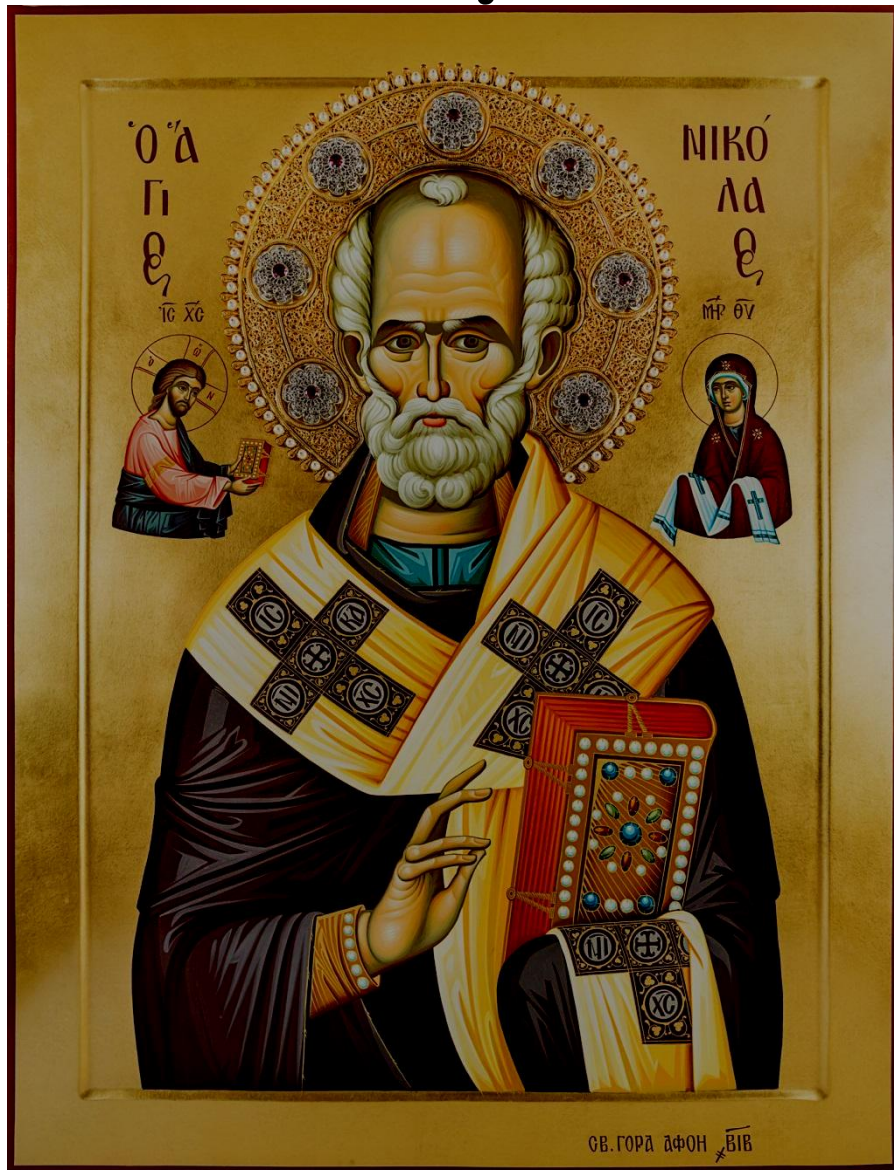


Akathist to Saint Nicholas of Myra



**For blessed married life, travelers, the home
For those in captivity or in prison, court cases, and
for help in distress and poverty**

Kontakion 1

O champion wonderworker and superb servant of Christ, you pour out for the entire world the most precious myrrh of mercy and an inexhaustible sea of Miracles, I praise you with love, O Saint Nicholas; and as you are one having boldness toward the Lord, from all dangers do you deliver us, that we may cry to you:

Rejoice, O Nicholas, Great Wonderworker!

Ikos 1

The Creator revealed you to be an angel in manner though earthly by nature; for, foreseeing the fruitful beauty of your soul, O most Blessed Nicholas, He taught all to cry to you:

Rejoice, you were purified from your mother's womb!

Rejoice, you were sanctified even unto the end!

Rejoice, you amazed your parents by your birth!

Rejoice, you manifested power of soul straightway after birth!

Rejoice, plant of the land of promise!

Rejoice, flower of divine planting!

Rejoice, virtuous vine of Christ's vineyard!

Rejoice, wonderworking tree of the Paradise of Jesus!

Rejoice, lily of paradisiacal growth!

Rejoice, myrrh of the fragrance of Christ!

Rejoice, for through you lamentation is banished!

Rejoice, for through you rejoicing is brought to pass!

Rejoice, O Nicholas, Great Wonderworker!

Kontakion 2

Seeing the effusion of your myrrh, O divinely wise one, our souls and bodies are enlightened, understanding you to be a wonderful, living source of unction, O Nicholas; for with Miracles like waters poured out through the grace of God you fill them who faithfully cry unto God: **Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)**

Ikos 2

Teaching incomprehensible knowledge about the Holy Trinity, you were with the Holy Fathers in Nicaea a champion of the confession of the Orthodox Faith; for you confessed the Son equal to the Father, co-everlasting and co-enthroned, and you convicted the foolish Arius. Therefore the faithful have learned to sing to you:

Rejoice, great pillar of piety!

Rejoice, city of refuge for the faithful!

Rejoice, firm stronghold of Orthodoxy!

Rejoice, venerable vessel and praise of the Holy Trinity!

Rejoice, you preached the Son of equal honor with the Father!

Rejoice, you expelled the demonized Arius from the council of the Saints!

Rejoice, Father, glorious beauty of the Fathers!

Rejoice, wise goodness of all the divinely wise!

Rejoice, you utter fiery words!

Rejoice, you guide your flock so well!

Rejoice, for through you faith is strengthened!

Rejoice, for through you heresy is overthrown!

Rejoice, O Nicholas, Great Wonderworker!

Kontakion 3

Through power given you from on high you wiped away every tear from the face of those in cruel suffering, O God-bearing Father Nicholas; for you were shown to be a feeder of the hungry, a superb pilot of those on the high seas, a healer of the ailing, and you have proved to be a helper to all that cry unto God: **Alleluia!**

(People sing Alleluia!)

Ikos 3

Truly, Father Nicholas, a song should be sung to you from Heaven, and not from earth; for how can a mere man proclaim the greatness of your holiness? But we, conquered by your love, cry unto you:

Rejoice, model of lambs and shepherds!

Rejoice, Holy purification of morals!

Rejoice, container of great virtues!

Rejoice, pure and honorable abode of holiness!

Rejoice, all-luminous lamp, beloved by all!

Rejoice, light golden-rayed and blameless!

Rejoice, worthy converser with Angels!

Rejoice, good guide of men!

Rejoice, pious rule of faith!

Rejoice, model of spiritual meekness!

Rejoice, for through you we are delivered from bodily passions!

Rejoice, for through you we are filled with spiritual delights!

Rejoice, O Nicholas, Great Wonderworker!

Kontakion 4

A storm of bewilderment confuses our minds: How can we worthily hymn your wonders, O Blessed Nicholas? For no one could count them, even though he had many tongues and willed to tell them; but we make bold to sing to God Who is wonderfully glorified in you: **Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)**

Ikos 4

People near and far heard of the greatness of your miracles, O Divinely-wise Nicholas, for in the air with the delicate wings of grace you are accustomed to forestall those in misfortune, quickly delivering all who cry to you:

Rejoice, deliverance from sorrow!

Rejoice, channel of grace!

Rejoice, dispeller of unexpected evils!

Rejoice, planter of good desires!

Rejoice, quick comforter of those in misfortune!

Rejoice, dread punisher of wrongdoers!

Rejoice, abyss of miracles poured out by God!

Rejoice, tablets of the law of Christ written by God!

Rejoice, strong uplifting of the fallen!

Rejoice, support of them that stand aright!

Rejoice, for through you all deception is exposed!

Rejoice, for through you all truth is realized!

Rejoice, O Nicholas, Great Wonderworker!

Kontakion 5

You appeared as a Divinely-moving star, guiding those who sailed upon the cruel sea who were once threatened with imminent death, if you had not come to the help of those who called upon you, O wonderworking Saint Nicholas; for, having forbidden the flying demons, who shamelessly wanted to sink the ship, you drove them away, and taught the faithful whom God saved through you to cry: **Alleluia!**

(People sing Alleluia!)

Ikos 5

The maidens, prepared for a dishonorable marriage because of their poverty, saw your great compassion to the poor, O most-Blessed Father Nicholas, when by night you secretly gave their aged father three bundles of gold, hereby saving him and his daughters from falling into sin. Wherefore, you hear from all:

Rejoice, treasury of greatest mercy!

Rejoice, depository of provision for people!

Rejoice, food and consolation of those that flee unto you!

Rejoice, inexhaustible bread of the hungry!

Rejoice, God-given wealth of those living in poverty on earth!

Rejoice, speedy uplifting of paupers!

Rejoice, quick hearing of the needy!

Rejoice, acceptable care of the sorrowful!

Rejoice, blameless provider for the three maidens!

Rejoice, fervent guardian of purity!

Rejoice, hope of the hopeless!

Rejoice, delight of the entire world!

Rejoice, O Nicholas, Great Wonderworker!

Kontakion 6

The whole world proclaimed you, O most Blessed Nicholas, as a quick intercessor in adversities; for, oftentimes preceding those that travel by land and sail upon the sea, you help them in a single hour, at the same time keeping from evils all that cry unto God: **Alleluia!** (People sing Alleluia!)

Ikos 6

You shined as a living light, bringing deliverance to the generals who received sentence to an unjust death, who called upon you, O good shepherd Nicholas, when you quickly appeared in a dream to the Emperor, and terrified him and ordered him to release them unharmed. Therefore, together with them we also gratefully cry unto you:

Rejoice, you help them that fervently call upon you!

Rejoice, you deliver from unjust death!

Rejoice, you preserve from false accusation!

Rejoice, you destroy the counsels of the unrighteous!

Rejoice, you tear lies to shreds like cobwebs!

Rejoice, you gloriously exalt truth!

Rejoice, release of the innocent from their fetters!

Rejoice, revival of the dead!

Rejoice, revealer of righteousness!

Rejoice, exposor of unrighteousness!

Rejoice, for through you the innocent were saved from the sword!

Rejoice, for through you they enjoyed the light!

Rejoice, O Nicholas, Great Wonderworker!

Kontakion 7

Desiring to dispel the blasphemous stench of heresy, you appeared as truly fragrant, mystical myrrh, O Nicholas; by shepherding the people of Myra, you have filled the whole world with your gracious myrrh. And so, dispel from us the stench of abominable sin that we may acceptably cry unto God: **Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)**

Ikos 7

We understand you to be a new Noah, a guide of the ark of salvation, O Holy Father Nicholas, who drives away the storm of all evils by your direction, and brings Divine calm to those that cry:

Rejoice, calm harbor of the storm-tossed!

Rejoice, sure preservation of those that are drowning!

Rejoice, good pilot of those that sail upon the deeps!

Rejoice, you rule the raging of the sea!

Rejoice, guidance of those in whirlwinds!

Rejoice, warmth of those in frosts!

Rejoice, radiance that dispels the gloom of sorrow!

Rejoice, light that illumines all the ends of the earth!

Rejoice, you deliver people from the abyss of sin!

Rejoice, you cast satan into the abyss of Hades!

Rejoice, for through you we boldly invoke the abyss of God's compassion!

Rejoice, for as ones rescued through you from the flood of wrath, we find peace with God!

Rejoice, O Nicholas, Great Wonderworker!

Kontakion 8

A strange wonder is your Sacred Church shown to be to those that flock to you, O Blessed Nicholas; for by offering in it even a small supplication, we receive healing from great illnesses, if only, after God, we place our hope in you, faithfully crying aloud: **Alleluia!** (People sing Alleluia!)

Ikos 8

You are truly a helper to all, O God-bearing Nicholas, and you have gathered together all that flee unto you, for you are a deliverer, a nourisher, and a quick healer to all on earth, moving all to cry out in praise to you:

Rejoice, source of all kinds of healing!

Rejoice, helper of those that suffer cruelly!

Rejoice, dawn shining for prodigals in the night of sin!

Rejoice, Heaven-sent dew for those in the heat of labors!

Rejoice, you give prosperity to those that need it!

Rejoice, you prepare an abundance for those that ask!

Rejoice, you often forestall requests!

Rejoice, you restore strength to the aged and gray-headed!

Rejoice, convicter of many who have strayed from the true way!

Rejoice, faithful steward of the mysteries of God!

Rejoice, for through you we conquer envy!

Rejoice, for through you we lead a moral life!

Rejoice, O Nicholas, Great Wonderworker!

Kontakion 9

Assuage all our pains, Saint Nicholas, our great intercessor, dispensing gracious healings, delighting our souls, and gladdening the hearts of all that fervently hasten to you for help and cry unto God: **Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)**

Ikos 9

The falsely-theorizing orators of the ungodly, we see, were put to shame by you, Divinely-wise Father Nicholas; for you confuted Arius the blasphemer who divided the Godhead, and Sabellius who mingled the persons of the Holy Trinity, but you have strengthened us in Orthodoxy. Therefore we cry unto you:

Rejoice, shield that defends piety!

Rejoice, sword that cuts down impiety!

Rejoice, teacher of the Divine commandments!

Rejoice, destroyer of impious doctrines!

Rejoice, ladder set up by God, by which we mount to Heaven!

Rejoice, God-given protection, by which many are sheltered!

Rejoice, you make wise the unwise by your sayings!

Rejoice, you move the slothful by your example!

Rejoice, inextinguishable brightness of God's commandments!
Rejoice, most luminous ray of the Lord's statutes!
Rejoice, for through your teaching the heads of heretics are broken!
Rejoice, for through you the faithful are counted worthy of glory!

Rejoice, O Nicholas, Great Wonderworker!

Kontakion 10

Desiring to save your soul, you truly subjected your body to the Spirit, our Father Nicholas; for by silence first and by wrestling with thoughts, you added contemplation to activity, and by contemplation you acquired perfect knowledge with which you boldly conversed with God and Angels, always crying: **Alleluia!**

(People sing Alleluia!)

Ikos 10

You are a rampart, O most-Blessed one, to those that praise your miracles, and to all that have recourse to your intercession; wherefore, free also us who are poor in virtue from poverty, temptations, illness, and needs of various kinds, as we cry unto you:

Rejoice, you who rescues from eternal wretchedness!
Rejoice, you bestow incorruptible riches!
Rejoice, imperishable food for those that hunger after righteousness!
Rejoice, inexhaustible drink for those that thirst for life!
Rejoice, you preserve from revolution and war!

Rejoice, you free us from chains and imprisonment!
Rejoice, most-glorious intercessor in misfortunes!
Rejoice, great defender in temptations!
Rejoice, you have snatched many from destruction!
Rejoice, you have kept countless numbers unharmed!
Rejoice, for through you sinners escape a frightful death!
Rejoice, for through you those that repent obtain eternal life!

Rejoice, O Nicholas, Great Wonderworker!

Kontakion 11

You brought a song to the Most Holy Trinity, surpassing others in thought, word, and deed, O most-Blessed Nicholas; for with much searching you explained the precepts of the true Faith, guiding us to sing with faith, hope, and love to the one God in Trinity: **Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)**

Ikos 11

We see you as a brilliant and inextinguishable ray for those in the darkness of this life, O God-Chosen Father Nicholas; for with the immaterial angelic lights you converse concerning the uncreated Light of the Trinity, and you enlighten the souls of the faithful who cry unto you:

Rejoice, radiance of the Three-sunned Light!
Rejoice, daystar of the unsetting Sun!
Rejoice, lamp kindled by the Divine Flame!
Rejoice, for you have quenched the demonic flame of impiety!
Rejoice, bright preaching of the Orthodox Faith!

Rejoice, luminous radiance of the Light of the Gospel!
Rejoice, lightning that consumes heresy!
Rejoice, thunder that terrifies tempters!
Rejoice, teacher of true knowledge!
Rejoice, revealer of the secret mind!
Rejoice, for through you the worship of creatures has been
abolished!
Rejoice, for through you we have learned to worship the
Creator in the Trinity!

Rejoice, O Nicholas, Great Wonderworker!

Kontakion 12

Knowing the grace that has been given you by God, dutifully and joyfully we celebrate your memory, O most-glorious Father Nicholas, and with all fervency we hasten to your wonderful intercession; unable to count your glorious deeds which are like the sands of the seashore and the multitude of the stars, being at a loss to understand, we cry unto God: **Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)**

Ikos 12

While we sing of your wonders, we praise you, O all-praised Nicholas; for in you God Who is glorified in the Trinity is wondrously glorified. But even if we were to offer you a multitude of Psalms and hymns composed from the soul, O holy wonderworker, we should do nothing to equal the gift of your miracles, and amazed by them we cry unto you:

Rejoice, co-dweller with His heavenly servants!
Rejoice, support of faithful Kings!
Rejoice, exaltation of the race of Christians!
Rejoice, namesake of victory!
Rejoice, eminent victor!
Rejoice, mirror of all the virtues!
Rejoice, strong buttress of all who flee unto you!
Rejoice, after God and the Theotokos, all our hope!
Rejoice, health of our bodies and salvation of our souls!
Rejoice, for through you we are delivered from eternal death!
Rejoice, for through you we are deemed worthy of endless life!

Rejoice, O Nicholas, Great Wonderworker!

Kontakion 13

(To be read three times)

O most-holy and most-wonderful Father Nicholas, consolation of all that sorrow, accept our present offering, and entreat the Lord that we be delivered from Gehenna through your God-pleasing intercession, that with you we may sing: **Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!** (People sing Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!)

Ikos 1

An Angel in manner though earthly by nature did the Creator reveal you to be; for, foreseeing the fruitful beauty of your soul, O most Blessed Nicholas, He taught all to cry to you:

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Rejoice, you were sanctified even unto the end!
Rejoice, you amazed your parents by your birth!
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Rejoice, plant of the land of promise!
Rejoice, flower of Divine planting!
Rejoice, virtuous vine of Christ's vineyard!
Rejoice, wonderworking tree of the Paradise of Jesus!
Rejoice, lily of paradoxical growth!
Rejoice, myrrh of the fragrance of Christ!
Rejoice, for through you lamentation is banished!
Rejoice, for through you rejoicing is brought to pass!

Rejoice, O Nicholas, Great Wonderworker!

Kontakion 1

O champion wonderworker and superb servant of Christ, you pour out for all the world the most precious myrrh of mercy and an inexhaustible sea of miracles, I praise you with love, O Saint Nicholas; and as you are one having boldness toward the Lord, from all dangers do you deliver us that we may cry to you:

Rejoice, O Nicholas, Great Wonderworker!

Glorifying God Through His Light
50 Hour Prayer Vigil

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