

AKATHIST TO SAINT ANTHONY THE GREAT



For deliverance from tribulations,
For the acceptance of correction and forgiveness of sins, and
For patient endurance till the end of our lives

Kontakion 1

Chosen wonderworker and most marvelous servant of Christ, venerable Father Anthony! Lovingly praising your God-pleasing life, we offer God a song of thanksgiving to you. And as you have great boldness toward the Lord, free from all dangers us who joyfully call on you:

Rejoice, venerable Father Anthony, founder of the desert life!

Ikos 1

Having loved the angelic life from your youth, you desired to walk in God's commandments, venerable Father, and with your heart flaming toward to the Lord of Hosts, you raised your mind to the divine, counting all temporary and earthly as loss. Therefore, marveling at God's providence for you, with faith we call upon you:

Rejoice, worthy son of devout parents!
Rejoice, you were raised in piety!
Rejoice, you followed Christ from youth!
Rejoice, you reckoned earthly vanity as nothing!
Rejoice, fervent worker of Christ's vineyard!
Rejoice, great teacher of the desert dwellers!
Rejoice, you desired salvation for all!
Rejoice, you showed the true monastic path!
Rejoice, luminous lamp ignited with divine fire!
Rejoice, unshakable rock of faith in Christ!

Rejoice, radiant with the grace of the Holy Spirit!

Rejoice, graced with the gift of wonderworking!

Rejoice, venerable Father Anthony, founder of the desert life!

Kontakion 2

Seeing that the enemy of mankind wished to destroy you for ascending to spiritual heights, O God-bearing Father, but was shamed by your struggle and humility in constant fasting and prayer, you crushed the head of the invisible serpent, singing to God with compunction: **Alleluia!**

(People sing Alleluia!)

Ikos 2

Knowing with your heart and mind all worldly goods to be swiftly passing and fleeting, you shut yourself in a dark cave, mortifying your passions and working only to the Lord. Wherefore, praising your angelical living, we exclaim to you:

Rejoice, you placed your hope in God!

Rejoice, you shamed the folly of the enemy!

Rejoice, fearless destroyer of the devil's schemes!

Rejoice, you resemble an angel in your purity and holiness!

Rejoice, you sanctified the wilderness by your struggles!

Rejoice, you guided many to the Heavenly Kingdom!

Rejoice, you overthrew despicable pride!

Rejoice, you taught the lowliness of mind!

Rejoice, light that enlightens all with the divine wisdom!

Rejoice, radiant star illuminating all with the brightness of your struggles!

Rejoice, you lived to the glory of God!
Rejoice, good and long-suffering shepherd!

Rejoice, venerable Father Anthony, founder of the desert life!

Kontakion 3

Strengthened by the divine power, most blessed Anthony, you remained in fasting, prayer, unceasing labors, and vigils, overcoming all temptations of the enemy and singing to God, Who covered you with grace: **Alleluia!**
(People sing Alleluia!)

Ikos 3

Having a pure mind and a spotless soul, blessed Father, you comprehended the vanity and inconstancy of this world, and desiring the eternal blessings, you renounced the temporary goods. Wherefore, honoring you, we sing:

Rejoice, lover of blessed humility!
Rejoice, searcher of spiritual wisdom!
Rejoice, you ascended the heights of dispassion!
Rejoice, you offered yourself wholly to God!
Rejoice, you resembled your Lord in your guilelessness!
Rejoice, you were wealthy in poverty!
Rejoice, grace-filled adornment of the desert!
Rejoice, all-radiant lamp of the world!
Rejoice, banisher of terrifying demons!
Rejoice, destroyer of their delusions!

Rejoice, you are wiser than the wise of this world!

Rejoice, zealous ascetic!

Rejoice, venerable Father Anthony, founder of the desert life!

Kontakion 4

Stilling the storm of evil temptations, you settled in the wilderness, most blessed Anthony, traversed the sorrowful path of the monastic life, trampling all the snares of the enemy and casting off his deception and sang to Christ, Who strengthened you: **Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)**

Ikos 4

Hearing of your God-pleasing life, venerable one, seekers of God's truth came to you from throughout and you received them with love and guided them to salvation. With compunction of soul we praise and cry out to you:

Rejoice, rule and foundation of desert dwellers!

Rejoice, good teacher of Christ's flock!

Rejoice, adornment of Christ's Church!

Rejoice, glory of the monastics!

Rejoice, you offered yourself as a sacrifice to the Lord!

Rejoice, you mortified your sinful passions!

Rejoice, joy of the Angels!

Rejoice, full vanquisher of the demons!

Rejoice, dweller of the wilderness!

Rejoice, zealous struggler of stillness!

Rejoice, you show the right path!
Rejoice, announcer of the Kingdom of Heaven!

Rejoice, venerable Father Anthony, founder of the desert life!

Kontakion 5

Like a Divinely-moving star you appeared to the monastic world, venerable Father Anthony and you were an image of faithfulness in word, life, love, faith, and purity, singing to the Lord: **Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)**

Ikos 5

Seeing your pure and holy living, Father Anthony, the enemy of the human race frequently attacked you, but defeating him with your humility, you did not depart from the way of salvation. Wherefore, we cry out to you:

Rejoice, partaker of the eternal life!
Rejoice, great teacher of salvation!
Rejoice, you served God alone with your life!
Rejoice, you took up the yoke of Christ!
Rejoice, you exposed the wiles of the demons!
Rejoice, you directed the way to salvation!
Rejoice, keeper of purity!
Rejoice, beholder of the Light of the Trinity!
Rejoice, raiser of the fallen!
Rejoice, banishment of the demonic power!

Rejoice, solid pillar of faith!

Rejoice, perfected teacher!

Rejoice, venerable Father Anthony, founder of the desert life!

Kontakion 6

Having heard the Gospel preaching, “If thou wilt be perfect, go and sell that thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shall have treasure in Heaven: and come and follow me,” Father Anthony, you renounced the worldly treasures and undertaking a life of fasting and struggles in the wilderness, you acquired the treasures of Heaven. Give us wisdom, good-hearted Father, to not incline our hearts to the quickly-perishing things of this earth, but to ponder the things above, exclaiming to the Lord of Hosts: **Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)**

Ikos 6

You shined as a divinely radiant light in the Egyptian wilderness, Father Anthony, illuminating with the rays of your virtues and miracles. Remembering your struggles, we bless you and say to you:

Rejoice, venerable Saints are crowned by you!

Rejoice, men are saved through you!

Rejoice, grace-filled visitation of the sick!

Rejoice, helper of strangers!

Rejoice, destroyer of enmity!

Rejoice, annihilator of the enemy!

Rejoice, peace and steadfastness of the faithful!

Rejoice, swift deliverance from dangers!

Rejoice, extinguisher of guile and craftiness!

Rejoice, consolation of the despairing!
Rejoice, defender of the Orthodox!
Rejoice, helper of Christians!

Rejoice, venerable Father Anthony, founder of the desert life!

Kontakion 7

Desiring to undertake a worthy struggle, you accounted all temporary things as nothing and dwelled in poverty and humility in the wilderness, conversing with the One God and singing ceaselessly to Him: **Alleluia!**
(People sing Alleluia!)

Ikos 7

The Lord revealed a truly new guide for monastic's in you, Father Anthony. Many who learned of your God-pleasing and righteous life and the heights of your spiritual wisdom heeded your words as the words of a great servant of God. To you we sing:

Rejoice, you resemble Abraham in faith!
Rejoice, you resemble David in meekness!
Rejoice, you acquired the zeal of Elijah!
Rejoice, you followed the way of the Forerunner!
Rejoice, you poured forth water in the desert by your prayers!
Rejoice, you raised paralytics from their sick beds!
Rejoice, you gave sight to the blind!
Rejoice, you healed many diseases!
Rejoice, most marvelous and divinely wise guide of monks!
Rejoice, fervent servant of Christ!

Rejoice, most gentle consolation of the sorrowful!

Rejoice, most beloved boast of monks!

Rejoice, venerable Father Anthony, founder of the desert life!

Kontakion 8

Having seen the strange and supernatural life of Saint Paul, blessed Anthony, you marveled at the height of his struggles and virtues. Seeing his soul ascending to the Heavens and surrounded by Angels, you cried out to God, Who is wondrous in His Saints: **Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)**

Ikos 8

You rejoiced with great joy, Father Anthony, beholding with your clairvoyant eyes the ascent of the soul of Saint Ammonias. Wherefore, we beseech you with much wonder:

Rejoice, you ever raised your eyes to the Heavens!

Rejoice, you loved Heavenly glory above all!

Rejoice, you sanctified your heart with ceaseless prayer!

Rejoice, you established your mind in God!

Rejoice, you foresaw the future as present!

Rejoice, you acquired lofty gifts through humility!

Rejoice, you free those held captive by evil spirits!

Rejoice, you grant spiritual and bodily health!

Rejoice, intercessor in hardships and calamities!

Rejoice, defender in tribulations and afflictions!

Rejoice, you do not forsake us here on earth!
Rejoice, you offer your prayers for us sinners!

Rejoice, venerable Father Anthony, founder of the desert life!

Kontakion 9

All Angelic beings marveled at the height of your exploits, for you became like an angel in every way while still in the weakness of the flesh and strengthened by the power of the Almighty, you became abundant in virtues. Therefore, you joined the ranks of Angels, singing to the Almighty God: **Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)**

Ikos 9

Human eloquence is not sufficient to praise your life, Father Anthony, for who can recount all your fasting, vigils, illnesses, and labors? Who can count your tears and sighing to God? But moved with our love for you we dare to sing this to you:

Rejoice, great dweller of the wilderness!
Rejoice, teacher of perfection!
Rejoice, servant of the true God!
Rejoice, you banished demons out of the desert!
Rejoice, thunder that strikes the devil!
Rejoice, you revealed his wiles!
Rejoice, vessel of God's grace!
Rejoice, abode of the Holy Spirit!
Rejoice, adornment of fasters!
Rejoice, praise of Saints!

Rejoice, establishment of monks!

Rejoice, glory of the Fathers!

Rejoice, venerable Father Anthony, founder of the desert life!

Kontakion 10

You were a faithful guide to those who desired to be saved and now lead us to salvation through your saintly intercessions, so that with your help we may reach the Kingdom of Heaven, where the never-silent Angels sing: **Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)**

Ikos 10

You were a strong and unassailable rampart to your followers, protecting them from demons' arrows, now remain a wall and protection from the devil's snares to those who call on you:

Rejoice, earthly angel!

Rejoice, Heavenly man!

Rejoice, pure and honorable abode of holiness!

Rejoice, receptacle of great virtues!

Rejoice, ardent lover of piety!

Rejoice, denouncer of heresies!

Rejoice, fulfillment of Christ's love!

Rejoice, instruction of monks!

Rejoice, firm haven of the faithful!

Rejoice, mighty uplifted of the fallen!

Rejoice, strength of the infirmed and paralyzed!

Rejoice, consolation of the despairing and hopeless!

Rejoice, venerable Father Anthony, founder of the desert life!

Kontakion 11

Accept our tender singing which we lift up to you with love and diligent praise, Father Anthony, mercifully incline your ear to us and vouchsafe to guide us to true repentance through your prayers, so we may sing to God:
Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)

Ikos 11

You were revealed on earth as a light-receiving lamp of the true Light, Saint Anthony, enlightening the hearts of the faithful by your struggles and miracles and instructing in the way of virtuous and God-pleasing living. Wherefore, you hear from all:

Rejoice, all-wise instructor!

Rejoice, trustworthy leader!

Rejoice, you gave yourself wholly to God's will!

Rejoice, you loved the Lord Jesus above all!

Rejoice, you shined patiently enduring various sorrows!

Rejoice, you acquired eternal wealth through voluntary poverty!

Rejoice, you spent your life in patience and hardship!

Rejoice, you bravely endured bitterness of the desert!

Rejoice, you inspire the slothful to ascetic struggle!

Rejoice, surety for the sinners' correction!

Rejoice, converser with Angels and Saints!

Rejoice, zealous intercessor for the whole world!

Rejoice, venerable Father Anthony, founder of the desert life!

Kontakion 12

Knowing the grace given to you by God, we reverently kiss your image adorned with holiness, servant of God, and pray to you. Do not forsake us in your intercessions to Christ God, to whom we gratefully sing: **Alleluia!**
(People sing Alleluia!)

Ikos 12

Singing of your life, we also praise your peaceful end, venerable Father Anthony and beseech you, are a quick helper to us who call upon you:

Rejoice, you stand before the Consubstantial Trinity!

Rejoice, joy of Angels!

Rejoice, converser with Saints!

Rejoice, true pleaser of God!

Rejoice, chosen servant of the Lord!

Rejoice, fervent intercessor for all who call upon your name!

Rejoice, teacher and hope of all who honor you!

Rejoice, you were imbued with the grace of God!

Rejoice, you were filled with the Divine spring!

Rejoice, you were bedewed with saving tears!

Rejoice, you were clothed in garments of incorruption!

Rejoice, venerable Father Anthony, founder of the desert life!

Kontakion 13

(To be read three times)

O venerable Father Anthony, eternally alive in the never-ending day of Christ's Kingdom, beseech the Master of all to deliver us from calamities, misfortunes, and eternal torments, so we may sing to Him in His Kingdom

unto ages of ages: **Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!)**

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Prayer to Saint Anthony the Great

O our venerable and God-bearing Father Anthony! We believe that you have great boldness in prayer standing before the Throne of the Holy Trinity, and the All-Merciful Lord always hears you, His faithful servant. Wherefore, we humbly fall down before you with compunction, Saint of God: never cease to intercede for us to the Lord, Who is worshipped and glorified in the Trinity, that He may look mercifully on us and not let us perish in our sins, but would raise the fallen and give correction to our evil and wretched lives, averting our future transgressions, and forgive all faults committed in word or thought from our birth to the present hour. O ascetic of virtue, seeing the infirmity and sorrow of the present times, do not cease to entreat Christ God to not withdraw from us his loving-kindness, but to preserve us from worldly temptations, devil's snares, and fleshly desires, so that we may receive all necessities for this temporary life, deliverance from affliction and tribulation, and unyielding patience to the end. Implore that we may lead the rest of our lives in peace and repentance and to pass from earth to Heaven escaping tribulations, demons of the air, and eternal torments, and be worthy of the Heavenly Kingdom with you and all the Saints that please our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ, to Whom is due all glory, honor, and worship, together with His Father without beginning and His All-Holy, Good and Life-Creating Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. **Amen.**

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