

Akathist Hymn to Saint George, Great Martyr and Wonderworker



Begin with the usual introductory prayers....Heavenly Comforter....Holy God, Holy and Mighty...etc. During the Easter season, begin with Christ is Risen... (3x)

Kontakion 1

To you, O champion leader and victorious Saint George, we offer a hymn of praise as our intercessor and speedy helper. Holy Great Martyr, as one who has boldness before the Lord, deliver us from dangers of all kinds that we may cry unto you:

Rejoice, Saint George, Great Martyr and Wonderworker.

Ikos 1

The Creator of angels and Maker of all creation has revealed you to His Church as a guardian and passion-bearer for the faith. You are an inspiration for us, and we lift up praises to you for the ascetic labors of your sufferings, Saint George, in this manner:

Rejoice, you who loved unto the end Jesus, the Son of God.

Rejoice, you who laid down your life with love for His Name.

Rejoice, confessor called forth by God.

Rejoice, spiritual athlete glorified by the grace of God.

Rejoice, you who dwelled with the angels.

Rejoice, you who are the equal of the prophets.

Rejoice, Saint George, Great Martyr and Wonderworker.

Kontakion 2

Beholding how the wicked idolaters were persecuting the Christians, You did not fear their wiles and tortures,

divinely wise George. As a good soldier of Christ, you distributed all your possessions among the poor and then voluntarily ran to that ungodly gathering, singing unto Christ, your commander and God: Alleluia.

Ikos 2

Mentally comprehending the One God divinely worshipped in Three Persons, with a firm mind You confessed Him before the assembly of the ungodly. Thus, you exposed the unwise king's foolish worship of creation. In admiration of your lofty love of wisdom, Saint George, accept from us these fervent praises:

Rejoice, wise preacher of the One True God.

Rejoice, faithful advocate of the All-Holy Trinity.

Rejoice, you who manifest the great mystery of the True Faith unto the unbelievers.

Rejoice, you who exposed the deception of idol worship.

Rejoice, revelation of holy wisdom.

Rejoice, image of divine inspiration.

Rejoice, Saint George, Great Martyr and Wonderworker.

Kontakion 3

The power of God, which enlightens every man that comes into the world, visited you also, while you were suffering in prison, O George wise in humility. You despised all the corruptible things of this life as chaff. You faithfully held unto Christ alone, so that after fighting the good fight for His Name, you might be granted eternally to chant with the angels: Alleluia.

Ikos 3

Possessing a mind and heart enlightened by the Holy Spirit, by His inspiration you fervently struggled for the Name of Christ, even unto blood. Standing courageously in the faith, you exposed the puffed-up pride of the ungodly congregation. Let us, then, come to you, most wonderful George, singing praises unto you:

Rejoice, shield lifted for preservation of piety.
Rejoice, sword raised for the beheading of evil.
Rejoice, confirmation of the Christian Church.
Rejoice, comfort of those gathered in prayer.
Rejoice, encouragement of the faithful.
Rejoice, fear and disgrace of the unbelievers.
Rejoice, Saint George, Great Martyr and Wonderworker.

Kontakion 4

The mad persecutor, breathing murder against you, O passion-bearer George, longed for your blood like a thirsty dog, ordering your body stretched out on a wheel and giving you over unto the most evil torments. Then you, taking strength in the Lord, with hope and trust in God, cried aloud: Alleluia.

Ikos 4

When Diocletian and the priest of the idols heard words of wisdom from you, they were enraged with hatred for you, and even more so when you said: O tormenting king, why do you torture me in vain? For me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. The faithful therefore humbly cry unto you, O George of great fame, in this way:

Rejoice, you who shed your blood upon the wheel for your courageous confession of the Faith.

Rejoice, you who magnified the triumph of the Faith by your blood.

Rejoice, zealot together with the apostles.

Rejoice, imitator of the voluntary Passion of Christ.

Rejoice, unshakable champion of the Faith.

Rejoice, passion-bearer harder than adamant.

Rejoice, Saint George, Great Martyr and Wonderworker.

Kontakion 5

You were as a star sent by God, O Saint George, for with your miraculous healing and release from the wheel by an angel before the eyes of all, you enlightened the unbelievers to believe in the Trinity in One Essence, and to sing unto Him together with you: Alleluia.

Ikos 5

The people beheld the miracles of the power of God so clearly taking place in you, and meekly accepted the teaching of Christ from you. They cried aloud, saying: Truly great is the God of the Christians. It is fitting that we also sing praises unto you, George worthy of glory, and so we cry out:

Rejoice, you who dispersed the darkness of unbelief by the radiant word of salvation.

Rejoice, you who converted unbelievers to Christ by your martyr's confession of faith.

Rejoice, you who lead legions of earthly soldiers unto the heavenly army.

Rejoice, you who dwelled with the heavenly hosts as a soldier of Christ.

Rejoice, glory of courageous soldiers.

Rejoice, beauty of the all-radiant choirs of martyrs.

Rejoice, Saint George, Great Martyr and Wonderworker.

Kontakion 6

Zealous in faith, like unto those Spirit-bearing preachers, the apostles, you were crucified unto the world, O Martyr George. Just as Jonah was in the belly of the sea monster, you were hurled headlong into the furnace of the lime pit so that through your life might be manifested the glory of the Lord Who is wondrous in His saints. Then, in the lime pit as in a temple of glory, you noetically cry out: Alleluia.

Ikos 6

Having shone forth in His Resurrection from the tomb on the third day, Jesus, the Almighty Conqueror of hades and death, saved you from corruption, O victorious George. After three days you were found alive in the lime pit, with your hands lifted and singing unto God. The ungodly were sorely afraid and stricken with terror, but we rejoice and compose a hymn of victory unto you:

Rejoice, you who cast down the puffed-up pride of the devil by your being cast down in disgrace into the lime pit.

Rejoice, you who overcame the persecutor's bestiality by your miraculous salvation from God.

Rejoice, for as one without guile, you prayed as for benefactors for those who worked evil against you.

Rejoice, for you were zealous for their conversion as Paul was for the Jews.

Rejoice, man of spiritual desires.

Rejoice, victor through the power of Christ.

Rejoice, Saint George, Great Martyr and Wonderworker.

Kontakion 7

Desiring by any means to ensnare your heart for service to the idols, the wicked persecutor contrived to mislead you by magical spells. Therein you, chosen of God, cry out with David: In God is my salvation and my glory, and faithfully chant unto Him: Alleluia.

Ikos 7

That evil servant of Satan, Diocletian, revealed a new villainy. In his insane zeal for the idols, he ordered you to be given poison, Saint George, but you were filled with faith and hope. Even though you drank the deadly poison, yet you remain unharmed, O praised-one of God. We marvel at your holiness and sing unto you:

Rejoice, for you were not disgraced by your hope in the living God.

Rejoice, for you counted your torment as nothing.

Rejoice, expeller of soul-destroying demons.

Rejoice, destroyer of the wiles of magicians.

Rejoice, through you God is shown to be wondrous in His saints.

Rejoice, through you the Name of Christ is piously glorified.

Rejoice, Saint George, Great Martyr and Wonderworker.

Kontakion 8

There came to the wicked king a strange and terrible counsel from a certain wizard: that he command you, as proof of the truth of the Christian Faith, by your word to resurrect a dead man. You, Saint George, having no doubt whatsoever, sang unto Him Who is not the God of the dead but the God of the living: Alleluia.

Ikos 8

The all-desirable and Sweetest Jesus, Whom You loved with all your soul and heart, most blessed George, attended to the fervent prayer of your faith and speedily commanded the resurrection of the dead man at your word. This was to the glorification of His Name and the confirmation of the faithful, so that the unbelievers and the blind might be astounded and thereby gain knowledge of God. For this reason, we dutifully cry unto you:

Rejoice, through you the Lord of Hosts manifested wonders.

Rejoice, through you He resurrected a dead man from the tomb.

Rejoice, you who grant the mental vision of faith unto the blinded wizard.

Rejoice, you who showed the way to the Holy of Holies unto many who suffered for Christ.

Rejoice, astonishment of Rome.

Rejoice, exaltation of the Christian race.

Rejoice, Saint George, Great Martyr and Wonderworker.

Kontakion 9

All the angels rendered praise unto God, Who granted you such courage, victorious George, that even when locked up in prison you did not cease to keep vigil in prayer. As a great communicant of the mystery of divine grace, you were vouchsafed to behold the Lord in a vision. He crowned your head with the crown of incorruption, so that we might cry out with you: Alleluia.

Ikos 9

The learned orators are unable with their rhetorical tongues to render worthy praises unto you, Martyr

George, for your labors and sufferings which you assumed voluntarily for Christ and the Church. We also, not knowing how to properly praise you, chant this hymn with faith:

Rejoice, by your voluntary suffering for Christ and the Church you crucified the old Adam in yourself.

Rejoice, by your courageous suffering you receive a crown of righteousness from the Lord.

Rejoice, rule of pious zeal.

Rejoice, model of self-sacrifice.

Rejoice, for you pleased not yourself, but Christ alone.

Rejoice, for you were prepared for any form of death for the sake of your Savior, Christ.

Rejoice, Saint George, Great Martyr and Wonderworker.

Kontakion 10

Desiring to save the souls perishing in idolatry, O Saint George, lover of God, you were zealous for God like Elias. Entering the temple of the idols, by the power of God you drove out the demons, shattering the idols and putting their priests to shame. Thereafter as conqueror, not with men but with angels, you chant unto God: Alleluia.

Ikos 10

More unfeeling than a wall, your hard-hearted tormentor, O Great Martyr, did not see God, Who so clearly worked miracles through you, but to the end remained as an asp, stopping his ears. He commanded you to be executed as a criminal by beheading. Though grieving over the loss of his soul, you joyfully accepted your end, for which we praise you with love in this manner:

Rejoice, you who kept faith, hope and love unto the end.
Rejoice, you who worked many great miracles at your
beheading.

Rejoice, you who were crowned to the glory of God's
goodwill toward those on earth.

Rejoice, you who were adorned with majesty in Heaven.

Rejoice, man of God.

Rejoice, good soldier of Christ.

Rejoice, Saint George, Great Martyr and Wonderworker.

Kontakion 11

You render a hymn unto the Most Holy Trinity exceeding
others, holy Saint George, not in word and mind only, but
by the living sacrifice of your whole self. Imitating Him
Who was crucified for us, Christ the Lamb without
blemish, you voluntarily laid down your life for your
friends. Even though we are incapable of praising such
courage as yours, for no man has greater love than this,
yet being grateful we sing unto Him Who is wondrous in
the saints: Alleluia.

Ikos 11

You are a light-receiving lamp of the True Light to those
on earth, Saint George, chosen of God, for You enlighten
the hearts of the faithful and guide them all to divine
understanding, instructing us also to joyfully cry aloud:

Rejoice, for you dwell in the all-radiant angelic mansions.
Rejoice, for you commune with the never-waning light of
the Trinity not in a mirror, but face to face.

Rejoice, provider for the needy and defender of the
wronged.

Rejoice, healer of the infirm and support of kings.

Rejoice, champion of faithful soldiers in battle.
Rejoice, fervent intercessor for the salvation of sinners.
Rejoice, Saint George, Great Martyr and Wonderworker.

Kontakion 12

Knowing the grace granted by God, we celebrate your memory, Great Martyr George. Running with fervent prayer to your miraculous icon, we are protected by your all-powerful help in the Lord as by an invincible wall. In praise of your aid to others, we fervently cry unto God: Alleluia.

Ikos 12

Singing of your glorious end, by which you were magnified as a good soldier of Christ, we pray you, O passion-bearer and helper in all good for us: Protect us as we earnestly cry to you:

Rejoice, by you the Church of the faithful is enlightened.
Rejoice, for your name is praised even among the faithless.
Rejoice, wondrous glory of the confessors.
Rejoice, lofty praise of the martyrs.
Rejoice, protector of those who honor your memory.
Rejoice, deliverer of those who confess Christ God.
Rejoice, Saint George, Great Martyr and Wonderworker.

Kontakion 13

Most blessed and holy Great Martyr George, accept our hymn of praise and deliver us from every evil by your fervent intercession unto God, so that we may sing with you: Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

(Repeat Kontakion 13 three times.)

Repeat Kontakion 1 and Ikos 1.

A Prayer

Great Martyr George, we hasten to you for triumph over every torment and distress and over all pride and passion, that we may glorify Jesus Christ as zealous conquerors of this world and heirs of the Heavenly Kingdom. We acknowledge our unworthiness of such holy victory but, in praise of the courage, hope and trust which you have demonstrated throughout your life and into your martyrdom, we lovingly beseech your aid in battle against sin. Pray for us, Saint George, that we may be granted the grace to confess the Faith before others and to fulfill the Commandments under all circumstances and among all people. Let us witness of Christ the Lord that everyone might see His radiant light and believe in His holy teachings. Amen

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This prayer was not approved by the Liturgical Commission of the Eparchy of Passaic or the Metropolia of Pittsburg. It is purely for private devotion. This publication is not the official position of the Eparchy of Passaic or the pastor of St. Mary's Byzantine Catholic Church.

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This prayer was adapted from <https://akathistreconstructed.wordpress.com/george-great-martyr/>, to which we are greatly appreciative.