

## **Akathist to the Holy Hieromartyr Leonid Ivanovich Feoderov (March 7/20)**

### **Kontakion 1**

Having been chosen by the Heavenly King and glorified by Him through the laying down of your life, O holy Hieromartyr Leonid, we now celebrate your all-honorable memory, and we entreat you: guide us on the path of salvation; from enemies visible and invisible, from sorrows and sickness, rescue us who lovingly call to you:

Rejoice, O holy Hieromartyr Leonid, who bore the Passion throughout your life!

### **Ikos 1**

Archangels and Angels marvel, O holy Hieromartyr, for from a young age you had great zeal for God, and lived the angelic life while in the flesh according to His commandments without wavering. Amazed by your wisdom, with compunction we call out to you:

Rejoice, joy of your pious mother at your birth.

Rejoice, holy branch of an honorable family.

Rejoice, unending joy of your guardian Angel.

Rejoice, having delighted your parents and teachers by your meekness and humility.

Rejoice, having prepared well for monastic obedience from childhood.

Rejoice, having offered your youthful soul toward God.

Rejoice, having spent your adolescence in prayer and godly contemplation.

Rejoice, having been an example of prayer, repentance and obedience for all to see.

Rejoice, O holy Hieromartyr Leonid, who bore the Passion throughout your life!

### **Kontakion 2**

You were the cause of rejoicing of your mother, Liubov Dmitrievna, at the occasion of your birth in the royal city. And you, O beloved of God, being young in years, yet old in understanding, did strive with heart and mind toward the sweetest Lord Jesus Christ, singing to Him with every ounce of your being: Alleluia!

### **Ikos 2**

You did receive divine reason from your beloved Savior Christ, O marvelous Leonid, when, being yet a child, you comprehended the hand of the Heavenly Creator and Fashioner in all the visible forms of this world. Wherefore, glorifying you, we extol you thus:

Rejoice, having contemplated the Triune God at all times.

Rejoice, having loved the quiet and solitude of the Prayer of Jesus.

Rejoice, having had great zeal for God from your childhood years.

Rejoice, having scorned everything beautiful and sweet of this world.

Rejoice, having received a heavenly reward from the Master.

Rejoice, having retained the Jesus prayer unceasingly on your lips and in your mind.

Rejoice, having shown perfect love for the Lord.

Rejoice, having borne your beloved Jesus constantly within your heart.

Rejoice, O holy Hieromartyr Leonid, who bore the Passion throughout your life!

### **Kontakion 3**

You rejected the wiles of the world when you fled to the calm harbor of monastic life, O most blessed father. From your youth you walked according to the commandments of Christ the Savior, and did daily take up the cross, following Him faithfully and unceasingly singing in your heart: Alleluia!

### **Ikos 3**

The teachers were amazed at how you excelled in the studies of the Holy Things. You always searched the words of the Lord out like a treasure. The teachings of the wise Soloviev did you also take to heart, O Holy Hierarch. Wherefore, honoring your life and love for the Sweetest Lord Jesus, we bless you as did the pious Abrikosov and Ushakov families thus:

Rejoice, having slain the hardness of heart in your youth.

Rejoice, having desired the great treasure of the Holy Mysteries of Christ.

Rejoice, having now joined Christ in the heavens, for whom you always yearned.

Rejoice, having watered the seeds of the Most Holy Trinity in your heart with abundant tears.

Rejoice, for in the midst of the world you shone as a beacon of virtues.

Rejoice, zealous guard of holiness of soul and body.

Rejoice, wonderful adornment of chastity.

Rejoice, for your countenance bore witness to the true beauty of your soul.

Rejoice, O holy Hieromartyr Leonid, who bore the Passion throughout your life!

### **Kontakion 4**

The storms of fear and doubting thoughts did not sway you, O blessed Leonid, when faced with intimidation and threats. For your faith and desire to fulfill the words of the sweetest Savior you took upon yourself the yoke of Christ and scorning the world with its temptations, singing aloud to God: Alleluia!

### **Ikos 4**

The holy bishop Andrei saw your zeal and holiness, O Holy Hierarch, and took you under his omophorion. He gave you charge of monks and made you the shepherd of souls. The radiance of your life and spirit filled the monastic brethren with joy, and like them upon hearing your words of wisdom we also praise God and call upon you:

Rejoice, having preferred the calling of the angelic monastic life to worldly pleasures.

Rejoice, having fiercely taken up arms against the passions, the flesh, and the devil.

Rejoice, having defeated all the devilry of the enemy with the Cross of Christ.

Rejoice, having been vested with the armor of righteousness and helmet of salvation.

Rejoice, you who fed yourself with the heavenly bread of Christ.

Rejoice, having loved the word of God more than any worldly weapon of mankind.

Rejoice, having guarded yourself from the arrows of the evil one with the shield of faith.

Rejoice, having received the rank of ineffable blessedness with the angels in the heavens.

Rejoice, O holy Hieromartyr Leonid, who bore the Passion throughout your life!

### **Kontakion 5**

The holy bishop Mikhail was enraptured at seeing you being presented for ordination to the Holy Priesthood. He hastened to fulfill the will of the Lord, and ordained you as a servitor of the Holy

Altar and minister of the Holy Things. After examining you, and seeing a soul on fire with the love of Christ, he brought you into the Holy of Holies. And as he laid his hands upon you for ordination to the holy priesthood, he cried to the Master of all in his heart: Alleluia.

### **Ikos 5**

You were a guiding light to the monks of Kamenica, a very angel in their midst. The elder Josafat was astonished by your monastic endeavors, and by your daily living out the Gospel of the Lord. All the brothers of the monastery were surprised, witnessing your great zeal in the fulfillment of obedience, well tested by your humility. And, we, honoring your podvigs and labors, which you had taken up from your youth voluntarily for Christ's sake, cry to you with compunction:

Rejoice, having lifted the Cross upon your shoulders and having followed Christ.

Rejoice, having chosen the narrow and sorrowful path of monastic life.

Rejoice, having never turned back.

Rejoice, having overcome the demon of pride with your humility.

Rejoice, not having buried your talents in the earth.

Rejoice, having used them for the great glory of God and for the salvation of souls.

Rejoice, having revived many souls soiled in sins from the brink of damnation.

Rejoice, having fed your flock with the Word of God as a gentile shepherd feeding his lambs.

Rejoice, O holy Hieromartyr Leonid, who bore the Passion throughout your life!

### **Kontakion 6**

By your endless vigils, unceasing prayer, humility and fasting you fiercely waged war against the fleshly passions, O holy Hieromartyr. Having fought the good fight, you now indeed appear with the choirs of Angels before the Throne of the Most Holy Trinity continually praising God and chanting: Alleluia!

### **Ikos 6**

In Tobolsk and Archangelsk, in exile as in most of your life, you lived the life of an angel on earth. Many were enlightened and taught to worship the Lord through your holy work. Even those imprisoned with you, seeing your joyful face, were filled with faith and love for the Most Holy Trinity. Receive from us who are prisoners of earthly cares, passions and sins these cries:

Rejoice, prolific laborer in the vineyard of Christ.

Rejoice, having received the grace of God abundantly in ordination.

Rejoice, having fulfilled the teachings of the Lord.

Rejoice, you who gave all of the faithful to drink of His saving streams.

Rejoice, spiritual lute, perfected by the Holy Spirit.

Rejoice, you who fulfilled the wise words of the Apostles and Fathers.

Rejoice, divinely inspired adornment of orthodox hierarchs.

Rejoice, for your beloved Lord spoke through your words.

Rejoice, O holy Hieromartyr Leonid, who bore the Passion throughout your life!

### **Kontakion 7**

When reciting the holy words of St. John Chrysostom on the glorious feast of Pascha you were overcome with joy and gladness. You wept tears of joy and repentance in the sight of your holy and faithful people gathered for the Holy Mysteries. Your flock also wept at seeing your heartfelt love for the Holy Mysteries and the living prayer of your presence. With the radiance of the Feast of Feasts, they exclaimed to Christ who has risen from the dead: Alleluia.

### **Ikos 7**

In the royal city you were truly a good shepherd, tirelessly caring for your spiritual flock. Like an angel did you move about the city and outward lands giving comfort and being a living path to salvation for all to your sweetest Lord with the Holy and deifying Mysteries. Wherefore we your flock on earth glorifies you, calling out:

Rejoice having imitated the holy Sergius, abbot of Radonezh.

Rejoice, having been a living icon of the holy wonderworker of Sarov, Seraphim.

Rejoice, having led your children as a loving father along the path of salvation.

Rejoice, having been a keeper of the Keys to Eternal Life.

Rejoice, having accepted those starting the monastic path with love.

Rejoice, having led guilty monks to tearful repentance.

Rejoice, having given to all an example by your life as a good pastor.

Rejoice, having been prepared to sacrifice your very life for their salvation.

Rejoice, O holy Hieromartyr Leonid, who bore the Passion throughout your life!

### **Kontakion 8**

Your holy patron the Hieromartyr St. Leontius often spoke the words: 'In the name of the All-holy Trinity; Father, Son and Holy Spirit.' Like him, O holy hierarch, you continually called upon and hymned the Most Holy Trinity. Seeing your great love for the Triune God, we send up praise to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, crying out: Alleluia!

### **Ikos 8**

At the Synod in the royal city you proved yourself far wiser than your years, O holy hierarch. When the holy bishop Andrei and all those saintly priests gathered together they saw your angelic life and heard your words as if like thunder. Rejoicing like them in the Divine Wisdom which guided your life, we call to you such words as these:

Rejoice, O you with a voice of thunder frightening to all demons.

Rejoice, living model of your heavenly patron Leontius the Great Martyr.

Rejoice, having imitated all of the holy Hieromartyrs with your life and death.

Rejoice, having conquered transgressors as did the Great Martyr Leontius with the evil Hadrian.

Rejoice, O you who carried the Lord Jesus Christ in your heart at every moment.

Rejoice, having received the dignity of the priesthood as most great gift of God.

Rejoice, for like your patron holy Leontius, you enflamed others with love of the Holy Trinity.

Rejoice, having offered the Bloodless Sacrifice with great reverence and fear.

Rejoice, O holy Hieromartyr Leonid, who bore the Passion throughout your life!

### **Kontakion 9**

The holy priest Alexei was startled at the fervor of which you ministered to the people and your reverence before the Holy Things. He saw the brilliance of your countenance full of the grace of the Most Holy Trinity when serving in the Holy of Holies. When you were elevated to Exarch by the grace of God, he trembled when he received the Holy Mysteries from you, his spiritual shepherd, singing with fervor: Alleluia

### **Ikos 9**

In the darkness of the prison of Solovki, you had already perfected all of the virtues and were truly an angel in the flesh, O holy Hieromartyr Leonid. Like the holy Starovery martyrs before you of that place, you were persecuted for keeping the orthodox faith. Wherefore all of us, rich and poor, noble and common, all your spiritual children in all generations, call to you:  
Rejoice, O new Basil, having led many souls to repentance with your love for the Trinity.  
Rejoice, having enlightened the souls and hearts of all those who honor you.  
Rejoice, having prayed incessantly for your enemies.  
Rejoice, having prayed for all your spiritual children with love.  
Rejoice, O new Gregory Palamas, leading many to God through the Prayer of the Heart.  
Rejoice, having cried the tears of Ezekiel and Manasseh in repentance.  
Rejoice, having persevered the podvigs and labors of your divinely inspired life.  
Rejoice, having completely imitated the ascetics of old.

Rejoice, O holy Hieromartyr Leonid, who bore the Passion throughout your life!

### **Kontakion 10**

You were a living example of those who perished under the infamous Copronymos and the other iconoclasts. Like your heavenly inspiration in the monastic life, St. Theodore the Studite, you died in exile among strangers. But you sang praises to God continually while the godless atheists who persecuted you were idolaters who knew not how to sing: Alleluia.

### **Ikos 10**

You are the crown of all the martyrs of Rus', O Holy Hieromartyr. You endured scourging, beatings, and other terrible tortures, all the while faithfully carrying your cross with the sweetest Lord Jesus Christ. Even in the darkest dungeons you always received with love all who fled to you, consoling their sorrows, directing them to repentance, teaching them constant prayer and shedding heartfelt tears for their salvation. All of us on earth in amazement of your holy life proclaim to you:  
Rejoice, our good shepherd, spiritual son of the holy Studion.  
Rejoice, never turning away those who come to you.  
Rejoice, having embraced those pleading for your help, near and far, with love.  
Rejoice, having taught your spiritual offspring all Christian virtues.  
Rejoice, having directed us to look for God's Wisdom in all things.  
Rejoice, having taught your children to have recourse to the Prayer of the Heart.  
Rejoice, having preached that we should always ask of God great mercy.  
Rejoice, you who constantly fled to the Theotokos for refuge.

Rejoice, O holy Hieromartyr Leonid, who bore the Passion throughout your life!

### **Kontakion 11**

Overburdened by the bodily infirmities and podvigs of life, you resided in exile in Viatka, desiring to prepare your soul for departure from this world. You finished your earthly days in unceasing prayer and divine contemplation, singing aloud always to the Most Holy Trinity. You passed to life eternal in the arms of strangers in exile like your holy forefather and guiding light the great St. Theodore the Studite. And with those who saw your holy final days, your passing to life eternal, and who buried your holy body, we cry out in amazement: Alleluia!

### **Ikos 11**

With joy let us sing to the New Martyr Leonid, who laid down his very life for his people as a sweet offering to God. The entire angelic army and choir of holy hierarchs marvel, beholding you, the new God-pleaser, beaming with great labors and podvigs, cries out words like these: Rejoice, having marked your holy life with a righteous end.

Rejoice, having foreseen your departure from life.

Rejoice, having taken on your sufferings as a bridegroom embraces his bride.

Rejoice, having met the Bridegroom with the lamp of your soul burning brightly.

Rejoice, beholding the Resurrection of the Savior with the myrrh-bearing women at your end.

Rejoice, never ceasing of your intercession for those who honor your repose.

Rejoice, having covered all us who zealously pray to you with your grace and care.

Rejoice, having taught your children to hold firm to the orthodox faith.

Rejoice, O holy Hieromartyr Leonid, who bore the Passion throughout your life!

### **Kontakion 12**

All of Russia sings your praises, O Holy Hierarch. Your deeds and life have spread to the ends of the earth. You embraced the very prayer of the sweetest Savior "That all may be one" to heart throughout your entire life, and were a guiding light to all who encountered you. As a great shepherd on earth, and fervent heavenly intercessor, we all cry out from the depth of our hearts in joy: Alleluia.

### **Ikos 12**

Singing to God who is wondrous in His saints, we praise you, O holy Hieromartyr Leonid. You are a true friend of Christ, having acquired the heavenly blessedness by the unwavering working of the Lord's commandments. Pray for us sinners, O New God-pleaser, that we may be fellow partakers of the Lord's banquet, and who with compunction call to you:

Rejoice, glory and praise of monastics.

Rejoice, O rejoicing of the holy fathers of the Studite Rule.

Rejoice, having acquired the Holy Spirit with your incessant prayers.

Rejoice, having received the inheritance of eternal life for your meekness of soul.

Rejoice, having been consoled by the Lord Himself in crying over your sins.

Rejoice, having beheld God by your angelic purity of heart.

Rejoice, holy light who illumined the island of Solovki.

Rejoice, having heard the sweet voice of the Savior: "Good and faithful servant, enter into the joy of your Lord".

Rejoice, O holy Hieromartyr Leonid, who bore the Passion throughout your life!

### **Kontakion 13**

O Wonderworker Hieromartyr Leonid! We your spiritual children send up this spiritual mite to you our heavenly patron and protector. Do not despise us in our misery, but be a strong intercessor before the Most Holy Trinity, whom you did not cease to glorify in your earthly life. Deliver us by your all-powerful intercession from every grievance, illness and sorrow; warm our souls with the fire of faith and love towards God; grant us repentance before the end; be a guide for us to the Heavenly Kingdom, that there with you and all those who have pleased God, we may sing to Him unto the ages of ages: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

*(Repeat this Kontakion thrice, and then repeat the 1<sup>st</sup> Ikos and 1<sup>st</sup> Kontakion).*

### **First Prayer to our Holy Hieromartyr Leonid**

O great and wonderful champion of Christ, O holy Hieromartyr Father Leonid! Mercifully accept our prayers brought to you with love and thanksgiving! Hear us orphaned and helpless ones, who bow down before you with faith and love and request your fervent intercession for us before the Throne of the God of Glory. O light of Russia, pray for your homeland and her protection. We know that the prayer of a righteous man avails much to win the Master's favor. You had an ardent love for the Lord from your youth and having desired to serve Him alone, you always considered the things of this world as nothing. Denying yourself and having taken up your cross, you followed Christ. O Holy Exarch, you voluntarily did take upon yourself the narrow and most-sorrowful path of monastic life, following the life of the great St. Theodore the Studite, and on this path you acquired great virtues.

You endured years of sufferings and persecutions at the hands of the godless. With your life you filled the hearts of men with deep reverence before the Almighty Creator. You encouraged fallen sinners with your wise counsels, teaching them to flee unto God in repentance and humility, all the while reassuring them with hope in His rich and great mercy. You never turned away those who came to you, but were a kind and loving father and pastor to all. And now, do not abandon us who earnestly pray to you and entreat your help and intercession. Watch over and protect with your powerful intercession your children of Rus' and your spiritual inheritance spread over the whole world. Beseech the most holy God that He grant us the acquisition of the Holy and Life-Giving Spirit which you were granted, through your holy prayers now offered before the throne of God with the angelic powers. Obtain for us from our Lord Who loves mankind spiritual and physical health, establish our faith, and strengthen us who are utterly exhausted in the temptations and ungodliness of this age, when men have rejected and even hated the Word of God.

With the fire of your incessant prayers warm our hearts cooled through our rejection of our sweetest Lord Jesus Christ. Help us to receive a Christian end to this life cleansed by repentance, and thus to enter the most well-adorned bridal chamber of the Savior with all of the elect, and there, together with you, to bow down to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit unto the ages of ages. Amen.

**Second Prayer composed by the Holy Hieromartyr Leonid himself:**

Merciful Lord Jesus, Our Savior, hear the prayers and petitions of Your unworthy sinful servants who humbly call upon You and make us all to be one in Your one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church. Flood our souls with Your unquenchable light. Put an end to religious disagreements, and grant that we your disciples and beloved children may all worship You with a single heart and voice. Fulfill quickly, O grace-giving Lord, Your promise that there shall be one flock and one Divine Shepherd of Your Church; and may we be made worthy to glorify Your Holy Name now and ever and unto the ages of ages. Amen.



*Hieromartyr Leonid Ivanovich Feodorov, Exarch of the Russian Catholic Church  
4 November 1879- 7 March 1935*

***Holy Hieromartyr Leonid, pray to God for us!***

*Composed by Subdeacon Randolph L. Brown  
Ad usum privatum (for private prayer use) pending ecclesiastical approbation  
Glory to God for all things!*