

The Prayer of Episcopal Consecration

The consecration prayer itself proves the fact that other bishops must be present and lay their hands on the ordinand during the rite consecration:

*Hierarch: Master, Lord, our God, Thou who legislated unto us through Thine All-famed Apostle Paul, regarding the order of degrees and orders, for the purpose of serving and liturgizing Thy venerable and immaculate Mysteries in Thy Holy Sanctuary: first Apostles, second Prophets, third Teachers. Likewise, O Master of All, this here elected one who has been granted worthy to carry the Evangelical yoke, and the High Priestly rank, **by the hand of sinful me, and by those of the witnessing Concelebrants and Co-Bishops**, by the inspiration and power and grace of Thy Holy Spirit, strengthen, as Though strengthened the Holy Apostles and Prophets, as Thou anointed the Kings, as Though sanctified the High Priests, and grant unto him the High Priesthood without reproach, and adorning him with all piety, elect him holy and make him worthy, that he may intercede for the salvation of the people, and that they may obey Thee through him. For sanctified is Thy Name and glorified is Thy Kingdom, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen."*

The original Greek is as follows:

*Αρχιερεὺς: Δέσποτα Κύριε, ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν, ὁ νομοθετήσας ἡμῖν διὰ τοῦ πανευφῆμου σου Ἀποστόλου Παύλου, βαθμῶν καὶ ταγμάτων τάξιν, εἰς τὸ ἐξυπηρετεῖσθαι, καὶ λειτουργεῖν τοῖς σεπτοῖς, καὶ ἀχράντοις σου Μυστηρίοις ἐν τῷ ἁγίῳ σου Θυσιαστηρίῳ, πρῶτον Ἀποστόλους, δεύτερον Προφήτας, τρίτον Διδασκάλους. Αὐτός, Δέσποτα τῶν ἀπάντων, καὶ τοῦτον τὸν ψηφισθέντα, καὶ ἀξιοθέντα ὑπεισελεθεῖν τὸν Εὐαγγελικὸν ζυγόν, καὶ τὴν Ἀρχιερατικὴν ἀξίαν, **διὰ τῆς χειρὸς ἐμοῦ τοῦ ἁμαρτωλοῦ, καὶ τῶν συμπαρόντων Λειτουργῶν καὶ Συνεπισκόπων**, τῇ ἐπιφοιτήσῃ καὶ δυνάμει, καὶ χάριτι τοῦ Ἁγίου σου Πνεύματος, ἐνίσχυσον, ὡς ἐνίσχυσας τοὺς ἁγίους σου Ἀποστόλους, καὶ Προφήτας, ὡς ἔχρισας τοὺς Βασιλεῖς, ὡς ἡγίασας τοὺς Ἀρχιερεῖς, καὶ ἀνεπίληπτον αὐτοῦ τὴν Ἀρχιερωσύνην ἀπόδειξον, καὶ πάσῃ σεμνότητι κατακοσμῶν, ἅγιον ἀνάδειξον, εἰς τὸ ἄξιον γενέσθαι, τοῦ αἰτεῖν αὐτὸν τὰ πρὸς σωτηρίαν τοῦ λαοῦ, καὶ ἐπακούειν σε αὐτοῦ. Ὅτι ἡγίασται σου τὸ ὄνομα καὶ δεδόξασται σου ἡ Βασιλεία, τοῦ Πατρός, καὶ τοῦ Υἱοῦ, καὶ τοῦ ἁγίου Πνεύματος, νῦν καὶ ἀεὶ, καὶ εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας τῶν αἰώνων.*