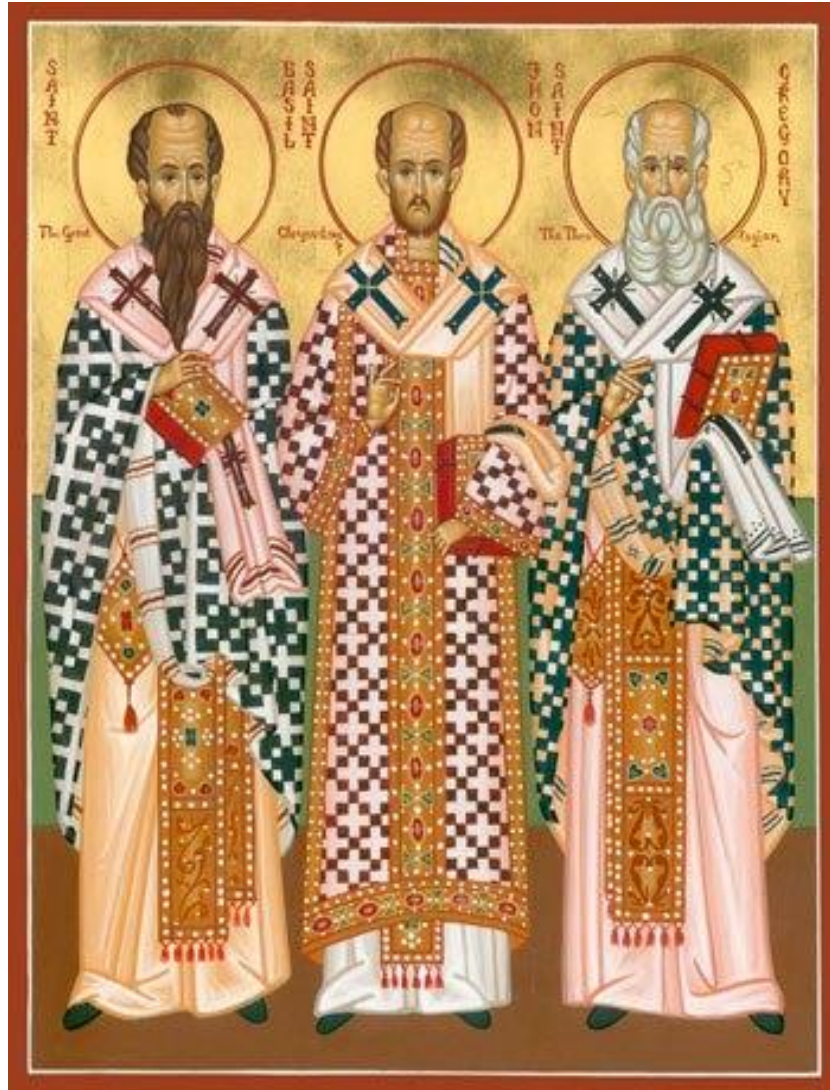


AKATHIST TO  
THE THREE HOLY HIERARCHS OF CHRIST: BASIL THE  
GREAT, GREGORY THE THEOLOGIAN, AND JOHN  
CHRYSOSTOM



For God's Preservation of His Church against unbelief,  
superstition, heresies, and schisms.  
For the Power from on High against all of our enemies visible  
and invisible.

### **Kontakion 1**

O chosen fathers and pillars of the Church: Basil, Gregory, and John, beacons for the whole world, divinely wise teachers, champions of excellent theology, and instructors of the faithful, denouncers of the ungodly. With your aid, do not forsake those who in faith and love cry aloud:

**Rejoice, you Three Holy Hierarchs of Christ, great universal teachers of the world!**

### **Ikos 1**

O earthly angels and heavenly men, standing now before the All-holy Trinity, offer up our unworthy praises to God, that we may magnify you in thanksgiving, crying:

Rejoice, O all-glorious trinity of fathers!

Rejoice, you were alike in spirit to the All-wondrous Trinity!

Rejoice, marvelous chosen ones of God Most High!

Rejoice, wise servants of Christ the Savior!

Rejoice, melodious pipes of the Holy Spirit!

Rejoice, all-beauteous luminaries of the Heavenly Church!

Rejoice, you abode in God in a single spirit!

Rejoice, you served Him in word and deed!

Rejoice, you established your flocks in the Faith!

Rejoice, you by your discourse enlightened the whole world!

Rejoice, you dwell with the Angels in the Kingdom of Heaven!

Rejoice, blessed ones who gaze upon the All-radiant Trinity!

**Rejoice, you Three Holy Hierarchs of Christ, great universal teachers of the world!**

### **Kontakion 2**

Instructing all the people in the commandments of the Gospels and leading them to the unity in Trinity through the grace of the Spirit, the Holy Hierarchs taught them by their words, prayers and good works, that in them the Father might be glorified with the Son and the Holy Spirit, the one Trinity, to Whom we all chant: **Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)**

### **Ikos 2**

Illumined by the words of the Spirit, you were inflamed with love for God and hallowed by grace, you attained the likeness of God, and have taught us to praise you:

Rejoice, you have been utterly sanctified by the grace of God!

Rejoice, you were enlightened in soul, body and spirit!

Rejoice, you put off the old man with his passions!

Rejoice, you clothed yourselves in the new Adam through the Spirit!

Rejoice, you received Christ within you!

Rejoice, you became habitations of the All-holy Trinity!

Rejoice, you illumined the image of God within you!

Rejoice, imitators of God, who lived in the world!

Rejoice, you on earth were enlightened by the Holy Spirit!

Rejoice, you in Heaven have been deified by the glory of the Trinity!

Rejoice, you shine upon the world the light of grace!

Rejoice, you comfort us with your spirit!

**Rejoice, you Three Holy Hierarchs of Christ, great  
universal teachers of the world!**

### **Kontakion 3**

Illumined by gifts of divine wisdom and having received the grace of miracles, you were shown to be wondrous among men. And you were truly great in sanctity, for the all-great God rested in you and made you gods by grace. And we, beholding the majesty of God in you, cry out to Him: **Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)**

### **Ikos 3**

The Holy Hierarchs clothed themselves in Christ and divine grace breathed upon them. Resplendent and shining as new creations, they are exalted on high from the earth and move us to chant with trembling:

Rejoice, you share in the Divine essence!  
Rejoice, you partake of the glory of the Trinity!  
Rejoice, you enjoy a Heavenly life!  
Rejoice, you exhibit true humanity!  
Rejoice, wondrous imitators of the Seraphim!  
Rejoice, radiant kinsmen of the Angels!  
Rejoice, you amazed the world with your holiness!  
Rejoice, you vanquished all with your greatness!  
Rejoice, you lived bodily on earth!  
Rejoice, you soared aloft in spirit to the Heavens!  
Rejoice, you were heavenly men in your life!  
Rejoice, you became gods on earth through Communion!

**Rejoice, you Three Holy Hierarchs of Christ, great universal teachers of the world!**

**Kontakion 4**

Having come to knowledge of the vanity of earthly things, you hastened to the good things of Heaven. You who loved God and having sought the one, hypostatic wisdom, you received the mysteries of theology. And now, delighting in the vision of God face to face, you chant to Him in praise: **Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)**

**Ikos 4**

Illumined by the Spirit of truth, you believed in Christ the Lord with all your hearts and enlightened by grace, you poured forth rivers of divinely wise discourse. And we drinking of them to this day glorify you in praise:

Rejoice, most glorious teachers of the Church!  
Rejoice, utmost comprehension of theology!  
Rejoice, you attained access to the Godhead!  
Rejoice, you received revelation through the Spirit!  
Rejoice, initiates of ineffable mysteries!  
Rejoice, you cast light upon heavenly dogmas!  
Rejoice, you confirmed the unity of the Trinity!  
Rejoice, you made clear the threefold Hypostasis!  
Rejoice, confessors of the consubstantiality of the Son!  
Rejoice, heralds of the light of grace!  
Rejoice, faithful teachers of the Orthodox!  
Rejoice, stern denouncers of the heretics!

**Rejoice, you Three Holy Hierarchs of Christ, great universal teachers of the world!**

## **Kontakion 5**

Free of the unbelief of Thomas and gazing upon God with the eyes of your spirit, you were shown to be unshakable pillars of the Faith; and having illumined your mind with grace, you steadfastly confessed the All-divine Trinity to whom you brought together the whole world by your wise discourses, and strengthened us to chant with faith: **Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)**

## **Ikos 5**

Knowing Jesus crucified, was a stumbling block to the Jews and foolishness to unbelievers. To us Christians, the wisdom of God and the Word of the Father, you received from Him Spirit-bearing grace, O equals of the apostles; and have enlightened us with your fiery tongues. Wherefore, we thankfully cry out to you:

Rejoice, you achieved great mastery of wisdom!

Rejoice, you were enlightened even more with higher wisdom!

Rejoice, treasuries of earthly knowledge!

Rejoice, recipients of the mysteries of Heavenly revelations!

Rejoice, you through Faith, came to understand ineffable things!

Rejoice, you made the Faith clear through reason!

Rejoice, you were enriched by the light of Faith!

Rejoice, you freed yourselves from irrationality!

Rejoice, you blessed the wisdom of the Faith!

Rejoice, you called unbelief foolishness!

Rejoice, you learned divine vision through works!

Rejoice, you were brought to theology through the commandments!

**Rejoice, you Three Holy Hierarchs of Christ, great universal teachers of the world!**

### **Kontakion 6**

Having learned meekness and humility, and desiring to acquire the Kingdom of Heaven, you endured many tribulations in this life, O Holy ones; and having followed Christ, the Author of the Faith, in the carrying of your crosses, and crucified yourselves to the world, you ever chant to God this hymn of praise: **Alleluia!**  
**(People sing Alleluia!)**

### **Ikos 6**

You were rightly reckoned among the choirs of the martyrs, having been true martyrs by volition, for you endured threats, persecutions, enmity and pain; you manfully trampled the malice of the devil underfoot; and crucified your flesh, with its passions and lusts. And we, moved to compunction by your struggles, cry to you most gloriously:

Rejoice, you took the Cross of Christ upon your shoulders!  
Rejoice, you of your own will rejected the allurements of the world!

Rejoice, you trod the difficult path of the virtues!

Rejoice, you turned away from the wide gate of the passions!

Rejoice, you who the enemy persecuted for your Faith in Christ!

Rejoice, you whom they oppressed in their hatred!

Rejoice, you meekly bore your afflictions!

Rejoice, you stood mightily for the Holy Church!

Rejoice, you fearlessly rebuked emperors!  
Rejoice, glorious vanquishers of the devil!  
Rejoice, you regarded earthly glory as dust!  
Rejoice, you sent up praise to God for your tribulations!

**Rejoice, you Three Holy Hierarchs of Christ, great universal teachers of the world!**

### **Kontakion 7**

Having learned prayer from your earliest years, you greatly desired to converse with God in pure spirit, O God-bearers. Wherefore, considering all the beautiful things of this world to be as naught, you sought out the God-loving wilderness, that, standing before God with a mind intent and with heart and mouth you might with the Angels cry out to Him unceasingly: **Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)**

### **Ikos 7**

We have brought naught into this world, and it is certain that we can carry naught away. Heeding these words of the apostle, you thirsted for the monastic life, O venerable ones, visiting many monasteries, conversing with venerable ascetics, and struggling in vigils and fasting. And we, who are slothful and cling to the world, though we are ashamed, dare to bless you:

Rejoice, you were sweetly wounded by the love of Christ!  
Rejoice, you for the sake of God rejected the world!  
Rejoice, you freed your spirit from slavery to the enemy!  
Rejoice, you submitted yourselves to God in obedience!  
Rejoice, pure lovers of the ascetic life!  
Rejoice, wise codifiers of monastic rules!



Rejoice, you loved the wilderness more than royal chambers!  
Rejoice, you lived ascetically within the world!  
Rejoice, you splendidly praised honorable marriage!  
Rejoice, you in accordance with the Gospel, preferred holy virginity!  
Rejoice, tireless preachers of earthly piety!  
Rejoice, chosen fathers and pillars of the monastic life!

**Rejoice, you Three Holy Hierarchs of Christ, great universal teachers of the world!**

### **Kontakion 8**

As strangers upon the earth, you were sent to the tumultuous world; for a city cannot be hidden that stands upon a mountain top. Wherefore, the Lord has set you like radiant lamps upon tall lamp stands, that you may illumine the whole world and teach it to cry to God in praise: **Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)**

### **Ikos 8**

He who is married cares for the things that are of the world, says the divinely wise Paul, while he who is unmarried cares for the things of the Lord. Following him, and having received the grace of the priesthood, you gave yourselves over wholly to the service of the people, laying down your lives for your sheep. And we, who have been shepherded by you, cry out hymns of praise:

Rejoice, you whom the grace of God wisely pursued!  
Rejoice, you were regenerated by the Spirit for the salvation of the world!

Rejoice, you were equal to the apostles in spreading the Gospel!

Rejoice, all-glorious arch pastors of Orthodox priests!

Rejoice, Godly-minded pilots of the Church of Christ!

Rejoice, ever-vigilant helmsmen of the ship of Jesus!

Rejoice, you tended well the sheep of the Church!

Rejoice, you with authority drove the ravenous wolves away!

Rejoice, you with love call the humble to unity!

Rejoice, you by fear save the haughty from divisions!

Rejoice, you with loving-kindness corrected repentant sinners!

Rejoice, you with divine wisdom cut off those who cause division in the Church!

**Rejoice, you Three Holy Hierarchs of Christ, great universal teachers of the world!**

### **Kontakion 9**

Loving God above all, and being sent among the least brethren to serve Him, like the apostles you did not cease in your entreaties; wherefore, offering up the bloodless sacrifice as is meet, and ever-hoping to see yourselves standing at the right hand of God, you continually cried to Him: **Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)**

### **Ikos 9**

Christ, Who made fishermen of apostles and sent you forth as divinely wise fishers, drew the world to Himself through you; for not only by deed and word, but by divine prayers as well, you adorn the Church and delighting now, we glorify you with compunction:

Rejoice, you lovers of unceasing prayer!  
Rejoice, wise embellishers of the Liturgy!  
Rejoice, you composed many prayers!  
Rejoice, instructors in the prayer of Jesus!  
Rejoice, you diligently performed the divine services!  
Rejoice, you set forth the mysteries of Christ!  
Rejoice, you manifestly received the Spirit in baptism!  
Rejoice, you perceived Him in the Gifts!  
Rejoice, you taught all to pray with fear!  
Rejoice, you withheld the Mysteries from the unworthy!  
Rejoice, you in prayers are blessed by men!  
Rejoice, you are called blessed in the Kingdom of God!

**Rejoice, you Three Holy Hierarchs of Christ, great universal teachers of the world!**

### **Kontakion 10**

O you who were sent to sow seeds, you committed yourselves to the glad tidings of the Word; for preaching in and out of season by writings, and summoning those invited as well as those uninvited, you have filled the banquet hall of the Heavenly Bridegroom and at the spiritual bridal feast all may chant: **Alleluia! (People sing Alleluia!)**

### **Ikos 10**

As doers and hearers of the word and enlightened by the Holy Spirit, you boldly sowed the word of the Gospel as ones possessed of authority and drew souls to salvation. We, caught in your nets, joyously cry out to you:

Rejoice, golden clarions of the Holy Spirit!  
Rejoice, eagles of Christ, soaring through the Heavens!

Rejoice, pure guardians of the revelations of grace!  
Rejoice, Spirit-bearing interpreters of the divine Scriptures!  
Rejoice, blameless confessors of the dogmas of the Faith!  
Rejoice, tireless preachers of the correction of morals!  
Rejoice, you comfort penitents with the loving-kindness of God!  
Rejoice, you strengthen the good all the more in the virtues!  
Rejoice, you return to Christ the unbelieving and lost!  
Rejoice, you terrify the rebellious with the everlasting fires of Gehenna!  
Rejoice, you are blessed for teaching and setting forth precepts!  
Rejoice, you have been called great in the Kingdom of Heaven!

**Rejoice, you Three Holy Hierarchs of Christ, great universal teachers of the world!**

### **Kontakion 11**

Sprinkled with the hyssop of grace and purified by the Holy Spirit, you received from Christ God the gift of miracles, performing wonders past understanding and confirming the word of your evangelism by signs. We, marveling at your miracles, chant to God who is wondrous in His Saints: **Alleluia!** (People sing Alleluia!)

### **Ikos 11**

Earthly philosophers who attempt to reason in mind concerning spiritual things, do not comprehend things that are beyond nature and occur among the Saints; and we, believing in the

Wisdom of God, and gazing upon His new creation among the Saints, unwaveringly chant hymns of praise:

Rejoice, you were wholly reborn through grace!  
Rejoice, you were splendidly adorned by the likeness of God!  
Rejoice, you were overshadowed by divine power!  
Rejoice, you were clothed with creative authority!  
Rejoice, you contemplated the Holy Spirit!  
Rejoice, you manifestly conversed with the inhabitants of Heaven!  
Rejoice, healers of incurable diseases!  
Rejoice, expellers of evil demons!  
Rejoice, uplifters of despairing souls!  
Rejoice, rescuers from misfortunes and perils!  
Rejoice, you after death do not forsake those who have recourse to you!  
Rejoice, you guide those who bear your names!

**Rejoice, you Three Holy Hierarchs of Christ, great universal teachers of the world!**

### **Kontakion 12**

Taught with skill and afire with zeal of soul, they who loved you were divided; for some foolishly preferred Basil to the rest, others Gregory, and yet others John, not realizing how to chant with one soul to God Who alone rests in the Saints: **Alleluia!**  
**(People sing Alleluia!)**

### **Ikos 12**

Uttering the psalm of David, “Our souls faint for Your salvation, O Lord”, you rested gloriously in God, united in the Trinity by grace divine. Wherefore, unable to bear the contention and

division among your disciples, you appeared to John of Euchaita, revealing yourselves to be equal before God, and teaching all to chant to you:

Rejoice, you have been ineffably united in the Trinity!  
Rejoice, you have been joined inseparably in God!  
Rejoice, you have been caught up into the love of God!  
Rejoice, you have been purified of the passions by the Spirit!  
Rejoice, you free all from the jealousy of the demons!  
Rejoice, you teach spiritual love!  
Rejoice, you denounced corrupting pride!  
Rejoice, you teach single-minded humility!  
Rejoice, uprooters of heresies and schisms!  
Rejoice, instillers of concord and unity!  
Rejoice, blessed peacemakers on earth!  
Rejoice, you have been called the sons of God!

**Rejoice, you Three Holy Hierarchs of Christ, great universal teachers of the world!**

### **Kontakion 13**

**(To be read three times)**

O great and holy universal fathers and teachers: Basil the Great, mighty helmsman of the Church and wise law-giver, and Gregory, desert-loving turtle dove, model of profound humility and most exalted mind of theology, and golden-mouthed John, you sea of mellifluous discourse, clear preacher of repentance and teacher of alms giving! Receive now our supplications as we pray to you and with the all-Holy Trinity, that we may be vouchsafed to send up glory to Him unceasingly, with one mouth and one heart, and to cry out amid life

everlasting: **Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!** (People sing  
**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**)

### **Kontakion 1**

O chosen fathers and pillars of the Church: Basil, Gregory, and John, beacons for the whole world, divinely wise teachers, champions of excellent theology, and instructors of the faithful, denouncers of the ungodly. With your aid, do not forsake those who in faith and love cry aloud:

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Rejoice, you established your flocks in the Faith!

Rejoice, you by your discourse enlightened the whole world!

Rejoice, you dwell with the Angels in the Kingdom of Heaven!

Rejoice, blessed ones who gaze upon the All-radiant Trinity!

**Rejoice, you Three Holy Hierarchs of Christ, great universal teachers of the world!**

## **Prayers to the Three Holy Hierarchs**

### **Prayer 1**

O all-radiant beacons of the Church of Christ: Basil, Gregory, and John, who have illumined all the ends of the earth with the light of Orthodox dogmas, and have cut down the blasphemous confusions and arrogance of heresies with the sword of the word of God! Falling down before your loving-kindness, with faith and love we cry out from the depths of our hearts. As you stand before the Throne of the All-holy, consubstantial, life-creating and indivisible Trinity, for whom you struggled well in word, writing and life, and laid down your lives, ever offer up entreaty, that we be strengthened in Orthodoxy and unity of mind, in the unwavering confession of the Faith of Christ even unto death, and in whole-hearted obedience to the Holy Church; that we may be girded about with power from on high against all our enemies, visible and invisible; that God may preserve His Church unshaken by unbelief, superstition, heresies and schisms; that He may grant to our civil authorities health, length of days and prosperity in every good thing; that He may bestow upon our hierarchs and pastors sobriety of spirit and zeal for the salvation of their flock, upon our government justice and righteousness, upon our armed forces endurance, courage and victory over the enemy, upon orphans and widows assistance, upon the sick healing, upon the young a goodly upbringing in



the Faith, upon the elderly consolation, upon the oppressed aid, upon everyone all things needful in this transitory life and the everlasting one which is to come; and that, burning with zeal for the Lord and fighting the good fight, we may finish our race in peace and repentance, and in the Kingdom of Heaven may be vouchsafed ever to hymn and glorify with you the All-holy and majestic name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, unto the ages of ages. **Amen.**

## **Prayer 2**

O all-glorious, great, all-wondrous, holy and divine favored ones, fathers, teachers and Holy Hierarchs; we now earnestly flee to you with faith, knowing that your prayers are mightier than ours; for where two or three consent to ask for anything, says the Lord, it will be given them by the Father. And how much greater are your supplications, O venerable ones, in that you stand before the very Throne of the omnipotent Trinity? Wherefore, ask for us the gift of grace-filled wisdom, perfect love for God, unfeigned loving-kindness for our neighbor, Christ-like humility and meekness, repentance and immutable correction of life, unity in concord for the divided, the confirmation of the Orthodox Church, the spreading of the Christian Faith, an unwavering stand for the Truth, and an unshakable keeping of the laws of the Church. As you know far better than we do ourselves, all that we need for this life and our salvation, ask for us those things which are pleasing to the Will of God; for our will is corrupt and our minds are benighted, for because of our sins the grace of the Spirit of truth has diminished within us. And we boldly hope that, through your supplications in common, divine grace which heals the infirm,

may, accepting our repentance, strengthen and save us, now and unto the ages of ages. **Amen.**

Glorifying God Through His Light  
50 Hour Prayer Vigil

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