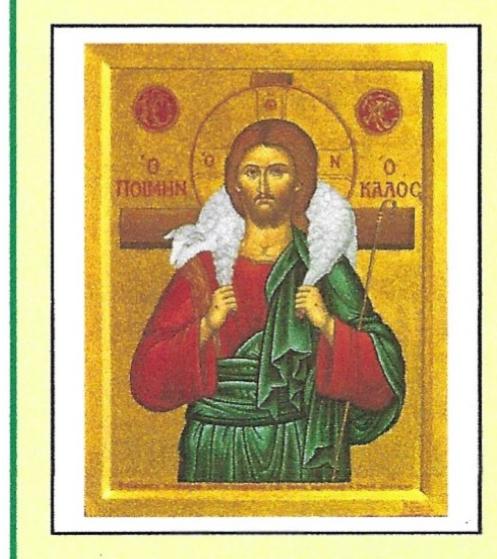


Українська Православна Церква в Канаді Західна Єпархія

Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada Western Eparchy

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GREETING FROM HIS GRACE BISHOP ILARION



"Я є пастир добрий" (Ів 10:11)

"I am the good shepherd." (John 10:11)

Dear fathers, parish presidents, brothers and sisters in Christ,

I warmly greet you as I begin my new temporary responsibility to the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada as Locum Tenens of the Metropolitan Cathedral of the UOCC. As Bishop of Edmonton and the Western Eparchy, my responsibility for the Eparchy is not diminished by my care for the entire Church in Canada. Please be assured that you still receive my full attention to all of the parishes in the Western Eparchy.

The COVID pandemic is still very much a factor in our life and has consequences in our ecclesiastical life. We strive to ensure that all our faithful are safe and healthy both spiritually and physically. Please see the enclosed letter which provides information about the return to the participation in the Holy Mystery of The Eucharist and Repentance by the faithful effective July 18, 2021.

We are pleased that our Eparchy is functioning as close to the way it used to as possible in these difficult times. We thank all the parishes that have continued to pay their levy fees even when they themselves have limited services and activities. Please note that our financial year ends on August 31 and our finances and budget are determined in part by your levy payments. Your levy fees are very much appreciated because we are soon preparing our budget and we understand that it is not easy for many of you to fulfill your obligations to us. At the same time, you understand that your levy fees are an essential contribution to the functioning of the daily activities in our Eparchy. Even in tough times, you continue with your support. That is wonderful to see.

We also thank all parishes that contributed to the Nativity and Paschal Second plate appeal, even if you did not have Church services at that time.

We thank to all of you who continue to give donations to our Orphanage in Ukraine Project. The children greatly benefit from the help you provide. Please continue to help the orphans in Ukraine. We are deeply grateful to many parishes, organizations, and individuals who continue to give donations to the Western Eparchy. May God generously reimburse all of you.

Our visits to our parishes out of Edmonton have restarted. God willing, we may meet in person soon, pray together, greet each other face to face, and thank God for His great mercy granted to us.

In closing, I assure you of my constant prayers for all of you.

As your bishop, I warmly greet every one of you and may the Lord bestow His grace upon all of you, fill your heart with spiritual joy and peace.

With archpastoral blessings,

Bishop of Edmonton