

Akathist to the Theotokos: Nurturer of Children



For the Nurturing and Protection of Children
Both Born and the Unborn

Kontakion 1

Victorious Leader and good nurturer of the Christian Race, we your servants, delivered from evil, sing out grateful thanks to you. But as you have invincible might, deliver our children from all dangers that with tears I may cry to you: Raise our children (names), to be made worthy of the Kingdom of Heaven, and make them heirs of eternal blessings.

Ikos 1

Intercede with Your Son and God, O most Holy One that an Angel from Heaven be sent to our children, just as to you were sent a most Mighty Protector, the Archangel Gabriel; and vouchsafe me to cry to you thus:

Raise our children to be earthly Angels.
Raise our children to be Heavenly men.
Raise our children to be you servants.
Raise our children to cry out to you.
“Rejoice, O Full of Grace, the Lord is
with you!”

Raise our children (names), O Lady, to be made worthy of the Kingdom Of Heaven and make them heirs of eternal blessings.

Kontakion 2

As you see our maternal entreaty for our children, begging help of you alone; do you take them under your honorable and compassionate protection that we may cry to God:

Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)

Ikos 2

Send our children understanding, that they may know how to serve you well; fill their hearts with heavenly wisdom and grant that they may love it alone and scorn the things of the world. Do not hinder our lips from crying such things as these:

Raise our children to be wise as serpents

And as innocent as doves.

Raise our children to have knowledge of good but not of sin.

Raise our children to be wise against the snares of the devil.

Raise our children to order their lives wisely, following the examples of the saints.

Raise our children, nourishing them with the milk of the hidden Wisdom of God, that they may seek it all of their lives.

Raise our children (names), O Lady, to be made worthy of the Kingdom of Heaven and make them heirs of eternal blessings.

Kontakion 3

May the power of the Most High overshadow our children through your unceasing intercession before your Son, and on account of this, having come to know your maternal compassion towards all who run to God with faith, may they cry to God: *Alleluia!*
(People sing Alleluia!)

Ikos 3

Having received our children from God, I do not desire to behold them dwelling in eternal torment, but rather to see them written in the Book of Life and made inheritors of eternal life. For your sake, O Most Pure Virgin, incline your ear to our supplication, as I cry to you:

Raise our children to flee eternal torment.

Raise our children to inherit life eternal.

Raise our children to pass the course of their life
in repentance.

Raise our children to labor to acquire the Grace of
the Holy Spirit.

Raise our children to exert effort to attain the Kingdom
of Heaven.

Raise our children to be written in the Book of Life.

Raise our children (names), O Lady, to be made worthy of the Kingdom of Heaven and make them heirs of eternal blessings.

Kontakion 4

Having within a tempest of doubting thoughts, and wanting to give our children to drink of eternal life, I weep. Thus, having remembered your most rich mercies, I sing to your Son with hope and with a contrite heart: *Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)*

Ikos 4

Having heard your voice, crying to Your Son, “Preserve in your inheritance those whom you have given me unto the ages,” I stretch out our hands and our heart towards your loving-Kindness, entreating that you will keep our children among your servants, and fulfill these our petitions:

Raise our children in your most Holy inheritance.

Raise our children with all your saints.

Raise our children to be your servants, fulfilling all You Commands.

Raise our children to seek help from You alone.

Raise our children to inherit eternal life.

Raise our children (names), O Lady, to be made worthy of the Kingdom of Heaven and make them heirs of eternal blessings.

Kontakion 5

May the Morning Star, who is Your Son, O Most Holy Virgin, shine with unfading light in the hearts of our children, that they may cry to God: *Alleluia!* (*People sing Alleluia!*)

Ikos 5

Having seen our diligent supplication rising like incense to your glory, turn not your face away from our children, though they turn away from you, but all the more, hear the cry of our lips, singing to you:

Raise our children to be poor in spirit that they may inherit the Kingdom of Heaven.

Raise our children to weep, that they may be comforted.

Raise our children to be meek, that they may inherit the earth.

Raise our children to hunger and thirst after righteousness, that they may be filled.

Raise our children to be merciful, that they may obtain mercy.

Raise our children to be pure in heart that they may see God.

Raise our children to be peacemakers that they may be called the sons of God.

Raise our children (names), O Lady, to be made worthy of the Kingdom of Heaven and make them heirs of eternal blessings.

Kontakion 6

All we the faithful ever proclaim you the defense of orphans, widows and mothers, and of all you children who pray and cry out to you: *Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)*

Ikos 6

With rays of grace, teach our children so that enlightened by you on high they may see the path leading to life eternal and follow on it, nourished beneath your all-powerful protection in the Church of your Son where there is unending life. For the sake of this, hear me who does cry to you thus:

Raise our children to be the light of the world that their light may shine before men, and that seeing their good deeds, men will glorify their Father in Heaven.

Raise our children to be enlightened by your Son, that in His light they may see light and direct their steps towards Him.

Raise our children always to turn the eyes of their heart to the Redeemer of all.

Raise our children to be guided to the habitation of the righteous by the Morning Star which is your Son.

Raise our children to be meek and silent and to tremble before the word of God.

Raise our children to love you and your Son,

not only with their minds but also with their hearts.

Raise our children (names), O Lady, to be made worthy of the Kingdom of Heaven and make them heirs of eternal blessings.

Kontakion 7

Desiring for our children eternal salvation, with tears I stand before your most Honorable Icon, O Lady, that disdaining not our supplication, you will cry to your Son: *Alleluia!*
(*People sing Alleluia!*)

Ikos 7

By the wondrous and incomprehensible action of your Son, lead our children with your merciful hand beneath your gracious protection, that with sincerity I may cry to you:

Raise our children to seek first the Kingdom of God and His Righteousness.

Raise our children to walk the narrow way leading to life eternal.

Raise our children to do the will of your Son and God in every place.

Raise our children to long to inherit the Kingdom of Heaven.

Raise our children to be numbered among your chosen ones.

Raise our children (names), of Lady, to be made worthy of the Kingdom of Heaven and make them heirs of eternal blessings.

Kontakion 8

Where will our children, wandering in the greatly perilous and stormy valley of the world, receive joy and consolation, if not in you, O Most Pure One. Travel with them and teach them the true path that they may cry to God: *Alleluia!* (*People sing Alleluia!*)

Ikos 8

To all you are a merciful Mother, O Lady, and I desire that I may become your child. Thus, I place our children in your hands and in humility I beg of you:

Raise our children to keep vigil and pray that they may not fall into temptation.

Raise our children to be merciful so that their Father in Heaven will be merciful to them.

Raise our children in purity of childhood, for to children belongs the Kingdom of God.

Raise our children to be the least of all, that they may be great before God.

Raise our children to fulfill the Word of God, and to be partakers of the heavenly blessedness for which they came into being.

Raise our children to have good hope in the Kingdom of Heaven.

Raise our children (names), O Lady, to be made worthy of the Kingdom of Heaven and make them heirs of eternal blessings.

Kontakion 9

Fill the souls and hearts of our children with all good, driving away from them the spirit of evil atheism, giving to each of them as is needed from your compassion toward all that I may cry to God:
Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)

Ikos 9

Deliver our children from association with falsely-theorizing orators, who speak lies about your all-powerful Intercession, and look upon me, faithfully singing:

Raise our children to love you with all their hearts and minds.

Raise our children to open their lips only in the praise and glory of your blessings.

Raise our children to await the coming of your Son with tears.

Raise our children in watchful and continual prayer.

Raise our children to stand always before you with reverence.

Raise our children to bear good fruit.

Raise our children (names), O Lady, to be made worthy of the Kingdom of Heaven and make them heirs of eternal blessings.

Kontakion 10

Desiring to save the world, your Son came from heaven to call, not the righteous, but sinners to repentance. For the sake, of this, pray to your Son that having been saved through you our children may call to God: *Alleluia!* (*People sing Alleluia!*)

Ikos 10

Surround our children with indestructible walls, O Heavenly Queen, that under your blessed protection, they may accomplish a multitude of good deeds, and that with them I may cry to you thus:

Raise our children to be leaders in doing the will of your Son and God.

Raise our children to hate sin and all transgression.

Raise our children to love good and all virtue.

Raise our children in blameless purity.

Raise our children to ascent the ladder of their lives every day.

Raise our children to turn their eyes to your compassion in the midst of sorrows.

Raise our children to serve you in obedience and chastity.

Raise our children (names), O Lady, to be made worthy of the Kingdom of Heaven and make them heirs of eternal blessings.

Kontakion 11

Make our children (names) worthy always to hymn your unshakable intercession, and through your Grace direct their lips to sing to God: *Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)*

Ikos 11

O Shining lamp from on high, make the lives of our children to burn and their hearts to melt day and night with love for you, and your Son, and for their neighbors, and do not disdain me who cry to You:

Raise our children to love you with all their hearts and minds.

Raise our children to open their lips only in the praise and glory of your blessings.

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Kontakion 12

Fill the hearts of our children with the inexpressible Grace of the Holy Spirit, so that they may love only your Son and God, and you, O Most Good One, that being inspired by you, I may cry to the King of all: *Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)*

Ikos 12

Singing of your loving-kindness, I pray to you, have mercy on our children; cease not to intercede for them with your Son, for I believe that all is possible for you, and fulfill these our entreaties:

Raise our children to be filled with the Holy Spirit.

Raise our children to be found on the right hand at the Judgment Seat of your Son.

Raise our children to live in a Holy manner.

Raise our children to dwell securely on the path of faith by the Grace of the Spirit of God.

Raise our children to hunger and thirst insatiably for the overshadowing of the Holy Spirit.

Raise our children to be perfect as our Father in Heaven is perfect.

Raise our children (names), O Lady, to be made worthy of the Kingdom of Heaven and make them heirs of eternal blessings.

Kontakion 13

(To be read three times)

O All Hymned Mother of our Sweetest Jesus! Accept this small hymn of supplication for our children as a sweet fragrance and take them under your compassionate protection. Grant them to think, know, hear, say and do; only on those which bring them close to you and Your Son, and help them attain eternal salvation.

And send them in this present life all that is profitable for the Salvation of their souls that they may cry to God: **Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!** (People sing Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!)

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Glorifying God Through His Light
50 Hour Prayer Vigil

Orthodox Mission Church
Serving Coolidge/Florence, AZ.

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