

--Akathist to the Catacomb Saints--

Translated by Sava Beljovich

-Kontakion I-

To the pillars of the Church of Christ, from the persecution of the godless, Ye remain hidden in the catacombs, let us praise the faithfulness, adorned with crowns of victory with these words: Rejoice, Glorious luminaries of the Church of the Catacomb!

-Ikos I-

Angels in the flesh, luminary are ye Martyrs and Confessors of the Church of the Catacomb, thy own lives are God-pleasing, praiseworthy with a likewise cry:

Rejoice, Glory of God shining with radiance;
Rejoice, Pillars of unshakability for the Church of Christ;
Rejoice, Eradicators of Sergian charms;
Rejoice, Exposers of Sergius' wickedness;
Rejoice, Fearless warriors;
Rejoice, Invincibility of the soldiers of Christ;
Rejoice, Glorious luminaries of the Church of the Catacomb!

-Kontakion II-

Seeing Sergius' retreat, O Hieromartyr Joseph. The faithful will run away from the wolf, dressed in lambish form, thou taught wisely, fearlessly rebuking the apostates, but to God cry out: Alleluia!

-Ikos II-

Will enlightened by the Lord mercifully, the God-fighting and Sergian wickedness triumphantly rebuked by the Holy Hierarchy, the holiness of the Hieromartyrs, thy holy zeal made thee favored by the Blessed Virgin. And for this now the Lord in Heaven now crowneth thee, and from us they will hear these:

Rejoice, Faithful servants of Christ;
Rejoice, Saints of the Orthodox Church;

Rejoice, Apostolic brilliance shineth;
Rejoice, Holy virtue thou follow;
Rejoice, Renovationists' cunning put to shame;
Rejoice, Sergian spiders are torn asunder;
Rejoice, Glorious luminaries of the Church of the Catacomb!

-Kontakion III-

By the power from above, the unshakable Truth appeared to thee O Hieromartyr Cyril, the God-fighters, tried to frighten them those who believed, they attempted to shame thee, but thou sing to Christ: Alleluia!

-Ikos III-

Thy heart grasped by the grace of the Holy Spirit, the illuminated shepherd of the Church of the Catacomb, from the predatory wolves, the sheep the flock of Christ preserved Orthodoxy. From the faithful now will hear these:

Rejoice, Stars with holiness that shine;
Rejoice, Adamants glittering with patience;
Rejoice, Heralds of Truth;
Rejoice, Champions of Truth;
Rejoice, Ye who have not wavered in suffering;
Rejoice, Ye who were not afraid of the God-Fighters;
Rejoice, Glorious luminaries of the Church of the Catacomb!

-Kontakion IV-

A storm of ungodly persecution and Sergian deception, to thee who saw only, the Church of Christ was destroyed, their hatred of God, the same as the idolaters the Prophet Elijah once smote, the Hieromartyr Demetrius, sung faithfully to God: Alleluia!

-Ikos IV-

The Godly Saints were heard by all, shining beacons from the monasteries, Sergius' deception was rejected by the Hierarchy, and for the persecutions of the godless, were not afraid. And we marvelling at thy love for Christ cry out:

Rejoice, Christ the perfect love;
Rejoice, Ye who follow the will of God;
Rejoice, God-wise ascetics;
Rejoice, The humility of prayer;
Rejoice, Rejection of the world and all things in it;
Rejoice, Beatitudes of the abodes of Paradise above;
Rejoice, Glorious luminaries of the Church of the Catacomb!

-Kontakion V-

Thou was enlightened by God, O Hieromartyr Sergius of Narva, as the godless persecutors were foretold the terrible punishment of God, praying in his heart to the Lord and singing unceasingly to Him: Alleluia!

-Ikos V-

Seeing the sufferings of their brothers and sisters in Christ, outside the world, the intimate life of the God fearing people, unshakable in their trust in the Lord, their hearts have been broken, for this sake now ye hear from us the praises as follow:

Rejoice, Monastic virtues praised;
Rejoice, Monastic piety as a Zertzal;
Rejoice, Fragrance of ascetic life;
Rejoice, Innermost feats of radiance;
Rejoice, Ye who despised worldly things;
Rejoice, Ye who put evil spirits to shame;
Rejoice, Glorious luminaries of the Church of the Catacomb!

-Kontakion VI-

The preachers of piety appeared to all, O Glorious Hieromartyrs Arsenius and Seraphim, Schemanun Tamar and her sister sufferers for Christ, their example strengthened the faithful, and to Him they stand and sing praise: Alleluia!

-Ikos VI-

A host of Great Martyrs of the Catacombs in the land of Russia, victims at the hands of the godless. And we now commemorate their suffering, crying out to glorify:

Rejoice, Martyrs of the end times;
Rejoice, Saintly champions;
Rejoice, Ye who defeated temporary torments;
Rejoice, Ye who Sergians did not seduce;
Rejoice, Ye who burn with holiness;
Rejoice, Springs bringing forth grace;
Rejoice, Glorious luminaries of the Church of the Catacomb!

-Kontakion VII-

The flock of sheep of Christ were kept in the fence of Truth, the faithful who observe the teaching of the Orthodox Church, instructed by the Hieromartyr Maximus, cried out warmly to the Lord, singing: Alleluia!

-Ikos VII-

The New Martyrs are seen, shining gems of the Truth of Christ, to us their virtues have been revealed, to them we cry:

Rejoice, Martyrs adorned with crowns;
Rejoice, Snow sanctified with blood;
Rejoice, Sufferers for Christ;
Rejoice, Ye who placed Him above all
Rejoice, Ye who united unto Christ to live in Paradise;
Rejoice, Beauty of the Orthodox Church,
Rejoice, Glorious luminaries of the Church of the Catacomb!

-Kontakion VIII-

The Hieromartyr Seraphim of Uglich, saw the depths of Sergius' wickedness, rebuked his cunning, and was crowned with Martyrdom, now guided by the hand of the Lord's angels and the Saints, crieth unto Christ: Alleluia!

-Ikos VIII-

The whole host of wicked persecutors have been shamed by the elect, O Martyrs of Christ, in steadfastness in the faith of Christ, now the faithful cry out to glorify:

Rejoice, Lambs of Christ;
Rejoice, Brides of Jesus;
Rejoice, Celebration of Saints;
Rejoice, Martyrs of Glory;
Rejoice, Ye who pray to the Bridegroom Christ;
Rejoice, In Him who we ask to have mercy on us;
Rejoice, Glorious luminaries of the Church of the Catacomb!

-Kontakion IX-

The mouths of all the faithful praise thee, O Hieromartyr Paul of Starobilsk, thy fearless rebuke of the wicked we remember. With thee, the host of the of God pleasers, will be brought with Blessed Paraskeva to the land of Donbass to the wonderful life that has shown gloriously, we sing to the Sweetest Jesus: Alleluia!

-Ikos IX-

The supertitious orators will not be able to praise thee with dignity, O Fools for the sake of Christ, faithful Guides in times of godless persecution that have appeared, but we, the wretched cry out to thee:

Rejoice, Rebuke of the godless persecutors by the "foolish";
Rejoice, Exposers of Sergius' cunning;
Rejoice, Guides of repentance;
Rejoice, Teachers of a Godly Life;
Rejoice, Miracle workers;
Rejoice, Powerful prayers answered;
Rejoice, Glorious luminaries of the Church of the Catacomb!

-Kontakion X-

Saving the faithful from the deceitful co-workers of the godless persecutors, the faithful flee to the instruction of the priestly Martyrs Victor and Nicholas. And marvelling at thy zeal for the salvation of our neighbors, we cry out to Christ: Alleluia!

-Ikos X-

With the flood of thy prayers, deliver us from troubles and sorrow, O glorious Confessors of the Church of the Catacomb, that we may follow in thy footsteps, thankfully calling thus:

Rejoice, Source of life-giving;
Rejoice, Sanctiful treasure;
Rejoice, God-Wise wordsmiths;
Rejoice, Pious instructions upon the tablet;
Rejoice, Ye who glorify the Name of God;
Rejoice, Destroyers of demonic charms;
Rejoice, Glorious luminaries of the Church of the Catacomb!

-Kontakion XI-

Singing prayers and performing the Divine Liturgy secretly, O Holy Father Peter, dwelling the catacombs, instructed all the faithful. Now the Church of Christ is pleased, crying out faithfully to the Creator: Alleluia!

-Ikos XI-

Light-bearing at the Throne of God, holiness shines from grieving adults, youths and infants, slain by the godless for the faith in Christ and staying in the Church of the Catacomb. And thy praiseworthy voices sing unwavering:

Rejoice, Children of God;
Rejoice, Preachers of peace;
Rejoice, Radiant souls with purity;
Rejoice, Purity of fragrant hearts;
Rejoice, Ye suffering under the new Herod;
Rejoice, Faithful to the true Faith,
Rejoice, Glorious luminaries of the Church of the Catacomb!

-Kontakion XII-

Grace flowing forth from the prayers of the faithful in God's Holy Church, the Catacomb Confessor Lazarus witnessed Christ, day and night for the salvation of the faithful. Now praying warmly to God for all, crying out: Alleluia!

-Ikos XII-

Singing in thy God-pleasing lives, all the Saints of the Church of the Catacomb shine forth, we pray diligently to protect us from demonic and heretical enemies of Christ. May we sing praise to the Lord, and we glorify thee with praise:

Rejoice, Church of the Most Holy Trinity;

Rejoice, Glorifiers of Our Lady;

Rejoice, Royal Great Martyrs;

Rejoice, O Holy New Martyrs and Confessors;

Rejoice, Holy rainbow over Russia;

Rejoice, Blessed gifts to the Russian land;

Rejoice, Glorious luminaries of the Church of the Catacomb!

-Kontakion XIII-

O glorious God-pleasers in the Church of the Catacomb shining brightly, by thy prayers conform to us the bliss of Paradise, that we may sing to the greatness of the Creator, crying out in song: Alleluia! (Kontakion sung thrice)

-Ikos I-

Angels in the flesh, luminary are ye Martyrs and Confessors of the Church of the Catacomb, thy own lives are God-pleasing, praiseworthy with a likewise cry:

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-Kontakion I-

To the pillars of the Church of Christ, from the persecution of the godless in the catacombs hidden, let us praise the faithfulness, adorned with victorious crowns with these words: Rejoice, Glorious luminaries of the Church of the Catacomb!

-Prayer to the Saints of the Church of the Catacomb-

Oh, holiness of all the God-pleasers of the Catacomb Church! Behold, now offering praise, we pray fervently: Remember at the Throne of God all, who faithfully serve the Lord and honor Thy Holy Memories, May the Lord be merciful to us unworthy sinners, and may we repent in our earthly lives. But we pray to ye champions of Truthfulness in Christ, and by thy prayers, cast down wickedness and apostasy. Gather all the lost sheep into the One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church, instruct us in fraternal love and forgiveness. Enlighten the darkness of our minds with the knowledge of Truth. We pray also: send a heavenly blessing to all faithful children of the Church of Christ, help, heal the sick, comfort the dull and sorrowful, protect us from enemies visible and invisible. Give us the odor of spiritual fragrance and the abundance of the fruits of the earth. Amen.