

His Eminence Ilarion Archbishop of Winnipeg & the Central Eparchy, Metropolitan of Canada Primate of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada Locum Tenens of Edmonton & the Western Eparchy

His Eminence, Metropolitan Ilarion the Archbishop of Winnipeg and the Central Eparchy, Metropoltan of Canada, Primate of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada, Locum Tenens of Edmonton and the Western Eparchy (in the world – Roman Rudnyk) was born February 14, 1972, in L'viv, Ukraine. There he received his primary and secondary school. After taking his entrance exams, he was admitted to the second year at the Ecclesiastical Seminary of Kyiv from which he graduated in 1992.

Upon the recommendation of Archbishop Vsevolod of Skopelos and with the blessing of the Ecumenical Patriarch, Bartholomew I, he was sent to Thessaloniki, Greece to further his education. He graduated from the Theological Faculty of the Aristotle University in 1997.

On December 5, 1997 he was tonsured a monk, receiving the name Ilarion. His Eminence Metropolitan Panteleimon of Tyroloe and Serention (Abbot of the Holy Monastery of Vlatadon in Thessaloniki) ordained Metropolitan Ilarion to the diaconate on December 21, 1997 and to the priesthood in 2000.

He continued his theological studies in Canon Law and completed his Masters Degree in Canon Law, successfully defending his paper on the 'Canonical relations between the Metropolis of Kyiv and the Ecumenical Patriarchate until 1240'.

In 2001 he attended English language lessons at the University of Illinois in Chicago. In October of 2002 he was assigned to serve the newly created parish of Saint Panteleimon in Porto, Portugal.

On March 21, 2004 he was elevated to the rank of 'Archimandrite of the Ecumenical Patriarchate'. On January 11, 2005, His All-Holiness the Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew and the Holy and Sacred Synod of the Ecumenical Patriarchate elected him assistant bishop to His Eminence Metropolitan Epiphanios of Spain and Portugal, with the title, 'Bishop of Telmissos'. His Episcopal consecration took place in Constantinople at the Patriarchal Cathedral of St. George, on Saturday, January 29, 2005.

His Eminence Metropolitan John, Primate of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada asked the Ecumenical Patriarchate Bartholomew I, the Holy and Sacred Synod of the Ecumenical Patriarchate to assign Bishop Ilarion of Telmissos to the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada. On October 21, 2008, His All-Holiness Bartholomew and the Holy Synod elected him as 'Bishop of Edmonton and the Western Eparchy'.

Bishop Ilarion of Edmonton was enthroned on Sunday, October 26, 2008 at the Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral of St. John the Baptist in Edmonton, Alberta.

On September 7th, 2018 the Holy and Sacred Synod of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, appointed Bishop Ilarion (along with Archbishop Daniel of the UOC of the USA) as Exarch of the Ecumenical Throne to Ukraine. After the preliminary work of the Exarchs, His All-Holiness Patriarch Bartholomew I made the historical announcement about the granting of autocephaly to the Holy Orthodox Church of Ukraine.

On December 15, 2018 His Grace Bishop Ilarion, along with Metropolitan Emmanuel of France (presiding hierarch) and Archbishop Daniel, participated in the Unification Council of the Orthodox Church of Ukraine.

On January 5-6, 2019 Bishop Ilarion participated in the official ceremony (at Holy Great-Martyr George Patriarchal Cathedral in Constantinople, Turkey) of signing and granting Tomos of Autocephaly to the Orthodox Church of Ukraine.

Following the retirement of His Eminence Metropolitan Yurij, in June 2021, Bishop Ilarion assumed the duties of Locum Tenens of the Metropolitan Cathedral until the XXIV Sobor of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada. At the XXIV Sobor (convened June 15-19, 2022), Bishop Ilarion of Edmonton was one of three candidates elected for the office of Metropolitan of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada (in the first instance). The Holy and Sacred Synod elected Bishop Ilarion to the office of Metropolitan of Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada at its regular session, convened July 21-22, 2022. The Great Proclamation of his election was celebrated at the Patriarchal Cathedral of St. George August 29, 2022.

(Name Day: October 21/November 3)