



Patriarch Kirill chairs 3d session of Russian Orthodox Church's Supreme Church Council

On August 23, 2011, His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Russia chaired the 3d session of the ROC Supreme Church Council held at the Hall of the Supreme Church Council in the Church of Christ the Saviour.

In his introductory remarks, Patriarch Kirill outlined the main items on the agenda, emphasizing the importance of the Supreme Church Council as a body responsible for the implementation of decisions made by the highest canonical authority, the **Patriarchal Press Service** has reported.

Bishop Ignaty of Bronnitsa made a report on the work carried out by the Synodal Department for Youth. He informed the meeting about the initial efforts made to build an integral infrastructure for youth work and a system of training Orthodox youth leaders for the work with youth. To unite efforts on the church-wide level, his department has developed and begun to implement a youth program called 'Faith and Action'.

The chairman of the Moscow Patriarchate's financial and economic administration, Bishop Tikhon of Podolsk, made a report on the progress made in the implementation of the program for building 200 churches in Moscow.

The chairman of the Mission Department, Archbishop Ioann of Belgorod and Stary Oskol, presented a draft provision for centers of religious education and leisure activity to be established in the dioceses of the Russian Orthodox Church.

The executive secretary of the Patriarchal Council for Culture, Archimandrite Tikhon (Shevkunov) informed the meeting about the preparations for the 10th Church-Public Exposition-Forum 'Orthodox Rus' to be held in November 2011. This year, the exposition will have as its theme the 20th anniversary of freedom of the Church in Russia.

The Supreme Church Council discussed these reports and the current tasks and worked out the agenda for the next session.