



## **Irish Orthodox pilgrims ascend St. Patrick's Hill**

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On July 11, 2011, a group of parishioners of Sts Peter and Paul Patriarchal Church in Dublin, led by Father Nikolay Yevseyev, secretary of the parish council, made a pilgrimage to St. Patrick's Hill. According to tradition, it was on Croagh Patrick in the County Mayo in the west coast of Ireland that St. Patrick prayed and fasted for forty days before setting off to preach the Good News of Christ to heathens.

This ascent has become an annual event for the Orthodox believers living in Ireland, the website of the Patriarchal Metochion of the Russian Orthodox Church in Dublin reported. Every year the number of people making this pilgrimage grows. This year people from almost all the Irish parishes of the Russian Orthodox Church came to pray to the enlightener of Ireland; many were ascending the hill with small children. Having covered a kilometre and a half uphill, the pilgrims said a thanksgiving at the place where, according to tradition, St. Patrick fell into a brief sleep.

*DECR Communication Service*