



MEMBERSHIP IN THE FELLOWSHIP

Membership participation has three requirements and they are:

1. A desire to live and improve upon a life of sobriety and purity on a daily basis.
2. A **daily** Rule of Prayer reading from the Akathist of the Inexhaustible Cup booklet, pages 13-14, Kontakion 1, Ikos 1, and also pages 29-31, Kontakion 13, First Prayer, Second Prayer, and the Troparion. This set of prayers takes less than ten (10) minutes a day. The rule of prayer also includes forming a list of individuals, family members, and friends for whom each member chooses to pray for.
3. A free-will offering each month is used for the purpose of developing and sponsoring conferences related to the treatment of addictions, as well as publishing articles and granting clergy financial assistance when needed.

The Fellowship's financial well-being is founded on the Biblical precept of faithful tithing. Thus, in addition to the Fellowship soliciting funds for its own existence, a portion of contributions received by the Fellowship will be consistently given to help support causes that are actively involved in helping people to secure and maintain sobriety, and to gain meaning and purpose to their lives in doing so. Specific first causes to be aided include Orthodox monasteries, churches with outreach programs, and missions.

The overall goal of this fellowship is to provide and establish a network of intercessory prayer and support among its members in order to combat the many destructive forces of addictions present in our day and age.



PERSONAL INVITATION

Our Lady of the Inexhaustible Cup invites all of its members to come under her Omophorion and receive her holy protection, intercession, and assistance. She promises to make a very important commitment to us which can be found in the Akathist to the Mother of God, The Inexhaustible Cup.

“No one departs empty-handed from the Inexhaustible Cup of divine gifts, O all-good One, so that having received healing from Thy miraculous Icon they may with thanksgiving sing to Thee: Alleluia!” (Kontakion 12)

Our Lady of the Inexhaustible Cup offers her precious child Jesus inside the Holy Mystery of Communion as a means and an end to the healing of every known addiction and its destructive influence. She also makes clear to all who pray the Akathist to the Inexhaustible Cup that she herself is the Holy Chalice which contains His most precious body and blood.

“Rejoice, Chalice by which we receive the joy of our salvation.” (Ikos 3)

“Rejoice, Cup drawing forth joy from the source of immortality.” (Ikos 4)

“Rejoice, Chalice of life and immortality that leads to the gates of eternal life.” (Ikos 6)

“Rejoice, heavenly Chalice of divine gifts.” (Kontakion 7)

Our Lady of the Inexhaustible Cup desires that all clergy and people consider her to be the Holy Chalice inseparable from Christ's gift the Holy Eucharist. As we approach Holy Communion, let us remember that Christ's precious body and blood are offered simultaneously by the Living Tabernacle, the Holy Dispenser, who is the Theotokos. She paid a great price to participate in this gift of the Eucharist. For let us not forget the words of the Holy Prophet Simeon who spoke this prophecy to her: “Your heart will be pierced with a sword so that the thoughts of many shall be laid bare.”



PURITY OF HEART

Our greatest example of purity of heart and chastity is exemplified by the very holiness of the Mother of God, the Theotokos, our Champion Leader. “

“Rejoice, immaculate One, whose purity cleanses our impurity.” (Ikos 10)

We will pray daily in the Second Prayer:

“Implore Thy Son, Christ our God, to forgive us our sins and not to turn His mercy away from His people but that He would strengthen us in sobriety and chastity.”

Through her steadfast intercession, the Immaterial Fire of the Holy Spirit will extinguish the destructive force of lust in our day and age and the thirst of our souls will be wholeheartedly quenched.



THE GIFT OF INTERCESSION

“Rejoice, O Sovereign Lady, Thou Inexhaustible Cup that quenches our spiritual thirst!”

Our most adorable Lady of the Inexhaustible Cup invites all of us today to share with her by becoming intercessors for the members of the Body of Christ. May we all establish a deeper and more personal experience of her love and support as our spiritual mother and queen of heaven and earth. May we respond to her faithful and constant intercession by our own faithful participation. With, and by, this holy love, our own hearts will be healed and transformed, as well as the hearts of them for whom we pray for on a daily basis.



HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

In the year 1878, there appeared a miraculous icon called 'The Inexhaustible Cup', which is located at a women's monastery in the city of Serpukhov, Russia. It is known for its countless miracles and healing of every manner of addiction including: alcohol, drugs, sex, gambling, pornography, co-dependency and for the cure of many other illnesses. Not long after the appearance of this icon, a Brotherhood of Sobriety was formed and developed, but when it was doing the most good it was dismembered by the Soviet government.

Today's fellowship is founded on the historical precedent of this Brotherhood which developed twenty years after the appearance of this miraculous icon and continues to be committed to combating and aiding in the treatment and manner of addictions. It will produce articles, sponsor workshops, and direct retreats, prayer gatherings, and educational programs for its members and inquirers. Significantly, at the end of the 19th century, a great saint and his saintly wife (St. John of Kronstadt and Matushka Elizabeth) dedicated their lives to the healing of the addicted and afflicted of their time. They were known for the acquisition of the highest virtues rooted in their primary commitment of intercessory prayer for those around them who were in need. This produced great fruit in the form of healing and an abundance of charity work. We, as a married couple, and the founding members of this Fellowship, seek to emulate the life and practice of this sanctified couple.

The members of this Fellowship of the Inexhaustible Cup committed to improving their sobriety and purity are dedicated to the Icon of the Mother of God, "Our Lady of the Inexhaustible Cup" by praying for one another. The non-profit sponsor and spiritual father of the Fellowship and our marriage is Archpriest Fr. Gordon Walker, founder of St. Ignatius Antiochian Orthodox Church, Franklin, TN. We are deeply grateful to him for his love and support over the years.

"Glory and eternal dominion are His, in company with the eternal Father and the Holy Spirit. Amen." (St. John Climacus "The Ladder of Divine Ascent")

Thank you for your prayerful participation and consideration.

Much love in Christ and with Our Lady of the Inexhaustible Cup,

Fr. Christophe Lepoutre M.S.

Matushka Cynthia

Fr. Christophe Lepoutre, M.S., Pastoral Counseling and his wife, Matushka Cynthia.

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For phone consultations/referrals, please call Fr. Christophe at his Pastoral Counseling Office at (540) 676-7484.

www.inexhaustiblecup.org

Fr. Christophe Lepoutre is the rector of the Orthodox Chapel of the Mother of God The Inexhaustible Cup in Natural Bridge Station, VA.



FOR TAX DEDUCTIBLE DONATIONS

Please make checks payable to:

Inexhaustible Cup

2565 Forest Oaks Road

Natural Bridge Station, VA 24579

FELLOWSHIP OF THE INEXHAUSTIBLE CUP



PRIMARY PURPOSE

The caring members of the Fellowship of the Inexhaustible Cup have the primary purpose of honoring Our Most Holy Lady, the Theotokos, as the Fellowship's Champion Leader by acquiring and maintaining quality sobriety and purity as a way of life. Members are committed to praying all or part of the Akathist of the Inexhaustible Cup on a daily basis, as well as making a monthly financial commitment to help sustain the work of the Fellowship. Members are devoted to praying for and reaching out to those suffering from all manner of addictions, helping the afflicted at their point of need, and bringing them the message of hope and healing.