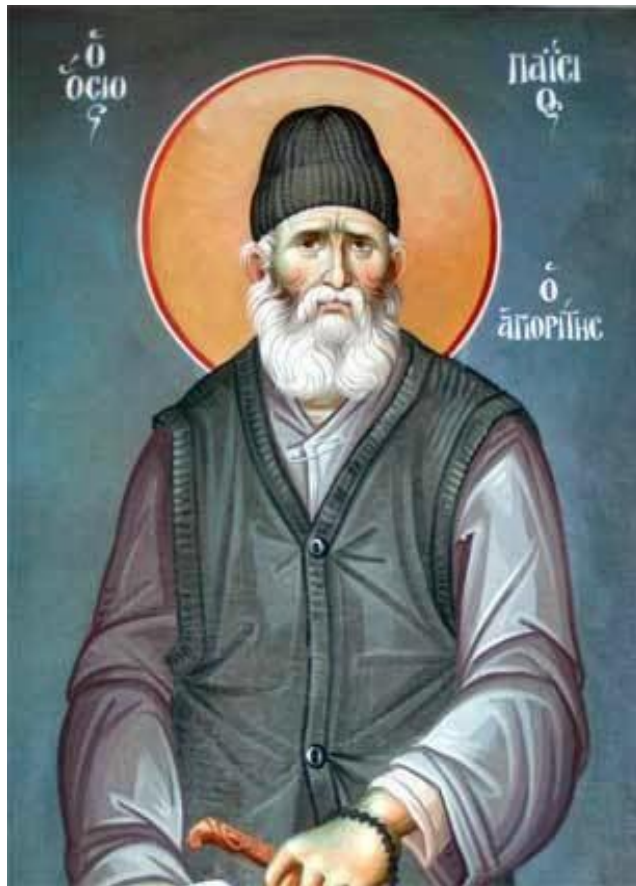


Akathist to Saint Paisios the Athonite



For strengthening against evil thoughts,
becoming repentant, and the healing
of diseases of body and soul

Kontakion 1

Let us believers with one voice all praise him who was sent by God in these times of trial for our comfort and guidance, Paisios the wonderful, who struggled graciously and pleasingly for the Master, burning with love for the whole world and pledged his heart for us and for our salvation. And let us call out to him in thanksgiving, saying:

Rejoice, Blessed Saint Paisios, enlightener of the latter times!

Ikos 1

God ordained that you were born in the blessed land of Cappadocia, the cradle of a countless multitude of Saints, to whom you too were added in perfect worthiness, shining forth together with them and unceasingly guiding us to repentance. Therefore, we praise you with great joy, saying:

Rejoice, you made yourself a precious follower of the Saints of Cappadocia!

Rejoice, you wholly liken yourself to them as a true bearer of God!

Rejoice, most fair and fragrant flower, who has blossomed for our enlightenment!

Rejoice, wellspring of Heavenly Grace, who refreshes the whole world!

Rejoice, sweetest food, who fills the souls that are starved of right teaching!

Rejoice, receptacle that has gathered all our weaknesses, troubles and sorrows!

Rejoice, pillar of fire, who are the unshakable support of those that desire to gain salvation!

Rejoice, star that shines in the firmament of the Church, guiding us to the everlasting mansions!

Rejoice, you were shown to be a blessing of God and a sign of His ineffable mercy!

Rejoice, Blessed Saint Paisios, enlightener of the latter times!

Kontakion 2

You were chosen from your mother's womb to give yourself up to God in all things and became a precious vessel to Him, for the salvation and guidance of all that put their hope in you. To Him, Who worked great wonders and mercy through you, for such a blessing we all sing with joy the song: *Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)*

Ikos 2

The Baptism which you received from the hands of the Saint of God, Arsenius, was a sign of God's Grace resting on you. For seeing your many gifts in spirit, from your early infancy he blessed you to be his disciple and bear his name. Therefore, despite our unworthiness, we honor you, saying:

Rejoice, you were found worthy to be baptized by Saint Arsenios the Cappadocian!

Rejoice, he foresaw all that was to come to pass with you!

Rejoice, his spirit rejoiced, seeing such blessed fruit sprung forth from the flock that he shepherded!

Rejoice, on account of this he cared for you unceasingly through all his earthly life!

Rejoice, even after departing to Heaven he did not forsake you, but all the more interceded for you!

Rejoice, you honored him as befitting, piously reckoning him to be your Saint in Christ!

Rejoice, you struggled heartily for his glorification, gathering testimonies of his wondrous life!

Rejoice, the Saint of God blessed you to find his most beloved

relics, which became a fount of countless healings!
Rejoice, lovingly you laid his revered body in the monastery
founded by you at Souroti!

Rejoice, Blessed Saint Paisios, enlightener of the latter times!

Kontakion 3

Moving to Greece because of the tyrannical Turkish persecution, your parents came to the land of Konitsa, and sacrificing yourself, you began to ascend the godly ladder of perfection. For even since childhood, you were shown to be a guiding light for all those around you, who, seeing your precious gifts, glorified God, saying: *Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)*

Ikos 3

Instructed by the example of your parents, from a young age you strived with burning zeal for the love of Christ, showing the deeds of a perfect man. For following your blessed mother, before long you began to fast strictly and pray unceasingly to God, a hermit by life, yet a child by age. Wondering at the manliness of your heart, with joy we sing to you:

Rejoice, while young you forsook the fleeting lusts of this world!

Rejoice, through perfect fasting you preserved unspoiled the crown of virginity!

Rejoice, your youth did not prevent you from acquiring unceasing prayer in solitude!

Rejoice, instead of reveling in childish games, you delighted in ever being with Christ and His Saints!

Rejoice, on account of this you avoided the friendship of those that divided you from your ardent love!

Rejoice, you did not only strive for outward things, but also adorned your soul with all virtue!

Rejoice, you followed the kindness and devoutness of your blessed mother!

Rejoice, she set you an unspoiled example of love and utter self-sacrifice!

Rejoice, we all wonder at the courage with which you began to fight the good fight!

Rejoice, Blessed Saint Paisios, enlightener of the latter times!

Kontakion 4

Called to battle to defend your country from the unbelievers, you shown forth in your boundless courage. For, wholly forsaking the love of self, you sought to be amid peril, in order to spare those that fought together with you. And seeing this, they all thanked God for such support, saying: *Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)*

Ikos 4

You used the war as a means of sanctification, for you unceasingly grew in love beyond passion, sacrificing your soul for the sake of your friends. And you won immortal crowns from Christ our God, Who makes Himself a hundredfold reward for all sacrifice. Understanding this, we too hasten to bring words like these to praise you:

Rejoice, you were a wonderful example of utter self-sacrifice in battle!

Rejoice, you utterly scorned this earthly life, earning Heavenly life!

Rejoice, you did not lose your piety in the dread perils which you endured!

Rejoice, through the greatness of your soul, you made yourself a light of sanctification to those around you!

Rejoice, you helped in and out of season all in trouble and sorrow!

Rejoice, you utterly overcame human fear, arming yourself with iron courage!

Rejoice, fighting against the enemies of your country, you also secretly fought against the enemies of your soul!

Rejoice, although you wished to die in place of your friends, God shielded you as His most beloved one!

Rejoice, through the wonderful power of your soul, you showed us also the path to perfection!

Rejoice, Blessed Saint Paisios, enlightener of the latter times!

Kontakion 5

With burning zeal, you forsook the world, and wholly dedicated yourself to Christ, joining the army of monks, who unceasingly struggle to overcome their nature. And in a short time, you became an angel in the flesh, wholly clothing yourself in Him, to Whom we too humbly sing: ***Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)***

Ikos 5

You withdrew to the blessed desert of Sinai in order to serve Christ, and overcoming the lusts of the world, you became perfect man, shining forth with all virtue and burning with true love for God, Who through you bestowed on us the abundance of His mercy. Therefore, despite our unworthiness, we thank you, saying:

Rejoice, angelic man, for you reckoned all worldly lusts as vanity!

Rejoice, you strove for three years in the harsh desert of Sinai!

Rejoice, unknown by all, you lived there in a hidden cave,
enduring heat and frost!

Rejoice, there you fought with your blood against all desires!

Rejoice, through your great meekness, you have utterly defeated
the cunning demons!

Rejoice, you washed from yourself all the filth of sin, becoming
a true light of Christ!

Rejoice, you began to pray with fervent tears for the whole
world!

Rejoice, seeing your overwhelming sacrifice, God filled you
with gifts beyond nature!

Rejoice, in your narrow cave, you were vouchsafed countless
revelations of Divine Grace!

Rejoice, Blessed Saint Paisios, enlightener of the latter times!

Kontakion 6

After fighting the good fight in Sinai, you were called by the Mother of God to her earthly garden, the Holy Mount of Athos, the blossom and light of Orthodoxy. And foreseeing there the place of your perfection, you thanked the Most Holy Queen for her wondrous protecting veil, with which she unceasingly shields the whole world from troubles and sufferings; and with joy you sang to her Son the sweet song: *Alleluia!* (*People sing Alleluia!*)

Ikos 6

Arriving on the Holy Mountain and taken to many places by the Grace of God, you ascended the ladder of holiness, like a wise bee gathering from everywhere the sweetest spiritual nectar. And afterward you became the son of Saint Tikhon, the Spirit-bearing Elder who was full of virtue and

whom you followed in absolute obedience. Therefore, with feeble voices we sing to you:

Rejoice, God foreordained glorification for you on blessed Mount Athos!

Rejoice, He entrusted you to the care of His Most Pure Mother, who guarded you as Her beloved son!

Rejoice, overshadowed by the Holy Spirit, you wandered over the whole Mountain, seeking out Saints of Holy life!

Rejoice, you wondered at their unceasing prayers, through which God shed His mercy on the whole world!

Rejoice, you strove to write their lives too, for the glory of God and the profit of men!

Rejoice, afterward you became the disciple of Blessed Saint Tikhon, one perfected in holiness!

Rejoice, you served him with endless love, in all things trusting in his wise guidance!

Rejoice, seeing your utter obedience, God also gave you the gift to abide in your Holy Saint!

Rejoice, after his repose, Blessed Tikhon revealed to you that he would pray for you unceasingly!

Rejoice, Blessed Saint Paisios, enlightener of the latter times!

Kontakion 7

Perfecting yourself in absolute love, you made yourself a tool of God, Who began to work through you with great power. For He made you a comfort for all those that were troubled and a guide for those that were

darkened in sin. We all thank God for giving you to us for our salvation, and we sing to Him: *Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)*

Ikos 7

Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Saint that is in Heaven, said the Savior of the world with true voice. For in you too, His Word was fulfilled with all power. Therefore, we praise you too, saying:

Rejoice, you have taught the world through books enlightened by the Holy Spirit!

Rejoice, you through words of great profit have dispelled the ignorance of our times!

Rejoice, trumpet of the Spirit, who heralded to all the joy of repentance!

Rejoice, wondrous prophet, who showed us that we live in the end times!

Rejoice, merciful healer of all diseases which cannot be healed!

Rejoice, precious caregiver for all whose souls are burdened with sorrows!

Rejoice, godly oil, that has cleansed all our wounds!

Rejoice, Heavenly peace, that have brought so many broken families back together!

Rejoice, skillful guide that has removed all devilish snares from among the people!

Rejoice, Blessed Saint Paisios, enlightener of the latter times!

Kontakion 8

Seeing the terrible struggle conducted by the enemy of salvation against the family blessed by God, you girded yourself with the weapon of the word, teaching spouses that only patience, long-suffering, forbearance and

self-sacrifice with love can ensure the peace of their homes. Unceasingly we glorify God for sending you to show us the right way, and we sing:
Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)

Ikos 8

Give me Christian mothers and I will give you Saints to change the world, said the godly Chrysostom. And touched by this truth, you struggled with prayers and advice, showing faithful spouses that peace in the family is the fruit of the Holy Spirit, and that they must wisely strive for this. We all thank you for your effort to bring healing to our families, so cruelly struck by temptations, saying:

Rejoice, intercessor before God for the harmony of those in married life!

Rejoice, for the faithful spouses who you advised to live in moderation and holiness!

Rejoice, you teach them lovingly and unselfishly to bear one another's weaknesses!

Rejoice, you show the parents that through prayer the Grace of God descends on the whole family, bringing peace and happiness!

Rejoice, you struggled against all sins, seeing them as the cause of the falling apart of families!

Rejoice, you made yourself an unyielding reprover of the horrible slaughter of infants!

Rejoice, you told faithful mothers that through the example of their lives they can turn their children into Saints!

Rejoice, you showed the young that through obedience they attract the mercy of God and a peaceful life!

Rejoice, you beseeched them to earn their parents' blessings, through which comes also the blessing of the Holy Spirit!

Rejoice, Blessed Saint Paisios, enlightener of the latter times!

Kontakion 9

Let us now joyfully praise Paisios, our intercessor, who through his heartfelt prayers miraculously healed all our sufferings, both in body and soul. And let us sing with thanksgiving to God, Who is glorified in the Holy Trinity: *Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)*

Ikos 9

You made yourself the healer of all diseases through the gift given to you by God. For burning with love and pity for those tormented by afflictions, you selflessly pray for their relief, teaching them to thank God for all things. We all praise you with one voice, saying:

Rejoice, strong weapon against the horrible disease of cancer!
Rejoice, tireless caregiver for those that suffer in terrible pain!
Rejoice, wellspring of healing, in which all those wounded in soul refresh themselves!

Rejoice, banisher of demons, for with your meekness you crush all the wickedness and tyranny of the devil!

Rejoice, most merciful Saint, for you could not bear to see the people crushed under the weight of their sufferings of body and soul!

Rejoice, for on account of this you took upon yourself all our troubles and sorrows!

Rejoice, you selflessly pray that God might give you our weaknesses!

Rejoice, you taught us that all sorrows come through straying from God and His commandments!

Rejoice, you have shown us that the reward for those that suffer with patience and glorify God is ineffable!

Rejoice, Blessed Saint Paisios, enlightener of the latter times!

Kontakion 10

The Lord and Savior of the world promised a great reward to those that would strive in righteousness for the perfection of others. And though a simple monk and unlearned in worldly things, you were gifted with wisdom by the Spirit of the Lord Himself, to guide thousands on the path of salvation. So now you pray for them to God, to Whom with joy we too sing: *Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)*

Ikos 10

On account of your complete virtue, God adorned you with gifts beyond nature, which you used for His glory and the profit of men. For you made yourself a Saint of countless believers, who beset by the terrible temptations of our times, sought you as a Heavenly haven. And therefore, we ask you to accept us too among your spiritual children and allow us to sing with thanksgiving to you:

Rejoice, you teach the people to struggle against the evil thoughts sown in their minds by the enemy of our salvation!

Rejoice, shining with the gift of discernment, you at once revealed to your sons whether their thoughts were from God or from the devil!

Rejoice, by the Grace of God you knew the depths of the hearts of men!

Rejoice, having great wisdom, you have brought to nothing all the cunning snares of the evil one!

Rejoice, you brought many to repentance through your unfeigned love!

Rejoice, you made yourself a wise reproof of the proud and stubborn!

Rejoice, you were a tender caress for those in despair and overwhelmed by temptations!

Rejoice, you wept unceasingly for all that looked to you as a true hope of salvation!

Rejoice, on the Day of Judgment you shall say to God with sweet joy: Behold I and the children that you have given me!

Rejoice, Blessed Saint Paisios, enlightener of the latter times!

Kontakion 11

Becoming a perfect monk, and full of the Grace of God, you made yourself the steadfast hope of the uncomforted souls of those who desired to dedicate themselves wholly to Christ. And in your gifts, they all saw in you a guide enlightened by the Holy Spirit. Therefore, we praise God, Who did not deprive His flock of shepherds of Holy life, saying: *Alleluia!* (*People sing Alleluia!*)

Ikos 11

You found a convent in Souroti, where your finest spiritual daughters would dedicate themselves to Christ the Bridegroom with great love. And then you lead them to perfection through your most wondrous counsel, as a loving and long-suffering Saint, who is to us also an undeceiving guide. Therefore, we all bless you, saying:

Rejoice, you founded the convent of Saint John the Theologian in Souroti!

Rejoice, this became a haven of salvation for souls that thirsted for Christ!

Rejoice, you strove in and out of season to make the nuns into perfect brides of our Lord!

Rejoice, you taught them true monastic life, signifying to forsake the world and its lusts!

Rejoice, you strove unceasingly to kindle their zeal for blessed ascetic feats!

Rejoice, you guided them to frequent confession of sins, through which all the devil's works are utterly despoiled!

Rejoice, your counsel fell on fruitful earth and refreshed the whole world!

Rejoice, you struggled diligently against the spirit of this world, which can cause terrible harm to monastic life!

Rejoice, through your courage and love you made yourself an example of spiritual victory for all monks!

Rejoice, Blessed Saint Paisios, enlightener of the latter times!

Kontakion 12

Great was the Grace of God on you, and also His great mercy, for on account of your great self-sacrifice, the Almighty vouchsafed you wonderful revelations and joys beyond belief. We too rejoice, seeing the reward that God gives His Saints, and we beg Him to make us partakers and we sing to Him: ***Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)***

Ikos 12

Even from this earth, you tasted of the joys of Heaven, prepared by our All-Merciful God for all that serve Him with love. For although the struggles which the evil one conducted against you were terrible, so much greater were the consolations through which God strengthened you in virtue. Therefore, in humble praise, we sing to you:

Rejoice, all-sweet light, through which Christ shines forth to the whole world!

Rejoice, wonderful flame that you kindle in us with the love of God!
Rejoice, you made yourself the perfect abode of Heavenly Grace!
Rejoice, in you it bore all the fruits of holiness!
Rejoice, God overwhelmed you with His gifts beyond nature!
Rejoice, you do taste of everlasting and uncreated light!
Rejoice, you do live with the Saints as with your close friends!
Rejoice, the Most Gracious Mother of our Lord appeared to you to strengthen you in sorrows!
Rejoice, ineffable wonder, for you were vouchsafed to speak to Christ Our Lord and God Himself!

Rejoice, Blessed Saint Paisios, enlightener of the latter times!

Kontakion 13

(To be read three times)

You said with words enlightened by the Holy Spirit that many Saints would have desired to live in our times, in order to strive for salvation. For you heralded to us who live in darkness, that the time is almost ready and that those that now struggle valiantly to win their salvation will receive a martyr's reward. For this we thank God, Who with mercy looked on His people, sending His Saint for our enlightenment, and with voices of joy we gladly sing to our All-Gracious Master the song: *Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!* (People sing *Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*)

Ikos 1

God ordained that you were born in the blessed land of Cappadocia, the cradle of a countless multitude of Saints, to whom you too were added in perfect wonder, shining forth together with them and unceasingly guiding us to repentance. Therefore, we praise you with great joy, saying:

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Rejoice, receptacle that has gathered all our weaknesses, troubles and sorrows!

Rejoice, pillar of fire, who are the unshakable support of those that desire to gain salvation!

Rejoice, star that shines in the firmament of the Church, guiding us to the everlasting mansions!

Rejoice, you were shown to be a blessing of God and a sign of His ineffable mercy!

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Kontakion 1

Let us believers with one voice all praise him who was sent by God in these times of trial for our comfort and guidance, Paisios the wonderful, who struggled graciously and pleasingly for the Master, burning with love for the whole world and pledged his heart for us and for our salvation. And let us call out to him in thanksgiving, saying:

Rejoice, Blessed Saint Paisios, enlightener of the latter times!

Prayer to our Blessed Saint Paisios the Athonite

Beloved Saint Paisios, you ascended the rungs of holiness and became perfect in virtue, therefore gaining boldness before our Merciful God, pray to Him, Whom you served unceasingly all your life, and not to let us perish for the multitude of our sins, but to turn us back to blessed repentance. You on earth healed with such love our countless weaknesses, diseases both of body and soul, and can now deliver us from all sufferings. So, have mercy on us, through your immeasurable love and godly kindness, not forsaking us that are full of sins. You never tire of guiding us to salvation and bearing our weaknesses while you were here with us, now grant us also the wisdom to overcome the temptations which the wicked devil weaves around us and through which he would destroy our souls for eternity. Enlighten us to know the will of God for us and pray to the Master that He might give us power to fulfill it with thanksgiving. You set an unwavering example of courage and self-sacrifice, strengthen us also to follow your virtue, that we may win an everlasting crown, of which you yourself were found most worthy. Do not forsake us, who ceaselessly anger our long-suffering God, but rather stand with boldness before His throne, interceding for us with tears, that God may grant us salvation. And thanking you with all our heart for all that you have done and still do for us, let us also thank our Most Gracious God, Who is glorified in the Holy Trinity, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages. **Amen.**

Glorifying God Through His Light
50 Hour Prayer Vigil

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