

# **Akathist to the Righteous John of Kronstadt**



**For meeting a difficult situation  
For help in distress and poverty**

## **Kontakion 1**

To one chosen among priests, to the wondrous servant of God, John, pastor and teacher, intercessor for tsars, comforter of the afflicted, bright luminary of the Russian land who consecrated his whole life to serving God and his neighbor, turned a multitude of sinners to repentance, and begged from God healing for many sick people, we raise praises as to our mediator and quick helper. Do you, Father, as one who has boldness towards the Lord; free us from all misfortune that we may cry to you with praise:

**Rejoice, John, new Russian luminary and fervent intercessor to God for us!**

## **Ikos 1**

When only six years old, you, O John, openly saw in ineffable brilliance your Guardian Angel, who told you that by the command of the Lord he always would be present with you and protect you from all evil. Wherefore, knowing you to have been chosen by God from your youth, we cry:

Rejoice, you were chosen from childhood by the foreknowledge of God!

Rejoice, you from your youth were called by His Grace to serve Him!

Rejoice, you from childhood did please your Guardian Angel with good morals!

Rejoice, you never grieved him in anything!

Rejoice, for your invisible Guardian Angel openly appeared to you!

Rejoice, for he promised always to protect you!

Rejoice, beloved son of pious parents!

Rejoice, you from childhood were raised by them in the fear of God!

Rejoice, you from your youth accustomed yourself to temperance!

Rejoice, you passed your youthful days in wretchedness and need!

Rejoice, for because of your good morals the Grace of God rested in you!

Rejoice, for it made your face ever tender!

**Rejoice, John, new Russian luminary and fervent intercessor to God for us!**

### **Kontakion 2**

We see you, godly-wise John, from youth growing in Grace by which you were overshadowed, and by it mystically guided and directed in a life of virtue. So having you as our example and inspiration, with compunction we cry out to Christ our God:

**Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)**

### **Ikos 2**

Immersing your mind from childhood in the study of the scriptures and the writings of the Fathers, O John, you have received plenteously the water of life flowing forth from the fountain of the Holy Spirit. We pray you: beseech the good

Lord to make us worthy partakers of those life-giving streams as we cry to you:

Rejoice, from childhood you kept yourself free from passions!  
Rejoice, you preserved the Grace of Holy Baptism whole and unharmed!  
Rejoice, you sincerely loved to read the Divine Scriptures!  
Rejoice, you comprehended well and rightly the meaning concealed in them!  
Rejoice, you showed exemplary diligence in the study of books!  
Rejoice, you gloriously succeeded in natural and spiritual philosophy!  
Rejoice, you quickly discerned the enticements of the world by your wisdom!  
Rejoice, you wisely fled those snares like a soaring eagle!  
Rejoice, miraculous and bright educator of Northern Russia!  
Rejoice, dispersion of sinful gloom!  
Rejoice, you granted quick succor to all who fled to you!  
Rejoice, you reveal the most powerful intercession for us before God!

**Rejoice, John, new Russian luminary and fervent intercessor to God for us!**

### **Kontakion 3**

The power of the Grace of God, which fulfills all needs, was plenteously poured out on you, O John of eternal memory, when

you were ordained a priest by Bishop Christopher and appointed pastor of Kronstadt, for from that time you began to teach people faithfully to serve the Holy Trinity and sing: **Alleluia!**  
**(People sing Alleluia!)**

### **Ikos 3**

Having divine love in your heart, wise John, and strictly observing the laws of self-denial, you easily conquered the movements of the passions and never were you ensnared by them. As a strong man you went forth to work in the Lord's field, by your word as by a plow, tilling the hardened and frozen hearts of men, warming them by prayer and by the heat of your love, and planting in them seed of true repentance and living faith. Therefore we hymn you with these praises:

Rejoice, chosen vessel of the Grace of God!

Rejoice, container of the Heavenly Gifts!

Rejoice, you love God with all your heart and mind!

Rejoice, you therefore teach your spiritual children sincerely to love Him!

Rejoice, you carefully observed the commandments of God and the canons of the Church concerning fasts!

Rejoice, you showed your love for God and your neighbors by your deeds and your teaching!

Rejoice, you ruled over passions from your youth!

Rejoice, you appear a glorious victor over them!

Rejoice, you lived in the world in an unworldly manner!

Rejoice, on earth you were wise in a heavenly fashion!

Rejoice, unshakable pillar of the Orthodox Russian kingdom!

Rejoice, unwavering guardian of Orthodoxy and of good traditions!

**Rejoice, John, new Russian luminary and fervent intercessor to God for us!**

### **Kontakion 4**

Help us, Father John, who are overcome by the storm of many calamities and the tumults of life, as in your life you helped all who fled to you with faith, that all who were helped by you might in gratitude sing to God for you: **Alleluia!**  
**(People sing Alleluia!)**

### **Ikos 4**

Having heard the Apostle say, our life is in Heaven, and from childhood desiring to inherit it, you spent the short time of this life not in pleasing the flesh and passions, O John, but in cleansing your soul from sinful thoughts. Therefore we who have you for an example of a life pleasing to God and as an aid in piety cry to you:

Rejoice, bright splendor of the light of the Gospel in our days!

Rejoice, all-powerful illumination of darkened souls!

Rejoice, for you immersed your whole mind in the Divine Scriptures!

Rejoice, for in them you found the right path to the heavenly Kingdom!

Rejoice, for all your deeds were a light to the world!

Rejoice, for through you the heavenly Father was wondrously glorified!

Rejoice, for your word was not like a tinkling cymbal, dead and unfeeling!

Rejoice, for your word in truth was alive and active!

Rejoice, for through you those dead in spirit are made alive by faith!

Rejoice, for those who have fallen into the abyss of sin are awakened to repentance by you!

Rejoice, for in you the faithful found an undaunted reprove and mighty adversary of the enemies of the Truth!

**Rejoice, John, new Russian luminary and fervent intercessor to God for us!**

### **Kontakion 5**

You appear, O sacred John, as a most brilliant star of the Russian land enlightening the sinful darkness. Therefore now grant enlightenment to the sons of Russia who are surrounded by the darkness of error and have surrendered themselves to the power of the wicked, that they may recognize their wretchedness and turn to God and in repentance cry to Him: **Alleluia!**

**(People sing Alleluia!)**

### **Ikos 5**

When the Russian people saw that you were a great preacher of virtue and a very powerful intercessor and mediator before God, a multitude ran to you from all sides, and others sent you letters from afar, asking healing in sickness, advice in uncertainty, and

comfort in sorrows; and when they received what they desired, they gratefully cried to you:

Rejoice, John, new luminary of the world!

Rejoice, converser with God unrestrained in prayers!

Rejoice, for your prayers are strong and powerful to appease the Master!

Rejoice, for thine intercession with Him is most effective in arousing His clemency to the granting of compassion!

Rejoice, for through you gracious healings are granted according to the measure of one's faith!

Rejoice, for by you the ill receive a quick change from sickness to health!

Rejoice, for by you sinners are turned to repentance!

Rejoice, for by you numberless rebels are brought to their senses!

Rejoice, for by you senseless mockers of the mysteries of the Faith are covered with shame!

Rejoice, for by you scoffers at your miraculous deeds receive appropriate instruction!

Rejoice, Grace-giving comforter of the grieving!

Rejoice, merciful instructor of those in perplexity!

**Rejoice, John, new Russian luminary and fervent intercessor  
to God for us!**

### **Kontakion 6**

As a preacher of the truth, imitating the God-bearing Fathers, you devoted your whole self to serving God and your neighbors; and while bearing priestly rank, you did not know rest, for



constantly you performed divine services in the church and sang molebens in the homes of the faithful; and did attain the title of benefactor and unmercenary worker. Even after your death the Russian people glorify your name and, proclaiming eternal memory to you, sing to God: **Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)**

### **Ikos 6**

Christ our God, Who shone forth from a virgin and by the light of His Gospel drove away the darkness of demonic idolatry, revealed you, Father John, as a faithful and zealous preacher of His Truth which was being distorted by the helpers of the evil one. Thus, as one having boldness before the Lord, deliver from this spite and cunning all who sing to you:

Rejoice, outstanding servant of Christ!

Rejoice, exquisite and pleasing servant of His among priests!

Rejoice, for you have been an untiring watchman of the house of God!

Rejoice, for you have been a mighty protector of your flock from spiritual thieves!

Rejoice, you by your writings move many from love of the world to love of Christ!

Rejoice, you by your speaking revealed the love of God for mankind as it appears in His redemption of us and His providence for us!

Rejoice, you tell of the action of the Spirit of God on human hearts in a way easy to grasp!

Rejoice, you openly show the mystery of prayerful conversation with God!

Rejoice, you miraculously preserve virginity in your lawful married life!

Rejoice, you give birth to many spiritual children through repentance

Rejoice, you leave behind you a good memory in the hearts of the faithful!

Rejoice, for this memory of you as a righteous man will never be forgotten!

**Rejoice, John, new Russian luminary and fervent intercessor to God for us!**

### **Kontakion 7**

The all-good Lord, wanting to comfort His faithful people and turn the lawless from their evil deeds, raised you up as a prophet for our land as once He did Jonah for Nineveh, the great city, that you might preach the wrath of God soon coming to our land, which was fulfilled according to your announcement, for we remained unrepentant in our pride and did not want humbly to sing with you to Christ our God: **Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)**

### **Ikos 7**

A new sign of the wrath of God befell us because we did not want to attend to your divinely-inspired words: for the Russian dominion is fallen and is given into the authority of cruel atheists who have destroyed the honorable monasteries, defiled holy churches, and cruelly hurt all your pious people and given many of clergy and of lay rank over to a martyr's death.

Therefore from the depths of our souls we bring repentance to the Lord and run to your prayer that we may be made worthy of forgiveness of our sins and the mercy of God. And to you, as to our intercessor, abjectly we say:

Rejoice, eloquent preacher of repentance!

Rejoice, unerring foreteller of the coming wrath of God against sinning people!

Rejoice, full-voiced accuser of people's wickedness!

Rejoice, zealous advocate of their correction!

Rejoice, you were a firm defense of the Orthodox Russian kingdom in your lifetime!

Rejoice, you protect it from rebellions in those days!

Rejoice, constant intercessor and ally of pious rulers!

Rejoice, wise instructor and guardian of them!

Rejoice, you proclaim many words on the divine establishment of the Tsar's authority!

Rejoice, you industriously guide people to obedience and faithfulness to this lawful authority!

Rejoice, you guard the thrones of pious kings by your prayers!

Rejoice, you teach them to give right judgments among their people!

**Rejoice, John, new Russian luminary and fervent intercessor  
to God for us!**

### **Kontakion 8**

You have completed the course of your earthly life, strangely planned and angelic, O Father John, for in the world you lived in

self-denial and chastity and followed the great fathers in praising God at all times. Now present with them in gladness before Christ in Heaven and offering prayers for the world, you chant continually: **Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)**

### **Ikos 8**

All Orthodox people, as in your life, so after your death, honor you with great love, Father John, for you have great boldness towards God and entreat His goodness for all who hasten to you and cry:

Rejoice, fine offshoot of a good root!

Rejoice, honorable birth and good upbringing of pious parents!

Rejoice, for because of your birth and upbringing in the small village of Sura became known to all the land of Russia!

Rejoice, for the city of Kronstadt was glorified by your service in it!

Rejoice, for all Russia was filled with your deeds of mercy!

Rejoice, for the news of your wondrous and holy life has spread beyond its borders!

Rejoice, for by your writings the Grace-giving mystery of communion with God is explained!

Rejoice, for the light of spiritual illumination is poured out into the hearts of those who read them!

Rejoice, for in your writing the purity of your soul is openly revealed!

Rejoice, for in them, as in a mirror, the divine image in the human soul is reflected!

Rejoice, for by your writings, filled with divine wisdom, not only Russians, but foreigners too are encouraged in their piety!

Rejoice, for by these writings the true faith shines forth and the gloom of heresies is driven out!

**Rejoice, John, new Russian luminary and fervent intercessor to God for us!**

### **Kontakion 9**

No word is adequate to praise you, Father John, for moved by the Holy Spirit you have served God sincerely from your youth; by spending many years in sincere labor in studying the Holy Scriptures and acquiring deep knowledge, and also by concerning yourself diligently with the education of young people and of your flock, you have taught all sensibly to sing to God: **Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)**

### **Ikos 9**

Dishonorable orators, men of vain wisdom, and blasphemers of the Faith were disgraced openly by you in their impiety, the Orthodox were strengthened and established in their faith by your divinely inspired words. Thus, praising you, we cry:

Rejoice, divinely inspired flute!

Rejoice, sweet-sounding psaltery of the Spirit!

Rejoice, by your words and writings you illuminate the dogmas of the Faith!

Rejoice, by your speeches you confirm the thoughts of the faithful in Orthodoxy!

Rejoice, you confirm many doubters in the true Faith!

Rejoice, you fearlessly condemn blasphemers of the mysteries of the Church of Christ, men who were proud in their vain wisdom!

Rejoice, for by you regiments of atheists were defeated!

Rejoice, for by your pastoral efforts the companies of your flock acquired the heavenly Kingdom!

Rejoice, wise expounder of the divine intelligence!

Rejoice, reverent performer of the sacraments of the Church!

Rejoice, our trustworthy guide into the heavenly Kingdom!

Rejoice, our true preacher of the way of salvation!

**Rejoice, John, new Russian luminary and fervent intercessor  
to God for us!**

### **Kontakion 10**

Desiring to save your soul, you have concentrated in yourself the fullness of the evangelical virtues, Father John: the confession of faith of the Apostles and Holy Fathers, constancy, martyr-like in its piety, constant watching in prayer, self-denial and humility, together with the ascetic acts of the holy monks. As you now dwell with the saints in Heaven and ceaselessly do praise God, remember us who honor your glorious memory and sing to God: **Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)**

## **Ikos 10**

Because you were a totally sincere priest of the King of Heaven, you were zealous for the prosperity of your earthly fatherland, teaching with true wisdom to render what is God's to God and what is Caesar's to Caesar. For this reason we magnify you:

Rejoice, slave of God, good and faithful!

Rejoice, sincere servant of God!

Rejoice, you zealously fulfilled everything the Lord commanded of you!

Rejoice, you were a skilled performer of His commandments!

Rejoice, you always think of the omnipresence of God!

Rejoice, you in your mind's eye always stand before Him!

Rejoice, you honor the pious tsars of your fatherland as the servants of God!

Rejoice, by your word and prayers you aid them in the hard task of government!

Rejoice, you arouse in them concern for the good things of Church and nation!

Rejoice, you protect them from rebellion and riots!

Rejoice, even now you pray to God for Russia and for all Orthodox kings!

Rejoice, for you are a mediator for all who hope in you!

**Rejoice, John, new Russian luminary and fervent intercessor  
to God for us!**

## **Kontakion 11**

In songs of praise it is impossible to express the multitude of the godly corrections, O most marvelous Father John, which you performed in your life: by your prayers healing the sick, driving demons out of men, curing sufferers from drunkenness and other passions, showing abundant mercy on those in poverty and want; blessing and helping all with any need whatsoever, for which we thankfully sing of you to God: **Alleluia!**

**(People sing Alleluia!)**

## **Ikos 11**

The Lord revealed you in our days as a bright luminary and a wondrous seer who foretold His approaching wrath against the Russian kingdom because we did not repent at your preaching. Thus as a prophet of God and foreteller of His judgments, we bless you and cry in repentance:

Rejoice, wondrous seer!

Rejoice, unerring foreteller of future events!

Rejoice, equal to the ancient preachers of repentance!

Rejoice, announcer of the coming wrath of God against unrepentant sinners!

Rejoice, sweet-voiced proclaimer of repentance!

Rejoice, calmer of agitated hearts!

Rejoice, most powerful mediator for us before God!

Rejoice, good shepherd of spiritual sheep, who recover a multitude of lost souls!

Rejoice, you free many from prison bonds and from death!



**Rejoice, John, new Russian luminary and fervent intercessor  
to God for us!**

**Kontakion 12**

The divine Grace which you have received doubly in Holy Baptism and in Ordination to the priesthood was not vain in you, Father John: for by your diligence you have used it for the benefit of many and to the glory of Him Who granted it: for by the radiance of your life and by your deeds of mercy you have been revealed as a great saint pleasing to God, and from the multitude of lips of those who were spiritually and physically granted mercy by you this great song is raised to God: **Alleluia!**  
**(People sing Alleluia!)**

**Ikos 12**

Singing of your life which was pleasing to God from your youth and of your spiritual progress from strength to strength, we glorify your righteous death and the glorious burial of your Grace-giving remains, which found eternal rest in the Devichy Monastery founded by you. And we believe that your holy soul is at rest in the all radiant habitation of Paradise, which you help us inherit as we sing such praises to you:

Rejoice, you finished the course of temporal life peacefully  
and in a way pleasing to God!

Rejoice, you faultlessly preserve the right Faith!

Rejoice, you revealed your righteousness by a peaceful  
Christian death!

Rejoice, you have received eternal rest in Heaven with the saints!

Rejoice, you have partaken of the joy of the righteous in the mansions of Paradise!

Rejoice, you were vouchsafed eternal blessedness together with the multitude of souls which received salvation through you!

Rejoice, you have inherited the heavenly Kingdom with the Royal New Martyrs!

Rejoice, you with them stand before the King of Glory and offer up prayers for the release of our fatherland from its atheist regime!

Rejoice, great warrior of Orthodoxy!

Rejoice, invincible defender of piety!

Rejoice, your glorious wonders by appearances in dreams!

Rejoice, you who leads the non-Orthodox to Orthodoxy!

**Rejoice, John, new Russian luminary and fervent intercessor  
to God for us!**

**Kontakion 13  
(To be read three times)**

O all-honorable Father John, luminary and great saint pleasing to Christ, and wonderworker, not only of Kronstadt, but also of all Russia, and even more of the whole world, receive from us unworthy ones this song of praise, and through your prayers, which are most acceptable to God, deliver us from temporal misfortune and eternal sufferings, that we may be deemed worthy eternally to sing with you in the heavenly Kingdom:

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!)**

### **Ikos 1**

When only six years old, you, O John, openly saw in ineffable brilliance your Guardian Angel, who told you that by the command of the Lord he always would be present with you and protect you from all evil. Wherefore, knowing you to have been chosen by God from your youth, we cry:

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Rejoice, you from your youth were called by His Grace to serve Him!

Rejoice, from childhood you pleased your Guardian Angel with good morals!

Rejoice, you never grieved him in anything!

Rejoice, for your invisible Guardian Angel openly appeared to you!

Rejoice, for he promised always to protect you!

Rejoice, beloved son of pious parents!

Rejoice, from childhood you were raised by them in the fear of God!

Rejoice, from your youth you accustomed yourself to temperance!

Rejoice, you passed your youthful days in wretchedness and need!

Rejoice, for because of your good morals the Grace of God rested in you!

Rejoice, for it made your face ever tender!

**Rejoice, John, new Russian luminary and fervent intercessor  
to God for us!**

**Kontakion 1**

To one chosen among priest, to the wondrous servant of God, John, pastor and teacher, intercessor for tsars, comforter of the afflicted, bright luminary of the Russian land who consecrated his whole life to serving God and his neighbor, turned a multitude of sinners to repentance, and begged from God healing for many sick people, we raise praises as to our mediator and quick helper. Do you, Father, as one who has boldness towards the Lord; free us from all misfortune that we may cry to you with praise:

**Rejoice, John, new Russian luminary and fervent intercessor  
to God for us!**

**Prayer to our Holy and Righteous Father John of Kronstadt,  
the Wonderworker**

O our holy and righteous Father John, great wonderworker and luminary of Russia! You see our God in heavenly radiance, being counted worthy of His mercy by your love. Having been filled with divine Grace and constantly being nourished by the Body and Blood of Christ, you went forth to pastoral labor even to the evening of your life. Moreover, even now you have not ceased from your labor, living in Christ unto the ages. We know, O our great pastor, that when you served as a priest, some learned from your compassion, and others were led up by you from

lowliness and sinful falls, and they greatly loved you who taught them every good thing. Therefore we pray to you: teach us to do good, to be cleansed from sin, to be concerned for the salvation of our souls, and in every good action be our good helper, for God told you the needs of His people, O our healer and benefactor! We know this too, righteous Father, that you were a great intercessor and a wonderful server of the Bloodless Sacrifice, being filled with the spirit of faith, hope and Christian love. For behold, when you were performing the Divine Liturgy and ardently praying for those who entrusted themselves to your prayerful intercession, as a father who loves his children you embraced them all by your love, calling them to remembrance that their sins might be washed away by the most holy Blood of Christ. Thus we sinners who hope in your love and help also cry sincerely to you: O great pastor of Russia, pray for your brothers, our bishops and pastors that they may live according to the will of God, as did the pastors of old who pleased God, and that the Lord may inspire their prayers at every hour. Pray, most marvelous wonderworker, to our all-merciful Savior for all who are sick and in need in various ways and who seek comfort that they may receive healing and help and be comforted. Pray to God, Father John, for children and youths who are studying, that they may recognize the faith of Christ and live in faith, having strong love for our Lord, our Most-pure Lady the Mother of God, and all the saints, and with them you too, truly their good father and teacher, and that their guardian angels may protect them as your Guardian Angel protected you from the attacks of the enemy. Burning with a spirit of apostolic zeal for the Orthodox Faith, you fiercely and continually reveal the blasphemies of distorters of the Gospel of Christ. Therefore we pray to you: conquer now too, O chosen Saint of God, all temptations and divisions which now are so multiplied, that the Orthodox people may live in unity and peace and in faithfulness to their Mother, the Church of Christ. With these requests we offer you also this great prayer: O great wonderworker and prophet who appeared to your generation, intercede before the terrible throne of the Lord of Glory that He will have compassion and mercy on suffering Russia, in which your love showed forth so much. And may the Lord deliver His people from the yoke of

the cruel atheists and from their bitter tortures. O most wonderful Father John, great priest of God on High! Behold, we kiss your honorable image, knowing that the Lord gave you to His people as a great intercessor and comforter. Beseech for us, then a spirit of repentance and true renewal. We know that in the days of your earthly life great multitudes of people in the holy temple, who put off pride and confusion, and with tears and sighs openly repented of their secret sins, received an enlivening pardon from God our Savior through you. As then over them, so you now invisibly stretch forth your hand of blessing and mercifully beg from God forgiveness of our sins. Help us too to pass the remaining time of our life in a way pleasing to God, that we may be made worthy through your holy prayers to attain to the heavenly Kingdom and there, together with you, Father, our intercessor and protector, to praise God Who is wonderful in His saints, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. **Amen.**

**Glorifying God Through His Light  
50 Hour Prayer Vigil**

Orthodox Mission Church  
Serving Coolidge and Florence, AZ  
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