

# THE AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND DIOCESE

OF THE RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH OUTSIDE OF RUSSIA

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## UKASE

### **Rectors of the Australian and New Zealand Diocese**

### **Commemoration of 40 days for Metropolitan Hilarion**

The 40<sup>th</sup> day of the repose of our First Hierarch and longest-serving Ruling bishop, His Eminence Metropolitan Hilarion, falls on June 24. The sadness that we all feel is magnified by the fact that he died far from his beloved diocese and was farewelled with our prayers, but without our collective participation in the funeral and burial services, such important moments in the grieving process.

To give all of us a chance to honour Vladyka Hilarion's memory with special services culminating in a Liturgy and Panihida concelebrated by all the clergy of the diocese, I ask all of the clergy of the ANZ Diocese to gather at the Cathedral in Sydney on June 23 and June 24 2022.

By God's Mercy, Vladyka Hilarion's 40<sup>th</sup> day falls on the 9<sup>th</sup> Friday after Pascha when our Holy Church annually celebrates two significant icons – The Kursk Root icon, the Hodigitria of the Russian Diaspora and the Tabynsk Icon, the Hodigitrai of the Russian Diaspora in China. Also, the same day is the Feast of the Chinese New Martyrs. All these Feasts were very close to Vladyka's heart - The Kursk-Root icon goes without saying, the Tabynsk icon being the Odigitria of the Russians in China, and the Chinese New Martyrs - Vladyka had a special place in his heart and was a tireless advocate for Orthodoxy in China – the care that he showed Fr Michael Li and his family, is testament to this!

**The services will be as follows:**

**Thursday, June 23, 2022 Vigil to the Kursk Icon 6.00pm**

**Friday, June 24 Divine Liturgy with Panihida 9.00am**

**Followed by Pominki (only for clergy and their spouses)**

**Vestments: BLUE**

This would be a very heart-warming way to honour our local hierarch and First Hierarch, and a source of comfort for all of us after the loss of our Lord and Father! Especially, since we all corporately and personally benefited from Vladyka's loving and caring (and often times direct) participation in our lives

Our Local Church has endured through covid, continues to endure with the war in Ukraine, and now the very real Ecclesiastical troubles that are beginning to rock the Ark of the Church. I am sure we would all be comforted to pray and have fellowship together on this special and important day in Vladyka's eternal life - the Day of Particular Judgement before the Lord!

As instructed by the Synod, Church-wide parish commemorations should also take place on Sunday 26 June.



+Bishop George of Canberra  
Auxiliary Bishop of Australia and New Zealand Diocese  
Of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia