

Akathist to Our Lady of Sitka



For the conversion of unbelievers,
For All Orthodox Faithful in America

Kontakion 1

O Mother of God, chosen from all generations to be the protectress of the Christian people; we offer you songs of thanksgiving for your wonderworking icon that has come to Alaska. You are a fountain of mercy and help all who seek refuge in you. Defend us in all afflictions, necessities and tribulations that we may cry to you:

Rejoice, zealous defender of the Orthodox faithful in America.

Ikos 1

An Archangel was sent to greet the Holy Virgin: Rejoice, for God the Word shall be made flesh in your womb. And we sinners give glory to the wonderworking icon of the holy Virgin and the divine Infant, our Savior, Jesus Christ. And we cry to her, who is full of grace, from the depths of our hearts:

Rejoice, divinely chosen Maiden of God, Mother of our Savior.
Rejoice, you are honored by the angels and hymned by the Seraphim.
Rejoice, bright fulfillment of prophecy.
Rejoice, boast of the Apostles.
Rejoice, crown of the Martyrs.
Rejoice, glory of all Monastics.
Rejoice, joy of the Righteous.
Rejoice, hope of sinners.

Rejoice, zealous defender of the Orthodox faithful in America.

Kontakion 2

We recognize you as the Mother of our Lord Jesus Christ, the only true God. Your all-pure face looks down from your holy icon on the glorious town of Sitka; and worshipping your Son with love and joy, we sing to God: **Alleluia!**

(People sing Alleluia!)

Ikos 2

Burdened by many afflictions and sins, we have no other help or hope but you, O Lady. Therefore falling before your holy icon with hearts full of love we sing:

Rejoice, perfection of praise to God through the mouths of children.
Rejoice, revealer of the mysteries of Divine grace to the meek.
Rejoice, conversion of unbelievers.
Rejoice, you, who by the glory of your miracles, illumine the minds of the faithful.
Rejoice, rebuker of those fallen into heresy.
Rejoice, confirmation of the Christian Faith.
Rejoice, changer of our sorrow into joy.
Rejoice, for you make us joyful with unfailing hope.

Rejoice, zealous defender of the Orthodox faithful in America.

Kontakion 3

When the stormy seas engulf us and the rough waters fill our souls with fear, then does our holy Father Herman call from heaven upon your all-powerful intercession, O Lady, and a deep calm envelops us all. Therefore, as we now gaze at your holy icon, we cry to God: **Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)**

Ikos 3

With compassionate forethought for your Alaskan people, you have sent forth from your icon in the Cathedral of Sitka a stream of wonders enlightening the minds and souls of those lying in ignorance of God. Granting a safe haven and good fishing to those on the seas you protect all on their paths, and for this, in love we cry to you:

Rejoice, illumination of all men with the shining rays of your wonders.
Rejoice, sight of the blind.
Rejoice, glory of Alaska.
Rejoice, calm haven of those seeking salvation.
Rejoice, pure Theotokos.
Rejoice, shelter and defender of children.
Rejoice, queller of the ocean's fierce waves.
Rejoice, joy of all the poor and the afflicted.

Rejoice, zealous defender of the Orthodox faithful in America.

Kontakion 4

A storm of passions and sins rages against us and we know not where to turn. It is then that the holy Mother of God gives us her peace; and gazing at the icon she has sent us, we cry with thanksgiving to God: **Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)**

Ikos 4

Beset by hardships in this far northern land, we are lifted up by the faith our Father Herman instilled in us, and by the prayers of Our Lady of Sitka, we take upon ourselves, with hope and fortitude, the Cross our Lord has given to each one of us and sing to her:

Rejoice, Mother of the Most High God.
Rejoice, Queen of heaven and earth.
Rejoice, intercessor to your Son Jesus Christ for all of us.
Rejoice, protectress of those who run to you.
Rejoice, giver of what is needful to all who pray before your wonderworking icon.
Rejoice, you are swift to help.
Rejoice, you pour upon us unfailing mercy
Rejoice, deliverer from peril on land and sea.

Rejoice, zealous defender of the Orthodox faithful in America.

Kontakion 5

Your icon shines in our Cathedral like a bright star enlightening the whole land with its radiance. It guides all the Orthodox in America gone astray on the sea of life and overwhelmed by the waves of sorrow, tribulations and sickness, giving them peace and happiness as they take refuge in you and sing to God: **Alleluia!**
(People sing Alleluia!)

Ikos 5

Dark are the winters, and cold are the winds; but cheered by the beauty of your face, we find warmth of soul and body as we raise our prayers to you, singing:

Rejoice, abode of Christ our God.
Rejoice, dwelling place of His ineffable glory.

Rejoice, joy of towns and harbors.
Rejoice, guardian and bulwark of Christians in affliction.
Rejoice, treasure of the Orthodox Church.
Rejoice, helper of those who fight for Christ.
Rejoice, for you drive away the enemy.
Rejoice, visitation of all men with your mercies.

Rejoice, zealous defender of the Orthodox faithful in America.

Kontakion 6

Standing before your all pure icon the assembly of bishops, priests and faithful people proclaim your great mercy, O Mother of God, for you protect our cities and lands against floods and storms, and we truly know you to be our helper. We offer you our love and tears, begging you to stretch out your hand to your Son asking Him to deliver us from all evil that we may thankfully sing to God: **Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)**

Ikos 6

Who can worthily praise you and thank you for sending us your wonderworking icon? Our tongues fail before this miracle and we beg you to help us sing to you:

Rejoice, unfailing source of holiness.
Rejoice, river of divine grace flowing in many streams.
Rejoice, reconciler of sinners with God.
Rejoice, teacher of piety.
Rejoice, helper and confirmation in good works.
Rejoice, receiver of pious vows.
Rejoice, destroyer of evil intents.
Rejoice, you who tear to pieces the snares of the enemy.

Rejoice, zealous defender of the Orthodox faithful in America.

Kontakion 7

Your icon has come to us as dew upon the fleece confirming the power given to you by God. As we praise Him for His boundless mercies, we cry: **Alleluia!**
(People sing Alleluia!)

Ikos 7

To your icon we Orthodox run when about to embark on a new enterprise or to set out on a journey by sea, land or air, offering you a prayer of thanksgiving and asking for your blessing and your help and our deliverance from tribulation and assault; for we know you to be a strong protectress and defender, and we therefore sing to you:

Rejoice, protectress of Alaska.
Rejoice, confirmation and guardian of Orthodoxy in our land.
Rejoice, breastplate that cannot be pierced.
Rejoice, reprover of dishonesty.
Rejoice, destroyer of the serpent.
Rejoice, corrector of those who have gone astray.
Rejoice, comforter of the old.
Rejoice, bestower of knowledge good for the soul.

Rejoice, zealous defender of the Orthodox faithful in America.

Kontakion 8

Doubters and unbelievers are amazed to hear that streams of divine grace flow through your icon. We know this is true with this icon of Sitka and that God's grace will abide with it forever. Therefore, standing reverently before it, we kiss it and venerate it as we would your very self; for the honor paid to icons passes to their prototype, and God's grace acts through this icon in wonders and signs for those who run to you with faith and cry to God: **Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)**

Ikos 8

We praise you, O burning bush, unhewn mountain, royal throne, daughter of the King, and unwedded bride who has given us God's grace through your icon in Sitka, and raising our voices in songs and hymns, we cry to you:

Rejoice, vessel of Him who cannot be contained.
Rejoice, bearer of the living God.
Rejoice, earthly branch who brought forth the heavenly Fruit.
Rejoice, your prayer before your Son and God is of great benefit.
Rejoice, from the time of the Crucifixion you have adopted us all as your children.
Rejoice, you who show motherly love towards us.
Rejoice, cause of eternal blessings.
Rejoice, giver of blessings in this temporal life.

Rejoice, zealous defender of the Orthodox faithful in America.

Kontakion 9

You have shown yourself above every angelic rank, O Virgin, for you have conceived in the flesh Him Who cannot be circumscribed. And you have carried in your arms Him Who holds the whole world in the palm of His hand. Therefore, as you are greater in honor than the Cherubim and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim, we glorify you and sing to God on your account: **Alleluia!**
(People sing Alleluia!)

Ikos 9

O Mother of God, we see most eloquent orators silenced before you, for every tongue is at a loss to praise you worthily. Our minds do not have the strength to extol you. Therefore, O you who are gracious, accept from us the salutation of the Archangel as we cry to you:

Rejoice, you are full of grace and blessed among women.
Rejoice, you have found favor with God.
Rejoice, you have brought forth the Savior of the world.
Rejoice, Mother of the Son of God.
Rejoice, you have given birth to the Eternal King.
Rejoice, you were overshadowed by the power of the Most High.
Rejoice, true handmaiden of the Lord.
Rejoice, for all generations shall call you blessed.

Rejoice, zealous defender of the Orthodox faithful in America.

Kontakion 10

Wishing to save many from the evils, afflictions and illnesses which afflict mortal men, you have given Sitka this holy icon before which we pray that the drowning be saved, those possessed of the devil be freed, our boats be filled with fish and our hunting be blessed and our villages and homes be protected from flood, fire and earthquake. Therefore, glorifying God, Who has bestowed on us such mercy, we cry to Him: **Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)**

Ikos 10

You are the wall of protection guarding the land of Alaska. You are the glory and joy of Sitka and strengthen the Orthodox to withstand their enemies. Therefore in thanksgiving we cry to you:

Rejoice, glorifier of those who glorify you.

Rejoice, confounder of those who fail to honor you.

Rejoice, glory of the Orthodox.

Rejoice, strength of soldiers on the field of battle.

Rejoice, life-giving guardian gladdening the hearts of the faithful.

Rejoice, defender before who devils quake and tremble.

Rejoice, unction that soothes the sinful wounds of those who repent.

Rejoice, our fervent hope.

Rejoice, zealous defender of the Orthodox faithful in America.

Kontakion 11

Choirs of young maidens offer you, O Lady, hymns of praise and thanksgiving. Leading a pure life under your protection and setting all their hope on you they cry to your Son: **Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)**

Ikos 11

O all holy Lady, as a candlestick that has received the Light, we look upon your holy icon, for having taken the spiritual fire of your grace it kindles new lamps in its likeness, and they also participate in this same grace and shine bright with wonders, guiding upon the path of salvation all those who cry to you:

Rejoice, unwedded bride.
Rejoice, chosen Maiden, Mother and Virgin.
Rejoice, boast of women.
Rejoice, defender of widows, protectress of orphans.
Rejoice, nourisher of the poor.
Rejoice, clother of the naked.
Rejoice, comforter of those in sorrow.
Rejoice, joy of the afflicted.

Rejoice, zealous defender of the Orthodox faithful in America.

Kontakion 12

Wishing to give your grace to those venerating you with love, you, O Mother of God, have left in your holy icons the power of your grace. For this same divine grace remaining with these holy icons ever bring about signs and wonders, and by your unceasing supplications to God you give healing of body and soul to those who approach you with faith and love and who sing to Him: **Alleluia!**
(People sing Alleluia!)

Ikos 12

Singing the praises of your wonders both past and present, we laud you as a life bearing fount of grace, as an unfailing river of miracles, as a fountain of mercy and compassion. Setting all our hope on you after God in both this and in the world to come, we sing to you:

Rejoice, unconfounded hope of Christians.
Rejoice, refuge of the faithful.
Rejoice, hope of the hopeless, salvation of those in despair.
Rejoice, fountain washing the conscience clean.
Rejoice, unmercenary physician for your children.
Rejoice, speedy deliverance from all afflictions.
Rejoice, comforter in every tribulation.
Rejoice, intercessor in the hour of our death.

Rejoice, zealous defender of the Orthodox faithful in America.

Kontakion 13
(To be read three Times)

O Most Pure Lady, in whom all creation rejoices, and Mother of the Word holier than all the saints, accept now this supplication of your faithful servants. And for the sake of your great goodness and the depth of your mercy bring not to mind the multitude of our sins, but fulfill our prayers, giving health to our bodies and salvation to our souls. Deliver us from all sorrow and necessity, and make heirs of the heavenly Kingdom all those who faithfully sing to God: **Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!)**

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Glorifying God Through His Light
50 Hour Prayer Vigil

Orthodox Mission Church
Serving Florence/Coolidge, AZ.

Prayer from akathistreconstructed.wordpress.com
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