



## **Patriarch Kirill: Signing the Act of Canonical Communion has given us joy over the unity of the faithful of the one Russian Orthodox Church**

This year it is ten years since the signing of the Act of Canonical Communion on the feast of the Ascension of the Lord in 2007, His Holiness Patriarch Kirill reminded the Bishops' Council, addressing its members at the Church Councils Hall of the Church of Christ the Saviour.

'This event has given us joy over the unity of the faithful of the one Russian Orthodox Church', His Holiness said.

The Primate recalled with warmth the joint prayer with the episcopate of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside Russia on the Ascension Day in 2017. 'Offering the Bloodless Sacrifice to God with one mouth and one heart, we thanked Him together for the precious gift of unity found ten years ago. For the past years, the episcopate, clergy and laity, who were divided as a result of historical events of the past, have been able to come to a better knowledge of each other. It has been facilitated by a great deal of joint projects, in particular, in the youth milieu', His Holiness testified.

At the same time, Patriarch stressed, 'I consider it important that we have made efforts to realize or reflect anew on the proposals put forward in the days when the Act was signed and during the preparatory work for this historic event and aimed to put in good order the canonical status of the dioceses and parishes of the Russia diaspora'.

*Bishops' Council information service*

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