

Akathist Hymn to the Martyr Juliana of Nicomedia



Kontakion 1

O Life-Giving Trinity, the holy martyrs rejoiced to shed their blood for the truths of the Church rather than submit to the falsehood of idols. Among these courageous Christians was Saint Juliana who preferred a death of righteousness over an existence of depravity, and therefore we cry out:

Rejoice, Saint Juliana, holy martyr who praised and glorified God.

Ikos 1

Saint Juliana, you were strengthened by the True God to withstand the pressures of paganism, upholding your discipleship in Christ and your love of Church. You sacrificed your life on earth for a martyr's crown in Heaven, giving thanks to be counted worthy of triumph:

Rejoice, fearless follower of the ways of holiness.

Rejoice, blameless believer who entered the arena of the martyrs.

Rejoice, prized pupil of the lessons of Godliness.

Rejoice, devoted disciple who sought the company of the saints.

Rejoice, reliable recipient of the doctrines of sacredness.

Rejoice, honorable heiress who radiated the light of the apostles.

Rejoice, for your blood flowed with faith.

Rejoice, for your soul glowed in grace.

Rejoice, for your hands reached upward in hope.

Rejoice, for your heart rose skyward to Heaven.

Rejoice, for your arms extended into eternity.

Rejoice, for your eyes witnessed of unity.

Rejoice, Saint Juliana, holy martyr who praised and glorified God.

Kontakion 2

As a child, Saint Juliana, you possessed a keen mind and a kind heart, as well as a pleasant personality. The Life-Giving Trinity blessed you with discernment, for you knew what was Godly and what was a figment of man's imagination. You pierced through all delusions, saying: **Alleluia. (People sing Alleluia!)**

Ikos 2

Saint Juliana, we implore you to reach out to all people who are beset with temptations and choices. May your holy prayers guide those who pursue Godliness, such that the lost receive Baptism and all Christians acquire victorious strength and courage:

Rejoice, for you filled your childhood with faith and not frivolity.

Rejoice, for you passed each day pondering the purpose of life.

Rejoice, for you applied your intellect to truth and not triviality.

Rejoice, for you spent each night meditating on ultimate meaning.

Rejoice, for you yielded your heart to healing and not hostility.

Rejoice, for you built each year on bountiful words of wisdom.

Rejoice, dear child, saved from the disasters of delusion.
Rejoice, beloved saint, spared from the forces of falsehood.
Rejoice, guileless youth, loosed from the clutches of corruption.
Rejoice, esteemed martyr, liberated from the weight of worldliness.
Rejoice, precious girl, released from the captivity of carnality.
Rejoice, wondrous life, rescued from the prison of popularity.
Rejoice, Saint Juliana, holy martyr who praised and glorified God.

Kontakion 3

Saint Juliana, you were born in Nicomedia, and your father was a pagan and well-known throughout the city. He demanded that you accept his idols, for he had a reputation to protect among his peers and before the authorities. Nonetheless, you were not deceived, but said: **Alleluia. (People sing Alleluia!)**

Ikos 3

You discovered the True God, the only God of the Christians, the very God Who drew you to the Church and blessed you with profound perception and sober reflection. We worship the same God today, and we admire you, Saint Juliana, for your integrity within difficult surroundings:

Rejoice, our inspiration in times of trouble.
Rejoice, our model of stability amid absurdity.
Rejoice, our courage in places of persecution.
Rejoice, our example of constancy amid conflict.

Rejoice, our strength in households of heartache.
Rejoice, our pattern of righteousness amid ridicule.
Rejoice, our vigorous voice of truth.
Rejoice, our enduring expression of faith.
Rejoice, our steadfast source of kindness.
Rejoice, our firm foundation of compassion.
Rejoice, our marvelous means of progress.
Rejoice, our amazing abundance of prayer.

Rejoice, Saint Juliana, holy martyr who praised and glorified God.

Kontakion 4

Since you longed for union with the Divine, much more than agreement with the pagan customs of your father, you were secretly baptized into the True Church. Thereafter, Saint Juliana, you called upon God as one of His children, praising Him and saying: **Alleluia. (People sing Alleluia!)**

Ikos 4

In this way, Saint Julianna, you developed an interior life of prayer while overcoming the exterior obstacles to your faith and the hardships of living in a pagan home. Your life would be brief, but your martyrdom would testify to the indestructibility of the Church throughout the ages:

Rejoice, splendid light of sobriety over the darkness of decadence.
Rejoice, cool breeze of comfort for the burdened and downtrodden.

Rejoice, firm mountain of faith above the waste of worldliness.
Rejoice, glimmering star of guidance for the distressed and weary.
Rejoice, lovely flower of life beyond the finality of forgetfulness.
Rejoice, ample meadow of acceptance for the lonely and forlorn.
Rejoice, for you keep us on the right road to the Kingdom.
Rejoice, for you point us to the pure path of the apostles.
Rejoice, for you lead us to learn from the sacred teachings.
Rejoice, for you prepare us to ponder on the wise sayings.
Rejoice, for you direct us to the desert of unceasing prayer.
Rejoice, for you bring us to the benefits of communal worship.

Rejoice, Saint Juliana, holy martyr who praised and glorified God.

Kontakion 5

Saint Juliana, you glorified the Heavenly Father with your words and deeds, and soon you would glorify Him by your death. You lived and died in recognition of the Life-Giving Trinity as the cause and source of life on earth and the bestowal of eternal life, and you said: **Alleluia. (People sing Alleluia!)**

Ikos 5

Pray for us, Saint Juliana, that we might live in praise of the True God and in service to the True Church until our dying day. When we take our last breath, may the Name of Jesus be on our

lips. We thank you, Saint Juliana, for your vigilance in our lives and for hearing our supplications:

Rejoice, for we turn to you as our trusted intercessor.
Rejoice, for we desire your dedication.
Rejoice, for we bow to you as our blessed advisor.
Rejoice, for we need your nourishment.
Rejoice, for we hasten to you as our holy illumination.
Rejoice, for we seek your serenity.
Rejoice, born to be baptized.
Rejoice, living to be uplifted.
Rejoice, created to be Christ-like.
Rejoice, enduring to be enriched.
Rejoice, made to be miraculous.
Rejoice, sacrificing to be sanctified.

Rejoice, Saint Juliana, holy martyr who praised and glorified God.

Kontakion 6

While you were still a child, your father betrothed you to a pagan man who later became a city official. When the time came for you to be married, you confessed your love of Christ. You revealed that you had been baptized into the Church and filled with the Holy Spirit, saying: **Alleluia. (People sing Alleluia!)**

Ikos 6

Your secret life of spirituality was uncovered, and your father was outraged over your denunciation of the pagan gods and your seeming defiance of his headship. Yet, no Christian can worship

idols of any kind, for idols are fabricated and false, whereas the True God is uncreated and eternal:

Rejoice, wholesome child who became a holy churchwoman.

Rejoice, little girl who grew into a guardian of truth.

Rejoice, simple maiden who became a sublime martyr.

Rejoice, modest damsel who developed into a disciple of Christ.

Rejoice, local citizen who became a longsuffering servant.

Rejoice, new Christian who transformed into a treasure of spirituality.

Rejoice, purest prayer under the stars.

Rejoice, brightest beacon over the cities.

Rejoice, holiest harvest from the fields.

Rejoice, finest fruit upon the vines.

Rejoice, tallest tree above the canyons.

Rejoice, safest sojourn through the forests.

Rejoice, Saint Juliana, holy martyr who praised and glorified God.

Kontakion 7

Saint Juliana, look upon us with pity. Help us to withstand the turmoil of our times, for we desire to be conquerors of evil and to glow as candles in the wilderness. Through your prayers,

through the grace of God, we shall grow in faith and live righteously, and so we say: **Alleluia. (People sing Alleluia!)**

Ikos 7

Strengthen us to speak words of truth, to be virtuous in conduct, to receive Holy Communion worthily, to pray unceasingly, to love with a pure heart, to study the Scriptures, to discern the spirits, and to do the will of God and glorify Him as we finish the course of our life:

Rejoice and provide us with the garments of purity.
Rejoice and support us with the riches of spirituality.
Rejoice and form us as chapels of fidelity.
Rejoice and shape us as temples of charity.
Rejoice and guide us with the promises of God.
Rejoice and lead us with the mercies of our Lord.
Rejoice and present us as sanctuaries of peace.
Rejoice and welcome us as embodiments of wisdom.
Rejoice and transform us with the light of truth.
Rejoice and heal us with the warmth of hospitality.
Rejoice and gather us as ambassadors of goodness.
Rejoice and recruit us as soldiers of righteousness.

Rejoice, Saint Juliana, holy martyr who praised and glorified God.

Kontakion 8

When you refused to be married to a pagan, to the man whom your father had chosen for you, your father became extremely angry. He began beating you in the attempt to force you into

surrendering to his demands. Nonetheless, you continued to confess Christ, saying: **Alleluia. (People sing Alleluia!)**

Ikos 8

Saint Juliana, you were not against marriage but only against joining yourself to a man who hated Christians. You understood what it meant to be united with a soulmate, and you wanted such oneness to take place according to God's will and to be sanctioned by the Holy Church:

Rejoice, for you loved Christ primarily and perpetually.

Rejoice, for you parted not from the path of holiness.

Rejoice, for you honored the Church compliantly and completely.

Rejoice, for you drifted not from the doors of worship.

Rejoice, for you valued the Scriptures fervently and faithfully.

Rejoice, for you wandered not from the ways of discipleship.

Rejoice, zealous for salvation.

Rejoice, ardent for deliverance.

Rejoice, eager for eternity.

Rejoice, hopeful for Heaven.

Rejoice, asking for strength.

Rejoice, praying for purity.

Rejoice, Saint Juliana, holy martyr who praised and glorified God.

Kontakion 9

You were thrown into prison for your loyalty to the True God and your refusal to marry a man who scorned everything you believed in. Saint Juliana, you were beaten and tortured in prison, and yet you upheld the teachings of the True Church and you continued to say: **Alleluia. (People sing Alleluia!)**

Ikos 9

During each episode of cruelty, you kept your focus on the Life-Giving Trinity and you prayed for the Father's will to be done on earth as it is in Heaven. You were thereby strengthened, Saint Juliana, and after each incident you were healed inwardly and outwardly:

Rejoice, true believer who was betrayed by her father.
Rejoice, for you were bound in body but freed in soul.
Rejoice, faithful disciple who was devalued by her fiancé.
Rejoice, for you were punished by pagans but healed by God.
Rejoice, pure maiden who was maligned by the authorities.
Rejoice, for you were separated from society but risen in Christ.
Rejoice, for you show us that troubles are temporal.
Rejoice, for you encourage us to endure.
Rejoice, for you teach us that suffering is surmountable.
Rejoice, for you compel us to continue.
Rejoice, for you tell us that renunciation is rewarded.
Rejoice, for you prompt us to pray.

Rejoice, Saint Juliana, holy martyr who praised and glorified God.

Kontakion 10

Yea, you lifted your voice to the Life-Giving Trinity, praying, “Lord God of Heaven and earth, do not forsake me, nor allow Your handmaiden to perish.” Your prayer was heard, for you slayed the dragon of evil and did not perish but attained eternal life, and you said: **Alleluia. (People sing Alleluia!)**

Ikos 10

Your days on earth were ended when you were beheaded in the year 304. You met with death joyfully, for you believed in the promises of God which were fulfilled as you received your martyr’s crown. You shed your blood for Christ Who shed His Blood for you and Who honored your life and death:

Rejoice, triumphant martyr who rejoices in the souls of the truthful.

Rejoice, perfect saint who resides in the memory of the prayerful.

Rejoice, strong helper who comforts those in situations of sorrow.

Rejoice, glorious mother who calms those in conditions of grief.

Rejoice, sacred caregiver who desires to heal the sick.

Rejoice, blessed counsel who delights to relieve the burdened.

Rejoice, devoted daughter of the Heavenly Father.

Rejoice, cherished child of the Life-Giving Trinity.

Rejoice, beloved benefactress of the Holy Church.

Rejoice, treasured trust of the people of God.

Rejoice, appreciated aid of the persecuted.

Rejoice, celebrated support of the oppressed.

Rejoice, Saint Juliana, holy martyr who praised and glorified God.

Kontakion 11

Saint Juliana, we recall how you were physically beaten in public, brutally and heartlessly, before a multitude of citizens in Nicomedia, and how you were strengthened by the True God and how you praised and glorified Him in witness of His sovereignty, and we say: **Alleluia. (People sing Alleluia!)**

Ikos 11

Among the observers, many were convicted in their conscience and stirred by the Holy Spirit, for your faith was immovable and the pagan gods had no influence on your mind and heart. Seeing this, 500 men and 150 women denounced falsehood and converted to Christianity:

Rejoice, our help and haven in these times.
Rejoice, our rescue and refuge in this hour.
Rejoice, our conversion and conquest forever.
Rejoice, our strength and solidarity always.
Rejoice, our blessing and bravery abundantly.
Rejoice, our devotion and dignity bountifully.
Rejoice, our royal road through deception.
Rejoice, our peaceful path through distortion.
Rejoice, our deliverance from trickery.
Rejoice, our liberation from idolatry.
Rejoice, our gracious guide beyond confusion.
Rejoice, our caring companion beyond intimidation.

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Kontakion 12

The 500 men and 150 women were consequently beheaded, and therefore denied the Sacraments of Baptism and Chrismation. However, they were baptized instantly in their martyrdom, in the rivers of blood that rushed out of their bodies for the sake of Christ, and they all said: **Alleluia. (People sing Alleluia!)**

Ikos 12

Saint Juliana, your commitment to the True God had a holy impact on the city of Nicomedia and continues to inspire the churches today. We wish to emulate your steadfast life of prayer and your deep love of the Life-Giving Trinity. Bless us, Saint Juliana, to live each day in holiness:

Rejoice, for your blood testified of unchangeable truth.
Rejoice, for your death verified your unbeatable faith.
Rejoice, for your prayers spoke of untiring perseverance.
Rejoice, for your life declared your unwavering dedication.
Rejoice, for your heart gave of undefeated goodness.
Rejoice, for your soul professed your untainted piety.
Rejoice, happy to be a martyr among many.
Rejoice, joyful to receive a crown of incorruption.
Rejoice, glad to be a follower of the Light of the World.
Rejoice, cheerful to behold the Majesty of the Almighty.
Rejoice, jubilant to be an inhabitant of Heaven.
Rejoice, pleased to obtain the rewards of righteousness.

Rejoice, Saint Juliana, holy martyr who praised and glorified God.

**Kontakion 13
(To Be Read Three Times)**

Saint Juliana, you thrived on faith and dedication in the midst of harsh circumstances, and bravely went forth to persecution and martyrdom. In your youth, the True God guided you. In prison, He restored you. And in your martyrdom, He glorified you. **Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. (People sing Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.)**

Kontakion 1

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martyrs.
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glorified God.**

A Prayer

Hear us, Saint Juliana, for we hasten to you with our praises and requests, and we hope for your mercy upon our weaknesses. Strengthen us, O holy martyr, to follow Christ wherever He leads us and to confess our love for Him before peers and authorities. We thank you for your compassionate intervention into our struggles and endeavors. Amen.

Prepared and edited for you by

50 Hour Prayer Committee