

Akathist Hymn to the Mother of God

Priest: Blessed is our God, always now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

People: Amen.

Priest: O heavenly King, Comforter, the Spirit of truth, who art in all places and fillest all things, Treasury of good things and Giver of life: Come and dwell in us, and cleanse us from every stain, and save our souls, O gracious Lord.

People: Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal: have mercy on us. (3X)

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever and unto ages of ages, Amen.

All-holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, cleanse us from our sins. Master, pardon our iniquities. Holy God, visit and heal our infirmities for thy Name's sake.

Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever, and unto ages of ages, Amen.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

Priest: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages,

People: Amen.

Kondak 1

Priest: As we have been delivered from evils, we, thy servants, send up hymns of thanksgiving unto thee, as the chosen leader and good nurturer of the Christian race. As thou has might, which is invincible, from all misfortunes free us that with tears we may cry out to thee: Raise us, O Lady, to be worthy of the kingdom of Heaven, and make us inheritors of eternal good things.

People: Raise us, O Lady, to be worthy of the kingdom of Heaven, and make us inheritors of eternal good things.

Ikos 1

Priest: Mediate with thy Son and God, O all-holy One, that He send an angel from Heaven to us, just as the all-powerful guardian, the Archangel Gabriel, was sent to thee, and grant that we may cry out to thee:

People: Raise us with earthly angels,
 Raise us with heavenly men!
 Raise us with thy servants;
 Raise us who cry out to thee: "Rejoice thou who art full of Grace! The Lord is with thee!"

Raise us, O Lady, to be worthy of the kingdom of Heaven, and make us inheritors of eternal good things.

Kondak 2

Priest: Mercifully regard our supplication, for of thee alone do we ask: Take us under Thy honored and loving protection, that we may cry out to God: Alleluia!

People: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Ikos 2

Priest: Send upon us the understanding of how to serve thee well, and fill our hearts with heavenly wisdom, granting that we may love and may spurn that which is earthly; and do not hinder our mouths from crying out such things as these:

People: Raise us to be as wise as serpents and as innocent as doves;
Raise us to understand what is good and to take no part in sin!
Raise us to be all-wise against the wiles of the devil;
Raise us wisely to model our lives according to the example of the saints.

Raise us, O Lady, to be worthy of the kingdom of Heaven, and make us inheritors of eternal good things.

Kondak 3

Priest: May the power of the Most High overshadow us through thy never-tiring intercession before thy Son, that recognizing in this thy maternal loving kindness towards all, we may cry out to God with those who have recourse to thee: Alleluia!

People: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Ikos 3

Priest: Having come forth from God, we would not want to be languishing in eternal torment, but rather recorded in the Book of Life and inheriting life eternal. Wherefore, O all-pure Virgin, incline thine ear to our supplication as we cry out to thee:

People: Raise us to escape eternal torments;
Raise us to inherit eternal life!
Raise us to travel the path of life in repentance;
Raise us to make every effort to acquire the grace of the Holy Spirit!

Raise us, O Lady, to be worthy of the kingdom of Heaven, and make us inheritors of eternal good things.

Kondak 4

Priest: Having a tempest of doubting thoughts within us, yet rising up to compel us to life everlasting, we make lamentation, that remembering thine all-rich mercies we may sing to thy Son in hope and compunction of heart: Alleluia!

People: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Ikos 4

Priest: Hearing thy voice saying to thy Son: "Preserve forever those whom Thou hast given me as my portion," we lift up our hands and hearts to thy loving kindness, that thou may take us to be thy servants and may fulfill our petitions, such as these:

People: Raise us with all the saints;
Raise us as servants who do all thy precepts!

Raise us to tread the narrow path of the commandments of thy Son to the Jerusalem which is on high;
Raise us to seek help from thee alone!

Raise us, O Lady, to be worthy of the kingdom of Heaven, and make us inheritors of eternal good things.

Kondak 5

Priest: May the Morning Star, who is thy Son, O all holy Virgin, shine His never-waning light in the hearts of us, that we may cry out to Him as God: Alleluia!

People: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Ikos 5

Priest: Regarding our earnest supplication which is addressed to thy glory, like incense of sweet aroma, do not turn thy face from us, even when we turn away from thee, but listen even more to the words of our mouths, for we cry out to thee:

People: Raise us to be poor in spirit, for of such is the Kingdom of Heaven;
Raise us to weep, for we will be comforted!
Raise us to be meek, for we will inherit the earth;
Raise us to hunger and thirst after righteousness, for we will be filled!

Raise us, O Lady, to be worthy of the kingdom of Heaven, and make us inheritors of eternal good things.

Kondak 6

Priest: The whole Christian world proclaims thy constant aid to orphans, widows, and mothers who pray for their children and cry out to God: Alleluia!

People: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Ikos 6

Priest: Shine forth rays of grace in our souls, illumined by thee from on high, that we may see the path which leads to eternal life and may follow it, guided beneath thine almighty protection, to the Church of thy Son, where there is life without end. Wherefore, listen to us who cry out to thee:

People: Raise us to be merciful, for we will obtain mercy;
Raise us to be pure of heart, for we will see God!
Raise us to be peacemakers, for we will be called the children of God;
Raise us to love thee and thy Son, not only in mind, but also in heart!

Raise us, O Lady, to be worthy of the kingdom of Heaven, and make us inheritors of eternal good things.

Kondak 7

Priest: Desiring our eternal salvation, with tears we stand before thy precious Icon, O Mother. Do not despise our supplication for we cry aloud to thy Son: Alleluia!

People: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Ikos 7

Priest: Through the wondrous and inscrutable judgments of thy Son, with thy merciful hand draw our youth beneath thy gracious protection, that we may earnestly cry to thee:

People: Raise us to seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness;
Raise us to enter by the narrow gate which leads to eternal life!
Raise us to do the will of thy Son and God in every place;
Raise us to strive to inherit the Kingdom of Heaven!

Raise us, O Lady, to be worthy of the kingdom of Heaven, and make us inheritors of eternal good things.

Kondak 8

Priest: Wherever we find joy and comfort as we wander in the valley of this most sorrowful and greatly tumultuous life, if it not be in thee, O all-pure one, go with us and guide us to the path of truth, that we may cry out to God: Alleluia!

People: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Ikos 8

Priest: Thou art a merciful Mother to all, O Mistress, and we wish that thou would cause us to abide with thee. See, we place ourselves in thy hands and in humility we beg of thee:

People: Raise us to be watchful and prayerful, that we may not be led into temptation;
Raise us to be loving, as the heavenly Father is full of loving kindness!
Raise us in childlike compunction, for the Kingdom of God is made up of children;
Raise us to be the least of all, that we may be great before God!

Raise us, O Lady, to be worthy of the kingdom of Heaven, and make us inheritors of eternal good things.

Kondak 9

Priest: Fill our souls and hearts with every good thing, driving far away from us the spirit of foul-smelling ungodliness, in thy compassion grant to all that which is needful, that we may cry out to God: Alleluia!

People: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Ikos 9

Priest: From the company of vain-minded speakers, who utter falsehood against thine omnipotent aid, deliver us and look upon us who cry out with faith:

People: Raise us to oppose the ungodly with all our might;
Raise us to stand firmly against God-hating teachings!
Raise us to reject the false instructions of unbelieving teachers;
Raise us to reject the spirit of perversity!

Raise us, O Lady, to be worthy of the kingdom of Heaven, and make us inheritors of eternal good things.

Kondak 10

Priest: To save the world, from Heaven thy Son first summoned not the righteous, but sinners to repentance. Wherefore, pray to thy Son, and speak to Him of us, that saved by thee, they may cry out to God: Alleluia!

People: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Ikos 10

Priest: Stand as an indestructible rampart for us, O Queen of Heaven, that under thy blessed protection we may be able to do a multitude of good works, and that with them we may cry out to thee:

People: Raise us to know how to do the will of thy Son and God;
 Raise us to hate sin and every iniquity!
 Raise us to love that which is good and every virtue;
 Raise us in blameless purity!

Raise us, O Lady, to be worthy of the kingdom of Heaven, and make us inheritors of eternal good things.

Kondak 11

Priest: Vouchsafe that we may continually sing of thine invincible aid, and by thy grace open our mouths to cry out to God: Alleluia!

People: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Ikos 11

Priest: Make our lives lamps glowing with the light from on high, burning and being consumed with love for thee and thy Son and our neighbors, day and night; and do not reject us who cry out to thee:

People: Raise us to love thee with all our hearts and minds;
 Raise us ever to look to the Cross and sufferings of thy Son!
 Raise us to open our mouths only to praise and glorify thy goodness;
 Raise us to look forward with tears for the coming of thy Son!

Raise us, O Lady, to be worthy of the kingdom of Heaven, and make us inheritors of eternal good things.

Kondak 12

Priest: With the ineffable grace of the Holy Spirit nurture our hearts, that we may love only thy Son and God, and thee the all-good one, that moved by thee we may cry out to the King of all: Alleluia!

People: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Ikos 12

Priest: Singing of the loving kindness with which thou has mercy and feed us, we pray: Never cease to petition thy Son on our behalf for we believe that all things are possible for thee. Wherefore, fulfill these our good intentions:

People: Raise us to be full of the Holy Spirit;
 Raise us to win a place on the right hand at the judgment of thy Son!
 Raise us to live holy lives;
 Raise us to stay firmly on the path of faith through the grace of the Spirit of God!

Raise us, O Lady, to be worthy of the kingdom of Heaven, and make us inheritors of eternal good things.

Kondak 13

Priest: O most hymned Mother of our sweetest Jesus! Accept this meager Akathist hymn as a fragrance of sweet aroma for us and take us under thy loving protection. Grant that we may think, learn, hear, speak, and do only that which brings us closer to thee and thy Son, and which will bring about our eternal salvation. And send down upon us in this fleeting life all that is profitable for the salvation of our souls, that we may cry out to God: Alleluia!

People: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

The Dismissal

Priest: Wisdom!

PEOPLE: Father, bless.

PRIEST: Christ our God, the Existing One is blessed, always, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

PEOPLE: Amen. Preserve, O God, the Holy Orthodox Faith and all Orthodox Christians, unto ages of ages. Amen.

PRIEST: Most holy Theotokos, save us.

PEOPLE: More honorable than the cherubim and more glorious beyond compare than the seraphim, thou who without corruption barest God the Word and art truly Theotokos we magnify thee.

PRIEST: Glory to thee, O Christ, our God and our Hope, glory to thee.

PEOPLE: Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord have mercy. Father bless.

PRIEST: May (*insert appointed characteristic phrase*), Christ our true God, through the intercessions of his all-immaculate and all-blameless holy Mother; of (*daily commemoration*); of (*name*) patron of this temple; of the holy righteous ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna; of (*the saint of the day*) whose memory we celebrate today, and of all the saints: have mercy upon us and save us, forasmuch as he is good and loveth mankind.

Through the prayers of our holy fathers, Lord, Jesus Christ our God, have mercy upon us, and save us.

PEOPLE: Amen.