

## **Catholic Bishops Congratulate Archbishop Sotirios as the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Toronto Elevated to Archdiocese of Canada**



On behalf of the Roman and Eastern Catholic Bishops serving on the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCC) co-sponsored Orthodox-Catholic Bishops' Dialogue, The Most Reverend Richard Grecco (Co-chair), The Most Reverend Michael Mulhall, The Most Reverend Lawrence Huculak, O.S.B.M., and The Most Reverend Thomas Dowd, a letter of congratulations was sent on the occasion of the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Toronto being elevated to the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of Canada by His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch of Constantinople Bartholomew. As a result, His Eminence Archbishop Sotirios' new episcopal designation is now Archbishop of Canada and Exarch of the Arctic.



CONFÉRENCE DES ÉVÊQUES CATHOLIQUES DU CANADA  
CANADIAN CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS

15 August 2019  
Feast of the Dormition of the Most Holy Mother of God

His Eminence Archbishop Sotirios  
Archbishop of Canada and Exarch of the Arctic  
President, Canadian Conference of Orthodox Bishops  
86 Overlea Blvd. (1 Patriarch Bartholomew Way)  
Toronto, ON M4H 1C6

Your Eminence,

On behalf of the Catholic Bishops serving on our Orthodox-Catholic Bishops Dialogue of Canada, a mark of our fraternal closeness and faithfulness to our Lord Jesus Christ who prayed for our unity, I wish to convey to you my fraternal prayers and words of congratulations for the elevation of the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Toronto to the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of Canada by His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch of Constantinople Bartholomew. By extension, I wish to acknowledge your new episcopal designation as Archbishop of Canada and Exarch of the Arctic.

This is a moment of great honour and celebration for the Greek Orthodox faithful of Canada, who have benefited so promisingly from your spiritual leadership, guiding the faithful by the example of the Good Shepherd into an ever deeper relationship with the most Holy Trinity.

The Catholic Bishops of Canada have appreciated your friendship and solidarity over the years as well as the ecclesial closeness that the Catholic Church and the Greek Orthodox Church enjoy here in Canada.

May the Holy Spirit continue to guide and strengthen your ministry with "everlasting vitality" through the powerful intercession of the glorious *Theotokos* for the praise and glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

"The world is revived,  
Seeing your holy majesty;  
You, unmarried mother, holy virgin,  
Rise now above us, into your heavenly home,  
Ascending to life without an end:  
Grant to all who sing to you  
Everlasting vitality."

(St. John of Damascus, Ode 5, Canon for the Dormition of the Mother of God)

Sincerely yours in Christ our Lord,

Bishop Richard Grecco  
Roman Catholic Bishop of Charlottetown and  
Catholic-Co-Chair to the Orthodox-Catholic Bishops  
Dialogue of Canada