



Primate of Russian Orthodox Church will visit Poland

On 16–19 August 2012, His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Russia will visit Poland at the invitation of His Beatitude Metropolitan Sawa of Warsaw and All Poland, the Primate of the Polish Orthodox Church.

During the visit, His Holiness Patriarch Kirill will celebrate the services together with the Primate, archpastors, and clergy of the Polish Orthodox Church.

On 16 August, on Patriarch Kirill's arrival in Warsaw, a prayer service will be celebrated at the Warsaw Cathedral of St Mary Magdalene, and on the eve of the feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord and on the feast day, the Primate of the Russian and Polish Orthodox Churches will celebrate the services at one of the most sacred places in Poland – the Holy Mount of Grabarka.

His Holiness Patriarch Kirill is also expected to visit Polish churches and monasteries.

Taking into account the importance of defending traditional Christian values and culture in modern Europe and the importance of tasks arising in this connection, His Holiness Patriarch Kirill and Metropolitan Józef Michalik, President of the Polish Catholic Bishops' Conference, will sign a joint message to the peoples of Russia and Poland. The document will call to develop fraternal relations between the Russians and the Poles – the peoples, in whose life Christian faith plays a significant role.

During the visit, His Holiness Patriarch Kirill is expected to meet with Polish high-ranking officials.