



## Antiochian Orthodox Christian Women of Ss. Peter & Paul

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### Spiritual Reflection for May 2013

#### **The Akathist Hymn: "Glory to God for All Things"**

(below is only one out of thirteen beautiful verses)

The dark storm clouds of life bring no terror to those in whose hearts Thy fire is burning brightly. Outside is the darkness of the whirlwind, the terror and howling of the storm, but in the heart, in the presence of Christ, there is light and peace, silence: Alleluia!

I see Thine heavens resplendent with stars. How glorious art Thou radiant with light! Eternity watches me by the rays of the distant stars. I am small, insignificant, but the Lord is at my side. Thy right arm guides me wherever I go.

Glory to Thee, ceaselessly watching over me

Glory to Thee for the encounters Thou dost arrange for me

Glory to Thee for the love of parents, for the faithfulness of friends

Glory to Thee for the humbleness of the animals which serve me

Glory to Thee for the unforgettable moments of life

Glory to Thee for the heart's innocent joy

Glory to Thee for the joy of living

Moving and being able to return Thy love

Glory to Thee, O God, from age to age

*This Akathist, also called the "Akathist of Thanksgiving," was composed by Protopresbyter Gregory Petrov shortly before his death in a prison camp in 1940. The title is from the words of Saint John Chrysostom as he was dying in exile. It is a song of praise from amidst the most terrible sufferings.*