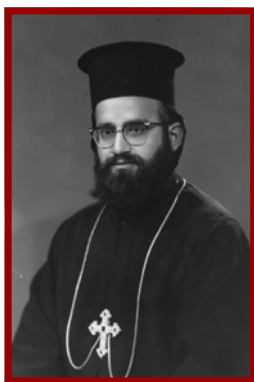


**THE THRICE BLESSED H.E. MOR
DIOSCOROS LUKA SHA'AIA
1929 – 2006+**

- ⌘ He is Gorgis the son of Zora Sha'aia;
- ⌘ The Thrice blessed was born in Bartleh in 1929;
- ⌘ Received his elementary studies at the school of Bartleh, which went hand in hand with the attendance of the religious and Syriac classes in the summer school at the church of St. Shmouney in Bartleh;
- ⌘ Completed the first year of his secondary school in Mosul – Iraq;

- ⌘ In the year 1945, joined the St. Ephraim Seminary in Mosul, which was, at the time, re-located there from Zahleh – Lebanon;

- ⌘ On the Feast of the Holy Cross, 14th September (Julian) (i.e. 27th September Gregorian) 1948 was one of the two seminary students who were blessed and became monks. The other person was Mousa Salama (the thrice blessed Archbishop Mor Crisostomos Moussa Salama). In the speech conveyed on the day H.E. Dioscoros Luka gave the roadmap of what he intends to achieve being a member of the monk hood. On that day he was given the name “LUKA”. *(Please refer to Lisan Al Mashriq Magazine, 1, 3 & 4, November and December 1948 pp. 62-66);*



- ⌘ In the year 1951 was awarded the Diploma in Philosophy, Theology and Nomocanon, and was appointed a teacher at the same seminary;
- ⌘ In the year 1953 his services were transferred to St. Matthew Monastery;
- ⌘ On 29th June 1955 he was ordained a priest/monk;
- ⌘ In the year 1961, The Thrice Blessed H.H. Moran Mor Ignatius Yacoub III (1957-1980+) issued an apostolic decree awarding him with the Holy Cross, in appreciation of his services to the Holy Church. Then, appointed him as a teacher at the St. Ephraim Seminary in Zahleh – Lebanon;
- ⌘ In the year 1963, his services were transferred to the Patriarchate to serve the Thrice Blessed H.H. Moran Mor Ignatius Yacoub III;

- ⌘ Sunday 1st December 1963, and at the hands of The Thrice Blessed H.H. Moran Mor Ignatius Yacoub III he was ordained Archbishop and was given the name of DIOSCOROS, appointing him as Patriarchal Vicar in Damascus. During the period of his services in Damascus, he also served the community in Lebanon on periodic intervals;



- ⌘ Saturday 18th June 1966, he was appointed as the Patriarchal Vicar of Jerusalem, where he exerted many efforts in the service of our Holy Church and Syriac Orthodox Community;

- ⌘ In the year 1980, and following the departure of H.H. Moran Mor Ignatius Yacoub III, and in line with the huge number of requests from the faithful of St. Matthew Monastery, H.H. Moran Mor Ignatius Zakka I was approved his move from Jersusalem to the Archdiocese of St. Matthew Monastery in Iraq, which is a dear place to H.E. heart;
- ⌘ Saturday morning, 27th December 1980 left Amman, Jordan heading to Iraq to takeover the responsibilities of St. Matthew Monastery, where he served wholeheartedly for some twenty five years;
- ⌘ In the year 2005, and in line with the Syriac Orthodox Church's Constitution, reaching the age, he retired opening the way for others to serve the Church;
- ⌘ On 22nd September 2006, departed this earthly life to the heavenly chambers;

- ⌘ The burial service was held at the Church of St. Shmouney, Bartleh – then the thrice blessed body was carried to St. Matthew Monastery to join the forefathers who earlier departed this earthly life.

The Thrice Blessed H.E. Mor Dioscoros Luka was known of his seriousness, and courage when it comes to the work of the church, and the defense of the church's canons and laws, that was joined with huge humility, and excellent communications skills. Whoever met him enjoyed his company, and would immediately notice his zealously towards the Holy Church, and his eagerness to build solid relationships with others based on humility, humbleness and care.

May God the Almighty rest your soul Your Eminence Mor Dioscoros Luka Sha'aia, and benefit us with your prayers.

*Your companion from youthful days
V. Rev. Fr. Boutros Tourma Issa
Perth—Western Australia—The LIGHT—2006.*