

## Episcopal Succession of the Christian Catholic Church

*(Ordinariat des vieux-catholiques francophones d'Amérique)*



The first bishop of our church was Msgr. Rene Vilatte (1854-1929), elected by Synod on November 16, 1889.<sup>1</sup> He was consecrated at Colombo, by permission of Syriac Antiochean Patriarch Ignatius Peter, on May 29, 1892, by Western Rite Metropolitan Antonio F.X. Alvares. Indian Archbishops Mor Athanasius Kadavil of Kottayam and Mor Gregorius Geevarghese of Niranam acted as co-consecrators.<sup>2</sup>



*Msgr Vilatte (1<sup>st</sup> from left), Msgr Alvares (6<sup>th</sup>), Mor Athanasius (4<sup>th</sup>) and Mor Gregorius (5<sup>th</sup>)*

Msgr. Vilatte was succeeded by Msgr. Casimir F. Durand (1926), who was followed by Msgr. O'Neill Côté (1939-1986). Msgr. Serge A. Theriault is the present bishop. He was consecrated by Msgr. Côté in 1982.



Msgr. Vilatte



Msgr. Durand



Msgr. Côté



Msgr. Theriault

<sup>1</sup> Synod assembled in St. Mary's Church, Duval, Wisconsin, U.S.A. Incorporated 13 February 1890.

<sup>2</sup> Consecrated at the hands of Patriarch Ignatius Peter (1876), they were consecrators of Msgr. Alvares on July 27, 1889. Mor Gregorius was canonized in 1947 and is known as St. Gregory of Parumala. His feast is on November 2.