



УКРАЇНСЬКА ПРАВОСЛАВНА ЦЕРКВА В КАНАДІ
UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH OF CANADA
L'ÉGLISE ORTHODOXE UKRAINIENNE DU CANADA

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ENCYCLICAL
FROM THE LOCUM TENENS OF THE METROPOLITAN CATHEDRAL OF
THE UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH OF CANADA
REGARDING A SPECIAL COLLECTION ON THE SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY,
PETITIONS & PRAYER FOR UKRAINE IN TIME OF WAR & READING OF
AKATHISTS DURING THE HOLY & GREAT FAST

10 March 2022

Your Grace!

Reverend Presbyters & Deacons!

Members of the Consistory Board & Presidium!

Beloved & Faithful Brothers & Sisters in Christ!

Sunday, 13 March 2022, the 1st Sunday of the Holy and Great Fast, marks the joyous commemoration of the Triumph of Orthodoxy – the victory of truth over falsehood and the restoration of icons to their proper place of veneration in the Holy Orthodox Church of Christ. Tragically (assuming the Russian Federation will not cease its unjustified and unprovoked evil attack upon our beloved ancestral homeland, Ukraine) this day will also mark the eve of the 20th day Ukrainians will be living with the horrors and inhumane brutality of Russian aggression. As a symbolic gesture of our support and belief in *Ukraine's triumph over the Russian aggressor*, **I bless all congregations of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada to organize a specific goodwill collection on Sunday, 13 March 2022, during the Divine Liturgy and during Sunday of Orthodoxy Vespers, for humanitarian aid for Ukraine. Each congregation is instructed to hand over the funds collected to the Canada-Ukraine Foundation, and email to me the sum collected in your congregation.**

Additionally, **I bless the attached “Petitions for Ukraine & Her People in Time of War” and “Prayer for Ukraine” to be read by our clergy during every Divine Liturgy (including the Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts), commencing the 1st Sunday of the Holy and Great Fast.** The *petitions* shall be added to the Litany of Fervent Supplication, following the petition, “Again we pray for our God-loving and God-protected country, Canada...”. The *prayer* shall be read immediately following the Litany of Fervent Supplication, preceded by intoning, “Again and again, with tenderness of our hearts, let us pray to the Lord! (Choir: Lord, have mercy!).”

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Additionally, for the duration of the Holy and Great Fast, I bless the regular reading (weekly, where this is possible) of either the Akathist to the Passions of Christ or the Akathist to the Most-Holy Theotokos.

Beloved in Christ! Through these amplified efforts of prayer, we will manifest our enduring determination to continue to be bearers of the Light of Christ and warriors for peace, and workers for holiness in this fallen, sinful world. Let us humbly offer these prayers to the Lord, our God, for the salvation of our pious and God-loving brothers and sisters in Ukraine; that peace, truth, justice and freedom may soon prevail in the ancient and glorious lands Kyivan Rus'-Ukraine!

Through the prayers of the Most Holy Theotokos, *"O, Great One – Only God! Protect our Ukraine!"*
With archpastoral affection in Christ, the Lord,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "+ Ilarion, Bishop". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Ilarion, Bishop of Edmonton & the Western Eparchy
Locum Tenens of the Metropolitan Cathedral

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