



Condolences of His Holiness Patriarch Kirill over death of school children in Italy

His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Russia expressed his condolences to Hungarian prime minister Viktor Orbán over the death of school children killed in a bus crash in northeast Italy.

The mass media reports say that at least sixteen children were killed, thirty-nine survived, and many were seriously injured. The Hungarian school children were going home from a skiing trip to France.

Your Excellency, dear Mr. Orbán:

It was with deep sorrow that I learnt of a major accident in northeast Italy which killed and injured Hungarian school children. On behalf of the Russian Orthodox Church I express sincere condolences to you and to all people in Hungary.

When we see real human grief that penetrates our soul and cuts to our heart we always try to find spiritual consolation and strength in the Lord and ardently offer our petitions to Him. These days my heart and prayers are with you and your nation that endures this tragedy.

May God who loves people heal the wounds of the injured, console those who sorrow and bestow his ineffable mercy to all on whom this great misfortune befell.

Respectfully,