that I do believe the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testament to be the word of God and to contain all things necessary to salvation; I do solemnly promise to conform to the doctrine, discipline and worship of the Church and I do pledge ourselves to render due obedience to the canons of this Church so help me God through Jesus Christ our Lord.”

Signing and Witnessing of the Declaration

The Bishop-Elect sign the above Declaration in the sight of all present. The witnesses add their signatures. All then stand. The Concelebrating Bishop then says the following words and asks for the response of the people.

 *The Response*

Bishop Page: Brothers and Sisters in Christ Jesus, you have heard the testimony given that **BYRON** has been duly and lawfully appointed Bishop in the Church of God and to serve the congregations covered by this ministry. You have been assured of his suitability and that the Church believes he are suited for this sacred responsibility. Is it your will that we consecrate **BYRON** as Bishop?

Congregation: **THIS IS OUR WILL.**

Bishop Page: Will you uphold **BYRON** as Bishop?

Congregation: **WE WILL.**

Bishop Page then says:

“The Scriptures tell us that our savior spent the whole night praying before He chose and set forth His twelve apostles. Likewise, the apostles prayed before they appointed Matthias to be one of their number. Let us, therefore follow their example, and offer our prayers to Almighty God before we ordain **BYRON** for the work to which we trust the Holy Ghost has called him.”

 *The Invocation*

THE MOST REVEREND L. MILLICENT HUNTER, ED.D.

The Ministry of the Word

A Lesson from the Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 42:1-9

THE REVEREND ISAAC HAYES, D.MIN.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.
Congregation: **GLORY BE TO GOD.**

A Reading from the Epistles

1 Peter 5: 1-4

THE REVEREND MARLON MEDIOUS

Lector: The Word of the Lord.
Congregation: **GLORY BE TO GOD.**

✠ The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ *St. Matthew 9:35-38*

THE REVEREND IVORY JEAN NUCKOLLS

The Gospeler: This is the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
Congregation: **PRAISE TO YOU, LORD CHRIST.**

The Musical Selection

Apostolic Felicitations

THE MOST REVEREND MITCHELL G. TAYLOR | THE MOST REVEREND KEVIN C. CHANTILLOU, TH.D.
THE RIGHT REVEREND V. CHARLES LITTLE

Worship in Giving

THE RIGHT REVEREND LISTON PAGE II, D.MIN.

Introduction of the Homilist

Sermonic Selection

The Kerygma

THE MOST REVEREND JOSEPH WARREN WALKER, III, D.MIN.
Presiding Bishop | Full Gospel Baptist Church Fellowship | Nashville, TN

The Liturgy of Consecration

The Examination

The Bishop-Elect stands facing the Consecrators. The Chief Consecrator now addresses the Ordinand.

My brother **BYRON**, you have been chosen to be a Bishop in the Lord's Church, and the people have affirmed their trust in you by acclaiming your appointment. A Bishop in God's holy church is called to be one with the Apostles in proclaiming Christ's resurrection, interpreting the Gospel, and testifying of Christ's sovereignty as Lord of lords, and King of kings. You are called to guard the faith, unity, and discipline of the Church; to celebrate and to provide for the administration of the sacraments of the New Covenant; to ordain elders, deacons, and ministers, to join in the consecrating of Bishops; and to be in all things a faithful pastor and wholesome example for the flock of Christ.

With your fellow Bishops you will share in the leadership of the church throughout the world. Your heritage is the faith of the patriarchs, prophets of old, apostles, martyrs and those of every generation, who have looked to God in hope. Your example shall be that of early Fathers and Mothers of the Church and that of the Chief Apostle Jesus Christ. Forasmuch as the Holy Scriptures commands that we should not be hasty in admitting any person to govern in the Church of Christ, before you are admitted into this ministration, you will in the fear of God, give answer to these questions:

Bishop: Are you persuaded that you are truly called to this office, according to the will of our Lord Jesus the Christ, and the order of this church?

Answer: **I AM SO PERSUADED.**

Bishop: Will you continue to faithfully exercise yourself in the Holy Scriptures, and call upon the Lord our God by prayer for the true understanding of the same? Will you continue to be diligent in your practice of the Christian Life: reading the Bible, continuing steadfastly in prayer, and taking up your cross daily to follow Christ?

Answer: **I WILL SO DO, BY THE HELP OF THE LORD.**

Bishop: Will you faithfully continue to fulfill your calling among the people committed to your care; by preaching the Word of God and the apostolic faith? Will you continue to care for the people of God; nourishing, teaching, and encouraging them; giving direction to the life of the congregation; counseling the troubled; declaring God's forgiveness of sin; and proclaiming victory over death?

Answer: **I WILL SO DO, BY THE HELP OF THE LORD.**

Bishop: Will you continue to conduct yourself so that your life is shaped by Jesus Christ, who took the form of a servant for your sake; and will you, with the help of the Holy Spirit, continually rekindle the gift of God that is in you, to make known to all people the gospel of the grace of God?

Answer: **I WILL SO DO, BY THE HELP OF THE LORD.**

BYRON, through the promises you have committed yourself to God, to serve His Church in the function of bishop. We, therefore call upon you, chosen to be a guardian of the Church's faith, to lead us in confessing that faith.

The Bishop-Elect begins by saying:

I BELIEVE IN GOD.

✙ (Then all stand and say together)

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord: who conceived of the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried. He descended into hell. The third day, He arose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty, from thence, He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, one holy, universal and apostolic Church, the communion of the saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and life everlasting.

AMEN. (The Apostle's Creed, 340 A.D.)

The Apostolic Charge

THE RIGHT REVEREND HORACE E. SMITH, M.D.

✙ *The Sacred Rite of Episcopal Consecration*

While the people remain standing, the Bishop-Elect kneels before the Metropolitan. The other bishops assist and stand to the right and left of the Metropolitan. The people remain standing, Archbishop Copeland offers up this prayer or prays as the spirit leads him.

God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, father of mercies and God of all comfort, dwelling on high but having regard for the lowly, knowing all things before they come to pass; We give you thanks that from the beginning you have gathered and prepared a people to be heirs of the covenant of Abraham, and have raised up prophets, kings, and priests, never leaving your temple unattended. We praise you also that from the creation you have graciously accepted the ministry of those whom you have chosen.

While the time of prayer continues, the Metropolitan first lays his hands upon the head of the Bishop-Elect followed by the Co-Consecrators saying:

“Therefore, Father, make **BYRON** a Bishop in your church. Pour out upon him your Holy Spirit, whom you bestowed upon your beloved Son Jesus Christ, with whom He endowed the apostles of old, and by whom your Church is built up in every place, to the glory and unceasing praise of your name.”

(As the other Bishops stand back at their places, the Consecrators continues the prayer, by anointing the head, the ears, and the great finger and the soles of his feet. The people respond in a loud voice. AMEN)

Prayer for the Bishop's Wife

After the Bishop's wife is escorted back to her seat, the symbols of office may be given. This segment of the service is both colorful and solemn. The bishop will receive his final Episcopal appointments.

The Investiture

The new Bishop is now vested according to the order of Bishops.

THE STOLE

THE CHASUBLE

THE CEREMONIAL CORD AND PECTORAL CROSS

THE ZUCCHETTO

COPE

THE EPISCOPAL RING

THE CROZIER

After vesting, a Bible is presented with these words:

“Receive the Holy Scriptures. Feed the flock of Christ committed to your charge, guard and defend them in His truth, and be a faithful steward of His Holy Word and Sacraments.”

The Proclamation

By the grace of Almighty God, I now proclaim you to the Church and the World “**Bishop**” in Christ’s Holy Church: In the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen

I present, **BISHOP BYRON THOMAS BRAZIER**

The new Bishop then greets the church. The clergy and people offer their acclamation and applause in response to his consecration.

The Celebration of Holy Communion

The Celebration of the Communion will now begin:

The newly consecrated Bishop will serve “The Feast” to the Consecrating Bishops. All are welcomed to the Table of the Lord.

**When Communion has ended, words and acknowledgments from the newly consecrated
THE RIGHT REVEREND BYRON THOMAS BRAZIER, D.MIN.**

The Blessed Benediction & Recessional

“THE GRACE OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST BE WITH YOU ALL. AMEN.”

(ROMANS 16:2)



A PROPHETIC CALL OF ISAIAH 42:1-9

Behold my servant, whom I uphold; mine elect, in whom my soul delighteth; I have put my spirit upon him: he shall bring forth judgment to the Gentiles. He shall not cry, nor lift up, nor cause his voice to be heard in the street. A bruised reed shall he not break, and the smoking flax shall he not quench: he shall bring forth judgment unto truth. He shall not fail nor be discouraged, till he have set judgment in the earth: and the isles shall wait for his law. Thus saith God the Lord, he that created the heavens, and stretched them out; he that spread forth the earth, and that which cometh out of it; he that giveth breath unto the people upon it, and spirit to them that walk therein: I the Lord have called thee in righteousness, and will hold thine hand, and will keep thee, and give thee for a covenant of the people, for a light of the Gentiles; to open the blind eyes, to bring out the prisoners from the prison, and them that sit in darkness out of the prison house. I am the Lord: that is my name: and my glory will I not give to another, neither my praise to graven images. Behold, the former things are come to pass, and new things do I declare: before they spring forth I tell you of them.

A GENERAL EPISTLE OF 1 PETER 5:1-4

The elders which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed: Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind; Neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being ensamples to the flock. And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING ST. MATTHEW 9:35-38

And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people. But when he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd. Then saith he unto his disciples, The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few; pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest.



My Beloved Husband,

Today, my heart is filled with overwhelming joy, gratitude, and reverence before God as I celebrate your elevation to the sacred office of Bishop. This moment is not only a recognition of your faithfulness, but a testament to the hand of God that has guided, shaped, and sustained you through every season of your life.

I thank God for you, not only for the leader you are, but for the man, husband, and servant of Christ you have consistently shown yourself to be. To walk beside you in this journey has been one of the greatest blessings of my life. Our union is a gift ordained by God, and I am deeply grateful that He chose us to labor together in His vineyard.

I have witnessed your devotion, your sacrifice, your unwavering commitment to God's people, and your steadfast reliance on the Holy Spirit. You have never taken this calling lightly, and it is evident that this elevation is not about position, but about purpose. You have answered God's call with humility, obedience, and a heart fully surrendered to His will.

As you step into this new dimension of leadership, I celebrate not just what God has done, but what He will continue to do through you. I am confident that the same Spirit that has led you thus far will continue to guide, strengthen, and empower you for the work ahead. You do not walk alone, God is with you, and I stand with you, committed to supporting, praying, and serving alongside you.

Thank you for loving God, for loving your family, and for loving His people with integrity and grace. It is an honor to call you my husband, and now, to honor you as Bishop.

May the Lord continue to anoint you, enlarge your territory, and grant you wisdom, strength, and peace as you carry this mantle.

With all my love, honor, and gratitude,

Evangelist Mary Brazier

Thank You's

The Joint College of African American Bishops
Evangelist Mary Brazier, J. Byron Brazier & Entire Family

The Apostolic Church of God Family

The Apostolic Church of God Emeritus Board

The Apostolic Church of God Assistant Pastors

The Apostolic Church of God Auxiliaries

The Apostolic Church of God Staff

The Apostolic Church of God Volunteers

The Woodlawn Community

Deacon Cortez Trotter

Governor J. B. Pritzker

Mayor Brandon Johnson

Cook County Board President, Toni Preckwinkle

Lt. Governor Juilana Stratton

Justice Joy Cunningham

Congressman Jonathan Jackson

Speaker Emanuel Chris Welch

Rep. Kam Buckner

Don & Liz Thompson

Louis & Dianne Carr

Mother Josephine Wade

Ms. Deloris Jordan

The Seal of The Bishop

THE SCALES OF JUSTICE speak to his assignment to the community, particularly his call to proclaim prophetic justice in the midst of societal realities. This symbol declares that his ministry is not confined to ecclesiastical space, but is engaged with the moral and spiritual condition of the world around him. The scales reflect the divine demand for righteousness, as Scripture declares, "A false balance is abomination to the Lord: but a just weight is his delight" (Proverbs 11:1). They also echo the prophetic mandate of Micah 6:8, to do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with God. In this, the bishop stands as a voice that weighs, discerns, and declares the standard of God in the public square.

THE MITRE, THE KEY, AND THE CROZIER together establish the framework of unity within his episcopacy, while each maintains its own distinct theological significance.

THE MITRE represents consecration and spiritual authority, signifying that the bishop has been set apart for sacred service. It reflects the reality of a life devoted to God, as seen in passages such as John 15:16, "Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you."

THE KEY represents governance and delegated authority, rooted in the words of Christ in Matthew 16:19, where the keys of the Kingdom are given to bind and to loose. It signifies the responsibility to establish order and steward access within the House of God.

THE CROZIER represents pastoral care, embodying the role of the shepherd who leads, protects, and nurtures the flock, as seen in John 10:11, "I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep."

Together, these symbols reveal that unity in his leadership is not accidental, but is cultivated through consecration, structured through authority, and sustained through shepherding care, fulfilling the call of Ephesians 4:3 to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

THE IMAGE OF THE CITY is not generic, but specific. It is the city of Chicago, which represents family, legacy, and generational impact. This is the place of his roots, his lineage, and the generations connected to his life and ministry. The city symbolizes more than geography; it represents a divine assignment to build something enduring within a specific context. As Jeremiah 29:7 instructs, "Seek the peace of the city . . . for in the peace thereof shall ye have peace," this element of the seal reflects a commitment to invest in and uplift the place that has shaped him. It also speaks to generational continuity, as Psalm 145:4 declares, "One generation shall praise thy works to another, and shall declare thy mighty acts." In this, the bishop is not only leading in the present, but building for the future, establishing a legacy that will impact generations to come.

THE HANDSHAKE represents fellowship and the covenantal nature of relationships within the Body of Christ. It is a symbol of unity in relationship, trust, and shared spiritual life. This reflects the early Church as described in Acts 2:42, where believers continued steadfastly in fellowship, and echoes 1 John 1:3, which calls us into communion with one another through our shared experience with God. This portion of the seal affirms that his episcopacy is not isolated or individualistic, but deeply relational, committed to building authentic connections that strengthen the Church.

THE COLOR BROWN represents stability, humility, and foundation. It speaks to being grounded, reflecting the biblical principle that what is built must have a sure foundation, as seen in Matthew 7:24-25, where the wise man builds upon the rock. It also reflects humility, reminding us that leadership in the Kingdom is rooted in servanthood.

THE COLOR GOLD represents divine glory, excellence, and authority. It is the color associated with kingship and sacred worth, pointing to the honor of the office and the refining process required to carry it. As Job 23:10 declares, "When he hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold," this color reflects both the value and the process that shapes true leadership.

THE COLOR WHITE represents purity, righteousness, and holiness. It speaks to a life that is clean before God and consistent in integrity before people. Revelation 19:8 describes fine linen, clean and white, as the righteousness of the saints, and this color affirms that everything represented in this seal must be carried with purity of heart and clarity of purpose.

Taken together, this seal presents a bishopric that is balanced, intentional, and deeply rooted in Scripture. It reflects a ministry committed to prophetic justice in the community, apostolic unity in leadership, generational legacy grounded in Chicago as the place of family and future, and authentic fellowship within the Body of Christ. It is a seal that declares not only who he is, but what he has been called to build, sustain, and steward for the glory of God.

At the top peak of the shield rests THE CROSS, declaring the supremacy of Christ over every aspect of the bishop's life and ministry. Its elevated position affirms that this episcopacy is Christ-centered and governed by His authority and sacrifice. As Colossians 1:18 declares, He is the head of the Church, and everything within this seal flows from and submits to Him.

At the base of the seal, the ROMAN NUMERALS represent the year of his consecration, marking the moment he was set apart for the office of bishop. This is not just a date, but a divine appointment in time. As Ecclesiastes 3:1 reminds us, there is a time for every purpose, and this element affirms that his consecration was both timely and ordained by God.

THE GREEN GALERO signifies episcopal authority and pastoral responsibility. Its cords and tassels represent the bishop's jurisdiction, order, and commitment to shepherd God's people.

THE PROCESSIONAL CROSS represents Christ as the foundation of the bishop's ministry, declaring that all authority and leadership flow from Him.

THE BANNER READS *Deus • Familia • Communitas* (God, Family, Community), expressing a ministry rooted in devotion to God, generational legacy, and service to the community.



