

# ARCHIMANDRITE IRÉNÉE [ROCHON]



Holy Annunciation Orthodox Cathedral in Ottawa



Consecration of Bishop Elect Irénée (Rochon)



His Beatitude, Metropolitan JONAH and His Eminence, Archbishop SERAPHIM



Concelebrating bishops



Choir of Annunciation Orthodox Cathedral in Ottawa

Ten bishops participated in the episcopal consecration of Archimandrite Irénée [Rochon] as Bishop of Quebec City and Auxiliary to His Eminence, Archbishop Seraphim of Ottawa and Canada, at the summer church of Saint Seraphim of Sarov, under the Cathedral of Saints Peter and Paul, Montréal.

His Beatitude, Metropolitan Jonah, presided at the consecration. In addition to His Eminence, Archbishop Seraphim, other concelebrating members of the Holy Synod of Bishops of the Orthodox Church in America participating in the consecration were His Eminence, Archbishop Nathaniel of Detroit and the Romanian Episcopate; His Grace, Bishop Benjamin of San Francisco and the West; His Grace, Bishop Tikhon of Philadelphia and Eastern Pennsylvania; and His Grace, Bishop Melchisedek of Pittsburgh and Western Pennsylvania.

The consecration took on a genuinely pan-Orthodox character with the participation of a number of guest concelebrating hierarchs, including His Eminence, Metropolitan Sotirios of the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Toronto; His Grace, Bishop Iov of Kashira, Administrator of the Patriarchal Parishes in Canada and Acting Administrator of the Patriarchal Parishes in the USA; His Grace, Bishop Alexander of the Antiochian Orthodox Diocese of Ottawa, Eastern Canada and Upstate New York; and His Grace, Bishop Meleti of Khotyn, Auxiliary Bishop of the Church of Ukraine's Diocese of Chernivtsi.

On Wednesday evening, September 30, the Rite of Nomination, Proclamation, and Acceptance by Archimandrite Irénée took place at the cathedral immediately before Vigil for the Feast of the Protection of the Mother of God.

The wonder-working Pochaiv Icon of the Mother of God was present in the cathedral for the consecration of Bishop Irénée. The icon will be visiting major Canadian cities through October 11.

Thursday, October 1, 2009, His Beatitude, Metropolitan Jonah and the members of the Holy Synod of Bishops of the Orthodox Church in America consecrated Archimandrite Irénée (Rochon) Bishop of Quebec City and Auxiliary to His Eminence, Archbishop Seraphim of Ottawa and Canada.

The Rite of Consecration took place at a Hierarchical Divine Liturgy at Annunciation Cathedral, Ottawa.

Archimandrite Irénée was born into a large French Canadian Roman Catholic family on December 25, 1948, in Montréal, QC.

In 1961 he had his first contact with the Orthodox Church in Rawdon, QC, at the summer church of Saint Seraphim of Sarov, under the Cathedral of Saints Peter and Paul, Montréal.

On January 20, 1967, he was received into the Orthodox Church by His Eminence, Archbishop Vitaly of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia [ROCOR], and until 1971, he participated in the parish life at Saint Nicholas Cathedral [ROCOR] in Montréal. During this time, he also took part in the activities of the McGill University Orthodox Christian Fellowship.

In 1971, he completed his B.A. in Slavic Studies at the University of Ottawa, and then joined Holy Trinity Monastery in Jordanville, NY.

In March 1974, after three years of study at Holy Trinity Russian Orthodox Seminary, he was tonsured a rassophore monk. A year later, in March 1975, he was tonsured a stavrophore monk, and received the name of the Hieromartyr Irénée of Lyons.

In February 1978, he was blessed by Bishop Laurus, then Abbot of Holy Trinity Monastery, to serve in France, in the French-speaking parishes there. He was ordained Hierodeacon on May 19, 1978, in Brussels, Belgium and Hieromonk on August 20 of the same year in Geneva, Switzerland by His Eminence, Archbishop Antony of Geneva.

After serving for four years in Lyons, Father Irénée returned to Montréal to serve the French Mission there.

After the election in 1986, of Bishop Seraphim as Auxiliary Bishop for the Archdiocese of Canada, Hieromonk Irénée, Hierodeacon Marc (Pierre), and members of the French Mission in Montreal petitioned to be received into the OCA's Archdiocese of Canada.

Father Irénée was elevated to the rank of Igumen in 1992, to care for the French speaking monastics in Québec. In 1993, he was assigned priest-in-charge of the Saint Benoît French-speaking parish in Montréal. He served also as supply priest in many parishes in Montréal, Ottawa, Toronto, and Québec City.

In 1996, Father Irénée was assigned as Administrator of the Russian Cem-

