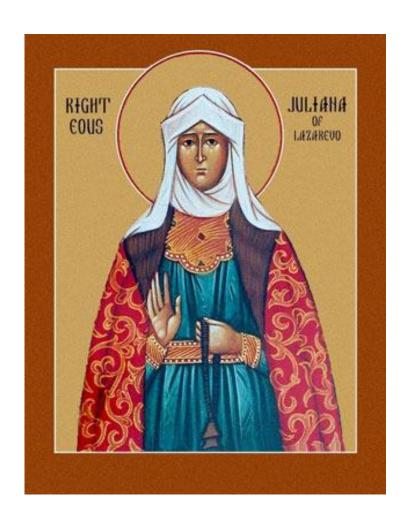
Akathist to St. Juliana of Lazarevo near Murom



For Mothers and enduring our crosses with meekness and humility

KONTAKION 1

O righteous and merciful Juliana, who was chosen by God and amid worldly cares, did in your soul live in Christ, as in Heaven; and who abide in great stillness, loving silence within your heart! Glorifying the Lord Who has glorified you; with compunction we sing to you a hymn of praise. Do you, who endured grievous sorrows in your life, pray for us, who are tempest-tossed by perils and sins, and entreat the merciful Savior to grant us salvation of soul and deliverance from misfortunes, that, giving thanks unto God, we may glorify you, saying:

Rejoice, O merciful Juliana, boast of Murom and adornment of women!

IKOS 1

A pure Angel, from earliest childhood you loved the Angelic monastic life; but the Creator of all, Who arranges all things in the depths of His wisdom, ordained a different path of salvation for you; that you please Him with a Holy life within honorable matrimony. Wherefore, from childhood He led you to the Kingdom of God through many trials: for when you were a maiden, six years of age, you had already become a grieving orphan; and as a young bride you took up the cross of motherhood. And we, though stricken with awe at this wondrous providence, yet compunctionately praise you with faith:

Rejoice, you who were born into wealth, to parents who loved the poor-Justin and Stephanida;

Rejoice, you were deprived of your mother and were raised an orphan outside your father's house!

Rejoice, right fragrant lily who blossomed within the tranquility of the forests of Murom;

Rejoice, radiant star set alight by God in the village of Lazarevo!

Rejoice, in your heart you acquired love for Christ and His allpure Mother;

Rejoice, pure ewe-lamb who from childhood sought the monastic order!

Rejoice, meek and obedient one, who by the will of God was entrusted to a husband;

Rejoice, righteous mother who, having lived in the world, has been numbered among the saints!

Rejoice, O merciful Juliana, boast of Murom and adornment of women!

KONTAKION 2

Seeing you standing in vigil all night, the enemy of the Christian race assailed you with vile terrors. But you, O blessed heifer, cried out with tearful entreaty to your guide, the all-wondrous Nicholas; and the wonder-worker straightway appeared to you, and the demons vanished like smoke. Then the Holy hierarch blessed you, saying: "O my daughter be of steadfast good cheer, for Christ the Lord has commanded me to preserve you from all evil.

And do you chant to Him without fear, ever crying aloud like the Angels: *Alleluia!* (*People sing Alleluia!*)

IKOS 2

The human mind is at a loss how, while living in this vain world, O blessed mother, you in your soul abide untroubled in the mansions of Heaven; how, living amid abundant wealth, you regarded it dispassionately as something belonging to others and entrusted to orphans; how, bearing your cross in honorable matrimony, though you were like a nun amid the world, you raised many holy children. And we, knowing what is impossible for men, and praising God Who can accomplish all things, with undoubting faith honor you:

Rejoice, quiet dove who unceasingly conversed with God in prayer;

Rejoice, obedient disciple who knew how to live in both abundance and in want!

Rejoice, faithful spouse who saved your husband by being a model of meekness;

Rejoice, much suffering mother who entrusted your pure children to the Lord!

Rejoice, chaste woman who pleased God by childbearing and holiness;

Rejoice, merciful lady who, following the Gospel, meekly ministered to your own servants!

Rejoice, handmaid of Christ, who kept His commandments throughout your life;

Rejoice, you who were obedient to Paul, doing all things for the glory of God!

Rejoice, O merciful Juliana, boast of Murom and adornment of women!

KONTAKION 3

The power of the Most High gave you the strength to bear your heavy cross without complaint, when the pure souls of four of your sons and two of your daughters flew aloft in blessedness like quickwinged birds, departing this life while yet in childhood. And you yourself, O divinely wise mother, like a turtledove soaring up in soul to the mansions of paradise, gave thanks to God for all things, and were comforted by your remaining children. And concerning the departed, with the righteous Job you said with compunction: The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away. And now my little children glorify God with the Angels most sweetly, and fervently entreat Him in behalf of their parents, offering up, with their pure mouths, the seraphic hymn: *Alleluia!* (*People sing Alleluia!*)

IKOS 3

Possessed of a heart which has pity for all, and which is overflowing with grace-filled love, O Juliana, you did truly show yourself to be a merciful mother when God visited your land with a terrible famine; for, though you yourself experienced want, you were sustenance for those who are hungry and thirsty, a guide for the blind and the halt, protection and vesture for the unsheltered,

and comfort for all. And your least, hungering brethren, rending praise unto God, earnestly blessed you:

Rejoice, you illumined the dark time of famine with the light of love;

Rejoice, you rendered mercy unto Christ in the guise of your least brethren!

Rejoice, you, like the warm sun shines forth earthly good things;

Rejoice, you whose left hand knew not what your right hand was doing!

Rejoice, you feeding the starving with bread, delivered them from death and torment;

Rejoice, warming the desperate with a word of welcome, you greatly consoled them!

Rejoice, you, seeking the Kingdom of God, distributed things good for the body;

Rejoice, you having acquired friends through riches, did find the dwellings of Heaven!

Rejoice, O merciful Juliana, boast of Murom and adornment of women!

KONTAKION 4

Amid the tempest of misfortune which beset the whole land, when for their sins the people were punished with a deadly plague, with great diligence, O loving soul, you fulfilled the word of Christ concerning the sick, secretly helping them without the knowledge of your household; and offering up fervent prayers for them, you received from God the gift of healings, and requesting services for the departed in church, you accompanied them to their everlasting rest. And now you have received from God the blessed Kingdom, where sickness and grief are unknown; and joining chorus there, you chanted unto God: *Alleluia!* (*People sing Alleluia!*)

IKOS 4

Hearing on one of those bitter days that your eldest son had been cruelly slain by a servant, you were wounded in your maternal heart, O cross-bearing woman. Yet you were not so much saddened by his death as you were grieved by the suddenness of the end of his life; and you were all the more distraught over the criminal murderer. But remembering the Lord Himself, Who shed drops of blood in Gethsemane, you strengthened yourself in prayers to Him, immersing your maternal sorrow in His will. And we, marveling at your humble faith, chant these praises as is meet:

Rejoice, you looked upon this earthly life as a sorrowful sojourn;

Rejoice, you did regard the repose of your family as a brief separation!

Rejoice, you allayed worldly grief with trust in the will of God; Rejoice, you unlike the wife of Job, strengthened your despondent husband in the faith!

Rejoice, you forgave the senseless murder as Christ forgave those who crucified Him.

Rejoice, you asked the Redeemer of the world that He give the Kingdom of Heaven to your son!

Rejoice, you by sorrows did detach your heart from the earthly world;

Rejoice, you by suffering your cross did warm your love even more greatly for God!

Rejoice, O merciful Juliana, boast of Murom and adornment of women!

KONTAKION 5

By the will of God your second beloved son also met an untimely death on the field of battle; yet accepting this cross also without complaint, you splendidly honored your younger offspring with many prayers, forty memorial liturgies, and generous alms. And having consoled your husband with good words, that he not again lose hope in God, with tears of compunction, like a wounded dove, you yourself spent many nights quietly in prayer, considering a departure from the world, and transforming funeral lamentations into the hymn of praise to the Almighty: *Alleluia!* (*People sing Alleluia!*)

IKOS 5

Seeing you yearning to hide yourself from the world in a convent, your spouse besought you not to leave him bereft with five children. And you, O meek ewe-lamb, having learned humbly to cut off your own will for the sake of others, obediently said: Let the will of the Lord be done! And again taking upon your shoulder, which had been wounded by cruel sorrows, the cross given you by God,

A cross of struggle in this world's life, you increased all the more your vigils, fasting and prayers, living in matrimony like an unmarried desert-dweller. And we, marveling at your obedience and ascetic feats, humbly offer you these praises:

Rejoice, you entered into the mystery of matrimony, which you did solemnly preserve;

Rejoice, spouse faithful to your husband, whom you did serve with humility!

Rejoice, ascetic mighty in this world, who did bear your cross with patience;

Rejoice, victor over the carnal passions, who vanquished the enemy in battle!

Rejoice, you kept your vesture of your soul white in this benighted world;

Rejoice, star of quiet brilliance, shining amid the tumult of life! Rejoice, you prayed fervently in the married state, a model of ardor for monks;

Rejoice, sufferer, meek mother, who emulated the saints in the torments you endured!

Rejoice, O merciful Juliana, boast of Murom and adornment of women!

KONTAKION 6

Your son Callistratus showed himself to be the proclaimer of your life of suffering, for he recounted to the world your secret and wondrous struggle: your prayers continued throughout the night; you set sharp-edged planks as a bed for your body; your hands

became calloused through your many prostrations; your flesh became desiccated by intense fasting; your eyes were bathed with rivers of tears; and your pure tongue continually chanted the hymn: *Alleluia!* (*People sing Alleluia!*)

IKOS 6

Grace shone forth in your heart, O Holy mother, and gave your prayer wings to soar far above all things. Ablaze with divine fire, and drawn to God like a bird of paradise, you desired to visit the temple of God; for your spirit was born in that direction, casting off all the grief of life; and you were sweetly consoled amid your sorrows, receiving the gift of grace from the Father. And we, the slothful, beholding the zeal for God which was in your soul, are able only to glorify you with our tongue, crying out thus:

Rejoice, you, receiving the fire of grace, soared aloft from earth to Heaven;

Rejoice, you, having tasted the sweetness of paradise, made your abode in Christ Jesus!

Rejoice, you, burning with love for God, received from Him the gift of tears;

Rejoice, you, though praying in secret, loved the church more than your home.

Rejoice, you, contemplating the redemption wrought by the Lord, did spend Fridays alone and without food;

Rejoice, you, emulating the incorporeal Angels, refused to sleep, that you might pray!

Rejoice, you, having acquired grace in your heart, created

a temple of God within yourself; Rejoice, you, receiving the Holy Mysteries, provided an abode for the Holy Trinity in your soul!

Rejoice, O merciful Juliana, boast of Murom and adornment of women!

KONTAKION 7

Desiring, after the repose of your friend, to cleave unto Heaven with all your soul, you added struggles unto struggles, O righteous one; and emulating Christ above all, you struggled ascetically in humility and love. Wherefore, you received from Him the gift of tears of compunction and a heart full of mercy for all; and living while yet on earth as though in Heaven, you offered praise unto God, chanting: *Alleluia!* (*People sing Alleluia!*)

IKOS 7

A new sign did the Lord reveal in you: for, distributing warm garments unto all, it then being a cruel winter, you ceased to go to the church of God. Yet one morning, when the priest of God went to the Church of the Righteous Lazarus, he heard a voice issued forth from the icon of the all-pure Mother of God, saying: Go and say to the merciful widow Juliana: Why do you not come to the church of God to pray? Prayer at home is pleasing unto God, but not as is prayer in church! And then the voice spoke further, saying: And honor her, for she is not less than sixty years of age, and the Holy Spirit rests in her! And when you with fear learn of this wondrous miracle, you beseeched all who heard of it to keep

silent, and made all haste to the all-pure Mistress at the church of God, and kissing her icon with fervent tears, humbly offer up hymns of supplication. And the faithful people, rejoicing radiantly that the Queen of Heaven, the joy of all joys, loved you so, thus glorified you with gladness:

Rejoice, you loved Christ with all your heart;

Rejoice, you offered him fervent tears!

Rejoice, you considered love to be greater than prayer and fasting;

Rejoice, you attended all the services of the Church!

Rejoice, you were called merciful by the Mother of God;

Rejoice, you within yourself were wholly overshadowed by the Holy Spirit!

Rejoice, you received glory, not from men, but from the Holy Theotokos:

Rejoice, tranquil radiance illuminating the region of Murom!

Rejoice, O merciful Juliana, boast of Murom and adornment of women!

KONTAKION 8

Strange and wondrous is it to see how on earth God gives the greatest sorrows to His beloved children, as a surety of His love for them. Wherefore, unto you, O blessed one, who received great mercy from the Mother of God in His church, it was also fitting to receive a greater measure of griefs, that you might show forth grateful love for God and yourself be glorified, and that you might teach sorrowing people to have patience, that all may sing the

praise: Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)

IKOS 8

When by God's incomprehensible providence a great famine again befell your land, all experienced want, and even you, the merciful widow, fell into dire poverty. Yet entrusting yourself and your children to the oversight of God, you commanded them to endure all things unto death; and thus you also earnestly asked your servants, that they dare not to touch anything belonging to anyone else. And obedient, though they were afraid, they kept this commandment and said to you:

Rejoice, you only consolation in that grievous time of great famine;

Rejoice, you suffered in the flesh, seeking all the more the Heavenly city!

Rejoice, you amid dread manifestations did consider the precepts and wrath of God;

Rejoice, you as a mother had compassion for children who were tormented with hunger!

Rejoice, you by the power of faith did endure sorrows without measure;

Rejoice, you instructed your children and your servants, who were of one mind with you, to be obedient to the Cross!
Rejoice, you prayed to God, shedding tears with those who wept, and suffering with the people;

Rejoice, you with ardent heart grieved in soul for sinful Russia!

Rejoice, O merciful Juliana, boast of Murom and adornment of women!

KONTAKION 9

Every living creature, receiving food for itself in due season, praises You, the good God, who opens Your all-generous hand unto all, even before You are asked. But Your mighty favorite, seeking the Kingdom of Heaven even when deprived of the good things of Your earth, never ceased to cry out to You in praise: *Alleluia!* (*People sing Alleluia!*)

IKOS 9

Earthly rhetors are at a loss to describe with their tongues the pangs of mothers' souls when they are crushed by the sufferings of their beloved children; and you, o steadfast sufferer, while pouring forth your mercy upon all, yet unable to find bread for your own children, fed them pig-weed, comforting them by saying repeatedly: Glory to God for all things! And we, learning the power of patience from you, honor you fervently with voices of praise:

Rejoice, you were strengthened in weakness by the Spirit, sang in the midst of sorrows, Glory to God for all things!

Rejoice, sojourner strange to the earthly world, you bitterly wandered throughout the world;

Rejoice, you, seeking the Heavenly city, remained in this world a homeless orphan!

Rejoice, you, having been possessed of great wealth, were

shown to be a pauper, hungry and poorly clad;

Rejoice, you gave alms, but later were among the children bereft of bread!

Rejoice, you, looking to the joy which is to come, took up your present cross with hope;

Rejoice, you having surrendered yourself to the will of the Lord, accepted the path of poverty and wandering!
Rejoice, you, looking to the sufferings of Christ, without murmuring endured your cross in this life;

Rejoice, O merciful Juliana, boast of Murom and adornment of women!

KONTAKION 10

Desiring from childhood to save your soul, you thought upon God in silence with all your heart; and diligently caring for your kinfolk like Martha, you in spirit loved the portion of Mary. And ever desiring the blessed life, you kept the memory of death continually in the mind, praying the Jesus Prayer in your heart, thereby sweetening your bitter life, until you reached the vault of Heaven, the uttermost desire, O venerable one, crying unto God: *Alleluia!* (*People sing Alleluia!*)

IKOS 10

You showed forth the power of courage in your weak body to be a rampart which the waves of life could not demolish; and submitting to the law of nature and subjected to many sorrows, you reached the end of your life at a goodly old age. And the good God, Who alone is Holy, desiring to see you as a pure pearl, sent you sickness on the second day of His Nativity, that when beholding the Savior of the world, like Symeon you might say to Him in parting: Let your handmaid depart this life in peace, O Master, that I may behold You, my only Glory and the Savior of my sinful soul. And your kinfolk compassionately comforted you well, saying:

Rejoice, you traversed the sea, reaching the calm haven; Rejoice, you left this world, awaiting the Heavenly bridalchamber!

Rejoice, you never condemned anyone and are not condemned by the Judge;

Rejoice, you, having wrought deeds of mercy, entered the ranks of the all-wise virgins!

Rejoice, you have flown aloft to the mansions on high, on wings of dove-like meekness;

Rejoice, you contemplated Christ, the gentle Light of life everlasting!

Rejoice, you like an all-radiant beam flowed into the bridalchamber of the Father;

Rejoice, you have your abode with the choir of the saints in the Holy Spirit!

Rejoice, O merciful Juliana, boast of Murom and adornment of women!

KONTAKION 11

Yearning to hear the chanting of the Angels in the mansions on high, you did not cease to utter tearful prayers even on your deathbed; for, though suffering greatly in body and lying in bed during the day, at night you did secretly rose up to pray, and like a guttering candle gave off your last flame. And when others learned of your nocturnal struggle, O dove of God, you did meekly say to them: God examines the spiritual prayers even of one who is sick. For even the Angels praise Him unceasingly, crying ever: *Alleluia!* (*People sing Alleluia!*)

IKOS 11

Though greatly sanctified by the Holy light, the grace of the Spirit, you considered yourself to be a wretched sinner. Wherefore, trusting only in the mercy of the Savior, you tearfully received the most Holy Mysteries after a fervent confession, O honored one. And thus, united in heart with your Redeemer, and receiving the surety of the eternal Kingdom without doubting, you left your children and to all a testament of love, prayer and almsgiving. And then, lying down, taking up your prayer-rope, and making the sign of the Cross, you did utter your last words: Glory to God for all things! Into Your hands I commit my spirit. Amen. And thus, like a lamp guttering out, you did quietly fly away from the earth to the dwellings of incorruption, in a dream commanding that your body be buried next to your husband and friend. And we, reverently rejoice with your close kinfolk at your unashamed and peaceful repose, following your ascent, sing glorious praise with the Angels, chanting:

Rejoice, you at your final and grievous hour did provide a model of humility;

Rejoice, you were for us an image of prayer until your reflection disappeared!

Rejoice, bride of Christ, whose head the Bridegroom adorned with a crown;

Rejoice, pure and Holy temple who before your end were covered by God with a white kerchief!

Rejoice, your Holy body was more fragrant than the lilies of the field even after death;

Rejoice, you were illuminated at night by candles lit by an invisible power!

Rejoice, you easily passed through the aerial way-stations because of your mercy toward the poor;

Rejoice, you endured many crosses and have reached the Kingdom of God!

Rejoice, O merciful Juliana, boast of Murom and adornment of women!

KONTAKION 12

Having received the grace to offer up prayers for the world from which you had departed, in your love you have not forsaken those who love you and are beloved of you on earth; and having splendidly attained unto the mansions of Heaven, you have been vouchsafed blessed joy with those who passed on before you. And your sons, guided by your spirit, led a pious life, teaching one another to preserve Holy Orthodoxy. And your one daughter,

Theodosia, receiving the monastic rank in your stead, reposed in holiness in the great schema, soaring aloft unto you, like a chick under your wings. And we today, composing heartfelt hymns to you with love, earnestly pray: Entreat Christ God in our behalf, that with you we may all ever offer up to Him, unto the ages of ages, the hymn: *Alleluia!* (*People sing Alleluia!*)

IKOS 12

O Holy woman, the all-glorious Church of Christ sings funeral hymns of gladness unto you, having wondrous and beautifully found your relics to be fragrant; and having reckoned among the choir of the saints you were blessed exceedingly by the Mother of God herself, it now rejoices all-radiantly: for it is meet to glorify those whom God has glorified; for the honor rendered the saints redounds divinely unto God Who rests in the saints. Wherefore, leaping up in our heart and joining the choirs of Angels in the Spirit let us today chant together:

Rejoice, adornment of the land of Murom;

Rejoice, ornament of the nation of Russia!

Rejoice, beauty of Christian women;

Rejoice, summit of Holy mothers!

Rejoice, you were taken to paradise by the Angels;

Rejoice, you have been blessed by the Lord!

Rejoice, boast of your kinsmen;

Rejoice, consolation of all who honor you!

Rejoice, O merciful Juliana, boast of Murom and adornment of women!

KONTAKION 13(To be read three times)

O merciful and pure turtledove, blessed and righteous Juliana! With your love accept these fervent praises, and as a mother full of pity, who cares for your children, beseech the all-merciful Savior, that He grant us help through the divine grace of the Holy Spirit, wherein all the good things of earth and of Heaven are hid; that having been enriched thereby, we may pass through this sorrowful life untroubled, and with you may receive the blessed Kingdom of the all-Holy Trinity, gloriously crying out: *Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!* (*People sing Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

IKOS 1

A pure Angel, from earliest childhood you loved the Angelic monastic life; but the Creator of all, Who arranges all things in the depths of His wisdom, ordained a different path of salvation for you; that you please Him with a Holy life within honorable matrimony. Wherefore, from childhood He led you to the Kingdom of God through many trials: for when you were a maiden, six years of age, you had already become a grieving orphan; and as a young bride you took up the cross of motherhood. And we, though stricken with awe at this wondrous providence, compunctionately praise you with faith:

Rejoice, you who were born into wealth, to parents who loved the poor-Justin and Stephanida; Rejoice, you, deprived of your mother, were raised an orphan outside your father's house!

Rejoice, right fragrant lily who blossomed within the tranquility of the forests of Murom;

Rejoice, radiant star set alight by God in the village of Lazarevo!

Rejoice, you in your heart acquired love for Christ and His allpure Mother;

Rejoice, pure ewe-lamb who from childhood sought the monastic order!

Rejoice, meek and obedient one, who by the will of God was entrusted to a husband;

Rejoice, righteous mother who, having lived in the world, has been numbered among the saints!

Rejoice, O merciful Juliana, boast of Murom and adornment of women!

KONTAKION 1

O righteous and merciful Juliana, who was chosen by God, and amid worldly cares did in your soul live in Christ, as in Heaven; and who did abide in great stillness, loving silence within your heart! Glorifying the Lord Who has glorified you, with compunction we sing to you a hymn of praise. You, who endured grievous sorrows in your life, pray for us, who are tempest-tossed by perils and sins, and entreat the merciful Savior to grant us salvation of soul and deliverance from misfortunes, that, giving thanks unto God, we may glorify you, saying:

Rejoice, O merciful Juliana, boast of Murom and adornment of women!

PRAYERS TO SAINT JULIANA OF LAZAREVO

PRAYER 1

O blessed and righteous Juliana, who was wondrously called the merciful widow by the all-Holy Theotokos! Unto you, a mother full of pity, do we earnestly have recourse, praying that we also may be granted mercy. For, having endured many crosses in your life, and been yourself tried by all things, in your supplications you are able to help us in our bitter trials; for, beset by many sins and weighed down by great sorrows, we are assailed by cruel enemies. Wherefore, O mother who bore your crosses, ask for us the spirit of meekness and patience, sincere repentance of our sins, the power to oppose the invisible foe and to defeat them, and firm trust in the will of God amid all misfortunes and perils, that we may take up our cross without murmuring, unto the salvation of our souls, and may proceed with faith for Christ our Savior. Moreover, beseech the all-merciful Lord, O merciful favorite of God, that He cause to dwell in us, as it did in you, the grace of a heart which has mercy upon all, which blesses even one's enemies, which accuses itself only of sins, as you did: for love has grown exceedingly scarce because of our iniquities; and in name only can we show ourselves to be disciples of Christ, while in heart and deed we are as pagans, caring only for ourselves with love of self. O blessed one, intercede also for the Russian land, and for all who are in dispersion, that they may receive peace and prosperity, and all the more a return to your ancient piety, a quenching of malice and envy, and increase in brotherly love and reconciliation, repentance for our passions, and cleansing and sanctification through grace. That with one mouth and one heart we may all again confess the consubstantial and indivisible Trinity unto the ages of ages. Amen.

PRAYER 2

O merciful Juliana, helper of orphans, mother who bore your cross! With your generous right hand make bestowal upon us who now pray to you, and ask the all-merciful God, Whose very name is love, that He grant us rich mercies. Be a good helper unto mothers who have given birth unto children; a Holy preserver of purity and love within marriage; a wise nurturer of little children and youths; a compassionate comforter of the orphaned and sorrowful; a sympathetic healer of those who are tempest-tossed by sins; a mighty defender of those subjected to trials by their enemies; and a merciful mediator before God and the all-pure Theotokos for all who ask your aid. And pray all the more, O Holy favorite of God, that we be given the grace of the all-Holy Spirit, that preserved thereby and saved unceasingly in this life, with you we may glorify the all-merciful Redeemer, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, to Whom is due glory, with His all-good Father and His Holy and all-compassionate Spirit, unto the ages of ages. **Amen.**

Glorifying God Through His Light 50 Hour Prayer Vigil	
Orthodox Mission Church Serving Coolidge and Florence, AZ Prayer from Holy Trinity Monastery Prepared, edited, and provided by the 50 Hour Prayer Committee Orthodox.Mission.Church@gmail.com	
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