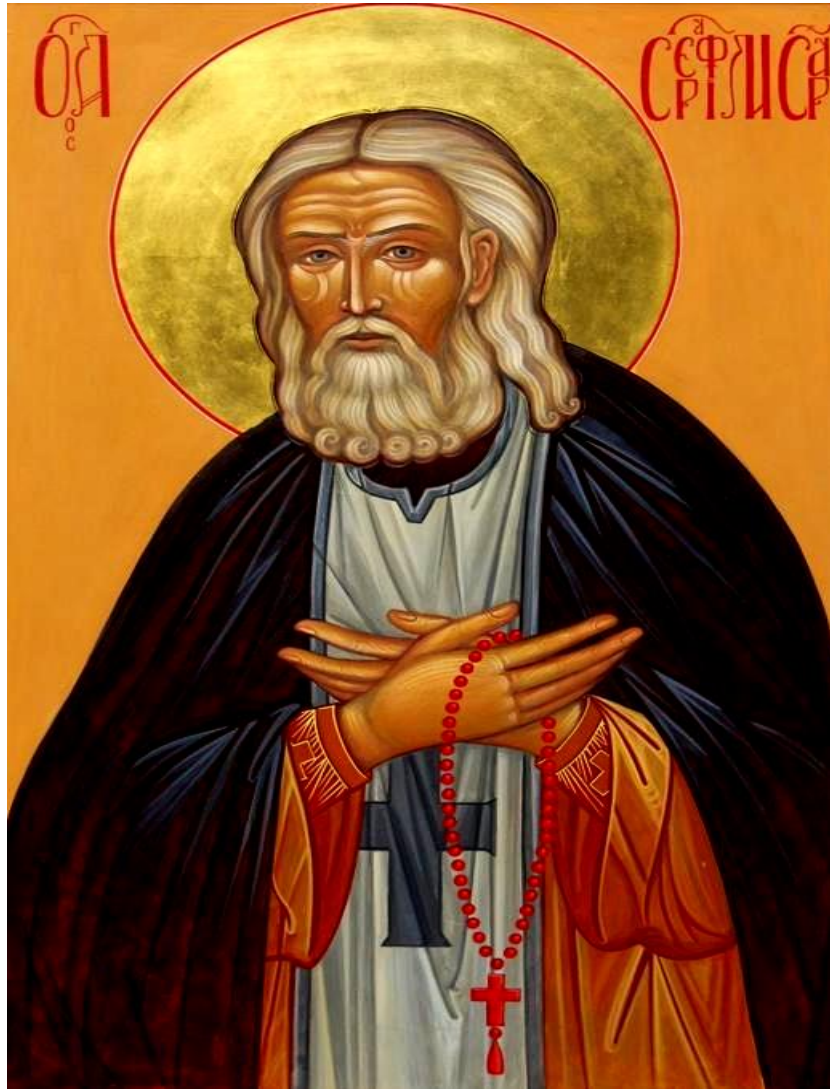


AKATHIST TO OUR HOLY AND
GOD-BEARING
FATHER SERAPHIM,
WONDERWORKER OF SAROV



For Strength of our Orthodox Hierarchy
For True Repentance

Kontakion 1

Chosen wonderworker and most marvelous servant of Christ, our speedy helper and intercessor, Holy Father Seraphim! While magnifying the Lord Who glorified you, we sing praises to you. And as you have great boldness toward the Lord, free from all dangers us who cry:

Rejoice, Saint Seraphim, Wonderworker of Sarov!

Ikos 1

The Creator of angels chose you from the beginning, that by your life you might glorify the most wonderful name of the Holy Trinity, for you were truly shown to be an angel on earth and a Seraphim in the flesh, for your life shone as a bright ray of the eternal Sun of Righteousness. And beholding your most laudable labors, with reverence and joy we say to you such things as these:

Rejoice, rule of faith and piety!

Rejoice, model of meekness and humility!

Rejoice, glorious magnification of the faithful!

Rejoice, most gentle consolation of the sorrowful!

Rejoice, most beloved boast of monks!

Rejoice, most wondrous help of those living in the world!

Rejoice, glory and defense of the Russian realm!

Rejoice, sacred adornment of the land of Tabov!

Rejoice, Saint Seraphim, Wonderworker of Sarov!

Kontakion 2

Seeing your fervent love for the monastic life, your mother recognized the Lord's holy will concerning you, Holy Father Seraphim. And offering you as a perfect gift to God, she blessed you for the narrow monastic way with her holy cross,

which you wore upon your breast to the end of your life, signifying your great love for Christ God Who was crucified for us, to Whom we all cry with compunction: **Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)**

Ikos 2

Heavenly knowledge was bestowed upon you, O Saint of God; from your youth not ceasing to ponder heavenly things, you left your father's house for the sake of the Kingdom of God and His righteousness. Therefore accept from us these praises:

Rejoice, divinely chosen child of the city of Kursk!
Rejoice, most precious offspring of pious parents!
Rejoice, you inherited your mother's virtue!
Rejoice, you were taught by her prayer and piety!
Rejoice, you were blessed for ascetical labors with a cross from your mother!
Rejoice, you kept this blessing as sacred until death!
Rejoice, you left your father's house out of love for the Lord!
Rejoice, you counted all the beautiful things of this world as nothing!

Rejoice, Saint Seraphim, Wonderworker of Sarov!

Kontakion 3

From your youth the power of the Most High truly preserved you, O Saint. For having fallen from the height of the church, you were kept by the Lord unharmed; and when you were suffering cruelly, the Sovereign Lady of the world Herself appeared and brought healing from the heavens, because you had faithfully served God from childhood, ever crying to Him: **Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)**

Ikos 3

Having zeal for the ascetical calling of the angelic monastic life, you went to the holy city of Kiev to venerate the saints of the Caves, and having received from the lips of Saint Dositheus the command to depart into the desert of Sarov, you kissed that holy place from afar by faith, and having settled there, you ended your God-pleasing life. And marveling at God's providence concerning you, with compunction we cry to you:

Rejoice, you who renounced worldly vanities!

Rejoice, you who ardently desired the heavenly homeland!

Rejoice, you who loved Christ with all your heart!

Rejoice, you who took upon yourself the easy yoke of Christ!

Rejoice, you who were filled with perfect obedience!

Rejoice, faithful keeper of the Lord's holy commandments!

Rejoice, you who established your mind and heart in God by prayer!

Rejoice, unshakable pillar of piety!

Rejoice, Saint Seraphim, Wonderworker of Sarov!

Kontakion 4

Stilling the storm of evil temptations, you traversed all the narrow and sorrowful paths of the monastic struggle, and bearing the yoke of a hermit's life, seclusion and silence, and nightly vigils; and by the Grace of God mounting from strength to strength, from activity to divine contemplation, you made your abode in the heavenly mansions, where with the angels you chant to God: **Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)**

Ikos 4

Hearing of and beholding your holy life, O holy Father Seraphim, all the brethren were amazed at you and coming to you were taught by your words and struggles, glorifying the Lord Who is wondrous in His saints. And with faith and love we all praise you, holy father, and cry out to you thus:

Rejoice, you who offered your whole self as a sacrifice to the Lord!

Rejoice, you who mounted to the summit of dispassion!

Rejoice, victorious soldier of Christ!

Rejoice, good and faithful servant of the heavenly Master!

Rejoice, unashamed mediator for us before the Lord!

Rejoice, our unsleeping supplicant to the Theotokos!

Rejoice, desert lily of wonderful fragrance!

Rejoice, spotless vessel of the Grace of God!

Rejoice, Saint Seraphim, Wonderworker of Sarov!

Kontakion 5

Divine light illumined your dwelling, O Saint, when the most pure Virgin Herself, with the holy Apostles Peter and John, came to you lying sick upon your bed, and said:

He is one of ours, touching your head. And being immediately healed, in gratitude you sang to the Lord: **Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)**

Ikos 5

Seeing your pure and holy life, Saint Seraphim, the enemy of the human race desired to destroy you, for he led evil men to you who wickedly attacked you and left you scarcely alive. But you, holy father, like a meek lamb, endured everything,

praying to the Lord for them that wronged you. Wherefore, marveling at your goodness, we all cry to you:

Rejoice, you who followed the example of Christ God in your meekness and humility!

Rejoice, you who conquered the spirit of malice by your goodness!

Rejoice, zealous guardian of spiritual and bodily purity!

Rejoice, wilderness-dweller, filled to overflowing with the gifts of grace!

Rejoice, clairvoyant ascetic glorified by God!

Rejoice, most marvelous and divinely wise guide of monks!

Rejoice, boast and joy of the Holy Church!

Rejoice, glory and adornment of Sarov monastery!

Rejoice, Saint Seraphim, Wonderworker of Sarov!

Kontakion 6

The wilderness of Sarov proclaims your struggles and labors, O God-bearing servant of Christ; for you made fragrant its dales and forests, emulating God's prophet Elias and the Lord's Baptizer John, and you were shown to be a most fruitful blossoming of the wilderness through the gifts of the Holy Spirit, by Whose working you accomplished many and most glorious things, moving the faithful to sing to God, the Giver of good things: **Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)**

Ikos 6

A new God-seer like Moses shone forth in you, O blessed Seraphim, for while blamelessly performing your ministry within the altar of the Lord,

you were vouchsafed to see Christ coming into the temple with the Bodiless Hosts. Marveling at this, God's good will toward you, we sing to you thus:

Rejoice, God-seer most glorious!

Rejoice, you who were illumined by the thrice-radiant Light!

Rejoice, faithful servant of the Most Holy Trinity!

Rejoice, habitation adorned of the Holy Spirit!

Rejoice, you who saw face to face with your bodily eyes Christ and the angels!

Rejoice, you who while in a body of clay foretasted the sweetness of Paradise!

Rejoice, you who were nourished with the Bread of Life!

Rejoice, you who were filled with the water of immortality!

Rejoice, Saint Seraphim, Wonderworker of Sarov!

Kontakion 7

Desiring to manifest in you, O Saint, His ineffable loving-kindness toward man, the Lord, the Lover of mankind, showed you to be truly a divinely radiant light, for by your words and deeds you led all to piety and love of God. Wherefore, illumined by the radiance of your struggles and filled with the bread of your teaching, we fervently magnify you and cry to Christ who glorified you: **Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)**

Ikos 7

Perceiving you to be a new chosen one of God, the faithful hastened to you from afar with their troubles and sufferings, and you did not turn away those who were weighed down by misfortune, pouring forth healing, granting comfort,

and interceding in prayer. Wherefore, the report of your miracles went throughout the whole Russian land, and your spiritual children glorify you thus:

Rejoice, O our good shepherd!
Rejoice, meek and merciful father!
Rejoice, our speedy and gracious physician!
Rejoice, merciful healer of our infirmities!
Rejoice, speedy helper in misfortune and adversity!
Rejoice, sweet calmer of troubled souls!
Rejoice, you who foresaw the future as present!
Rejoice, clairvoyant discloser of hidden sins!
Rejoice, Saint Seraphim, Wonderworker of Sarov!

Kontakion 8

A strange wonder do we behold in you, O holy one, for though a weak and feeble old man, you continued in prayer on a rock for a thousand days and nights. Who can tell of the pains and struggles you endured, O blessed father, lifting up your holy hands to God, conquering the spiritual Amalek and chanting to the Lord: **Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)**

Ikos 8

You are all my desire, all my sweetness, O sweetest Jesus! Thus, did you cry out in prayer in your solitary silence. And we, darkened by vanity and having wasted all our life in sin, cry to you thus, as we praise your love for the Lord:

Rejoice, mediator of salvation to those who love and honor you!
Rejoice, you who led sinners to correction!

Rejoice, most wonderful recluse and solitary!
Rejoice, fervent intercessor for us!
Rejoice, you who showed flaming love for the Lord!
Rejoice, you who by the fire of prayer burned the arrows of
the enemy!
Rejoice, unquenchable candle, kindled by prayer in the
wilderness!
Rejoice, lamp, burning and glowing with spiritual gifts!

Rejoice, Saint Seraphim, Wonderworker of Sarov!

Kontakion 9

All angelic beings marveled at the strange sight, for the Queen of Heaven and earth appeared to an elder in seclusion, commanding him to open his cell and not to forbid Orthodox people to come to him, that he might teach all to chant to Christ God: **Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)**

Ikos 9

The most eloquent orators cannot express the strength of your love, O blessed one; for, fulfilling the commandment of the Mother of God, you devoted yourself to the service of all who came to you, and you were a good counselor to those in doubt, a comforter of the despondent, a meek corrector of those who had gone astray, a physician and healer of the sick. Therefore, we cry to you:

Rejoice, you who left the world and dwelt in the wilderness in order to obtain the virtues!

Rejoice, you who returned to the monastery from the wilderness that you might sow the seeds of virtue!

Rejoice, you who were radiant with the grace of the Holy Spirit!

Rejoice, you who were filled with humility and meekness!

Rejoice, loving father to all who flocked to you!

Rejoice, you who gave them encouragement and consolation in words of love!

Rejoice, you who called those who came to you joy and treasure!

Rejoice, you who for your holy love was vouchsafed the joys of the heavenly Kingdom!

Rejoice, Saint Seraphim, Wonderworker of Sarov!

Kontakion 10

Having reached the end of your saving struggle, O Saint, kneeling in prayer you surrender into the hands of God your holy soul, which the holy angels bore aloft to the throne of the Almighty, that you might stand with all the saints in eternal glory, singing a hymn of praise to the Word, the holiest of the holy: **Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)**

Ikos 10

The Most Holy Virgin who is a bulwark for all saints and a joy to monks, appeared to you before your repose, foretelling your imminent departure to God. And we, marveling at such a visitation by the Mother of God, cry to you:

Rejoice, you who beheld the Queen of Heaven and earth face to face!

Rejoice, you who was gladdened by the appearance of the Mother of God!

Rejoice, you who received news from Her of your passing to Heaven!

Rejoice, you who by your righteous repose showed the holiness of your life!

Rejoice, you who surrendered your contrite spirit to God in prayer before an icon of the Mother of God!

Rejoice, you who fulfilled your prophecies by a painless death!

Rejoice, you who were crowned with the crown of immortality by the hand of the Almighty!

Rejoice, you who inherited the bliss of Paradise with all the saints!

Rejoice, Saint Seraphim, Wonderworker of Sarov!

Kontakion 11

Offering unceasing song to the Most Holy Trinity, O Saint, by your whole life you were shown to be a great ascetic of piety, a corrector of those astray, and the healing of soul and body for the sick. And we, being grateful to the Lord for His mercy to us, continually cry to him: **Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)**

Ikos 11

Being a light-giving beacon in life and after your death, O divinely blessed father, you shone forth as a brilliant luminary in the land of Russia; for you pour forth streams of miracles from your precious relics for all who with faith and love hasten to you. Wherefore, as you are a fervent intercessor and wonderworker for us, we cry to thee:

Rejoice, you whom the Lord glorified by a multitude of miracles!

Rejoice, you who light up the whole world with your love!
Rejoice, faithful follower of the love of Christ!
Rejoice, comfort to all who need your help!
Rejoice, unfailing fountain of wonders!
Rejoice, healer of the sick and infirm!
Rejoice, inexhaustible well of healing water!
Rejoice, for you embraced all the ends of our earth with
your love!

Rejoice, Saint Seraphim, Wonderworker of Sarov!

Kontakion 12

Knowing your Grace and great boldness before God, we entreat you, holy father: Pray fervently to the Lord that He will preserve His Holy Church from unbelief and schism, from danger and temptation, that we may chant to God Who through you does good things for us: **Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)**

Ikos 12

Singing praises at your glorification, we bless you, O Saint, as a mighty intercessor for us before the Lord, a comforter and helper, and with love we exclaim to you thus:

Rejoice, boast of the Orthodox Church!
Rejoice, shield and bulwark of our homeland!
Rejoice, guide who leads all to Heaven!
Rejoice, our defender and protector!
Rejoice, you who worked many miracles through the power
of God!
Rejoice, you who healed many of the ailing with your
garment!
Rejoice, you who conquered all the snares of the devil!

Rejoice, you who tamed wild beasts with your meekness!
Rejoice, Saint Seraphim, Wonderworker of Sarov!

Kontakion 13
(To Be Read Three Times)

O most wondrous saint and great wonderworker, holy Father Seraphim, accept this our small supplication offered to you in praise; and standing now before the throne of the King of kings, our Lord Jesus Christ, pray for all of us that we may obtain His mercy at the day of Judgment, chanting for joy to Him: **Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!)**

Kontakion 1

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Rejoice, most beloved boast of monks!
Rejoice, most wondrous help of those living in the world!
Rejoice, glory and defense of the Russian realm!
Rejoice, sacred adornment of the land of Tambov!
Rejoice, Saint Seraphim, Wonderworker of Sarov!

First Prayer

O most wondrous Father Seraphim, you great wonderworker of Sarov, ready helper of all that have recourse to you! During your earthly life none went away from you empty and without consolation, but the sight of your face and kindly sound of your words was sweetness to all, for to them the gift of healing, the gift of clairvoyance, the gift of treating afflicted souls, appeared abundant in you. And when God summoned you from your earthly labors to heavenly rest, in no way did your love abandon us, and it is not possible to count your miracles, which are as numerous as the stars of heaven. For lo, you appeared to the people of God throughout all the ends of our world, and granted them healing. Wherefore, we cry out to you: O most gentle and meek saint of God, bold intercessor before Him Who in no way turns away them that call upon you: offer up your mighty prayer for us to the Lord of hosts, that He strengthen our Orthodox hierarchy and grant us all that is needful in this life and all that is profitable for the salvation of our souls, that He keep us from falling into sin and teach us true repentance, wherein without incurring offence we may enter into the heavenly Kingdom, where you now shine in unfading glory, and there with all the saints hymn the life-originating Trinity unto the end of the ages.
Amen.

Second Prayer

O great servant of God, our venerable and God-bearing Father Seraphim! Look down from the heights of glory upon us, the lowly and infirm, weighed down by many sins, who entreat your help and comfort. Look down upon us in your compassion, and help us to keep the commandments of the Lord blamelessly, to hold fast to the Orthodox Faith, to offer repentance earnestly to God in our sinfulness, through Grace to progress in Christian piety and to be worthy of your intercession before God for us. Yes, O saint of God, hear us that entreat you with faith and love, and disdain us not that are in need of your defense. Now and at the hour of our death, help us and by your prayers defend us from the evil wiles of the devil, that their power not prevail over us, but that by your aid we be vouchsafed to inherit the bliss of the mansions of paradise. For in you do we now place our hope, O compassionate father: be truly to us a guide to salvation, and lead us to the unwaning light of eternal life by your God-pleasing intercession at the throne of the Most-Holy Trinity, that with all the saints we may glorify and hymn the right-worshipful Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy 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
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