

## UKRAINIAN GREEK CATHOLIC CHURCH

Prot. N. 22/111 ENG Major Archbishop of Kyiv-Halych

# DECREE

For the glory of the Holy, Consubstantial, Life-creating and Undivided Trinity,  
The Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen

**SVIATOSLAV**

By divine mercy and in full communion  
With the Roman Apostolic See  
Major Archbishop of Kyiv-Halych,  
Father and Head of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church

TO OUR DEAR BROTHER IN CHRIST  
The Most Reverend

**Bryan Joseph Bayda**

**PEACE BE WITH YOU IN THE LORD!**

The Second World War caused a great wave of emigration, significantly adding to the number of Ukrainians from previous emigrations. In order to provide for the spiritual needs of the faithful of our Church, on the 3rd of March 1948, the Apostolic See established an Exarchate of Eastern Canada. The territory of the exarchate covered all Canadian provinces east of Manitoba: Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island. His Excellency Isidore Borecky became its first bishop. Having received priestly ordination on the 17th of July 1938 from the hands of Bishop Dioniziy Nyaradi, Father Isidore Borecky was nominated exarch of the newly-established exarchate on the 3rd of March 1948. His episcopal consecration took place on the 27th of May of the same year, in St. Josaphat's Cathedral. His primary concecrator was Bishop Vasyl Ladyka.

On the 3rd of November 1956 Bishop Isidore was appointed eparch of the newly-created Eparchy of Toronto and Eastern Canada. At that time on the territory of the Eparchy of Toronto there were seventy thousand Ukrainian Greek-Catholics with one hundred and one priests in active pastoral ministry serving 63 parishes and 30 missions with 55 parish schools and institutes of education.

The Basilian Fathers were active on the territory of the Eparchy in Toronto, Montreal, and Ottawa, with the monastery of St. Gregory of Nyssa in Toronto

established as their main centre. The Redemptorist Fathers ministered to Holy Eucharist parish where they established a monastery. The Sister Servants of Mary Immaculate maintained an academy for girls in the town of Ancaster. Also, their provincial home was established in Toronto.

During the years of Bishop Isidore Borecky's episcopal ministry, our illustrious predecessor, Patriarch Josyf Slipyj, visited the Toronto Eparchy three times: in 1968, 1973, and 1976. On the 16th of June 1998, Pope John Paul II accepted Bishop Isidore Borecky's resignation from office in connection with his reaching retirement age.

On the 1st of July 1998 the Bishop of Saskatoon, Cornelius Pasichny, was nominated Bishop of Toronto. Having the experience of a monastic, a seminary spiritual director, and an eparchial bishop, Bishop Cornelius greatly contributed to the spiritual renewal of the clergy and faithful of the Toronto Eparchy. As ruling hierarch, he served till his resignation from office on the 3rd of May 2002.

His successor, Bishop Stephen Chmilar, nominated in April of 2003, continued the work begun by his predecessors, adding greatly to the revival of spiritual life and administrative organization of each parish in the Eparchy.

On the 9th of November 2019, His Holiness Pope Francis accepted the resignation of Bishop Stephen Chmilar from the office of eparchial bishop of the Eparchy of Toronto and Eastern Canada, and appointed you, Bishop Bryan, Apostolic Administrator of this eparchy. In spite of the challenges of the pandemic, in this period of almost three years you managed to visit almost all the parishes of the vast Toronto Eparchy, changed the location of the episcopal chancery, organized an Eparchial Assembly-Sobor, and established an effective Eparchial Finance Council.

With consideration for the spiritual needs of the faithful of our Church and the vacancy of this episcopal see, the Synod of Bishops of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church chose you for the office of eparchial bishop of the Toronto Eparchy and conveyed that decision to the Roman Pontiff. The Holy Father, Pope Francis, favourably accepted this election, blessed it, and nominated you for this office, transferring you from our Eparchy of Saskatoon. This was made public on the 28th of April 2022.

For the glory of God and the salvation of our God-loving people we, with the authority granted to us, in accordance with can. 81 and can 86, § 2 of the Code of Canons of the Eastern Churches,

**PRESENT AND PROCLAIM YOU**

**Eparchial Bishop  
of the  
Eparchy of Toronto and Eastern Canada.**

**Dear Bishop!**

We call upon you, in accordance with the teaching of the Gentiles, to be "above reproach... hospitable, a lover of good, self-controlled, upright, holy, and disciplined... holding firm to the trustworthy word as taught... able to give instruction in sound doctrine and also to rebuke those who contradict" (Titus 1:7-9).

Fulfill your episcopal ministry in accordance with the Code of Canons of the Eastern Churches and the canons of the Particular Law of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church. Be a faithful member of the Synod of Bishops of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church and take active part in its deliberations when summoned by the Father and Head of the Church.

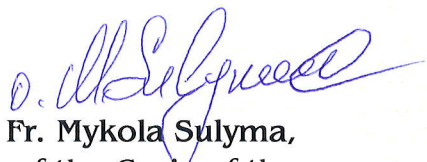
We call upon you to strengthen the faith and labour devotedly for our people and the salvation of their souls. Give heed to the clergy and lay faithful of the Eparchy that has been entrusted to you.

We ask the faithful of the Toronto Eparchy to accept their bishop with respect and love. May the clergy show to you due obedience in serving Christ, the Church and the People of God, so that the message of Christ's truth may be spread throughout the Eparchy for the glory of the Holy, Consubstantial, Live-creating, and Undivided Trinity, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Together with the bishops of our Church, we pray that the Lord may grant you, our Dear Brother, the divine graces necessary for the due fulfillment of the responsibilities which have been placed on you.

The blessing of the Lord be upon you, Dear Brother in Christ!



  
Fr. Mykola Sulyma,  
Chancellor of the Curia of the  
Major Archbishop of the UGCC

Given in Kyiv,  
at the Patriarchal Cathedral of the Resurrection of Christ,  
on the Day our father Cyril, Archbishop of Alexandria,  
the 22nd day of June in the 2022nd Year of our Lord.