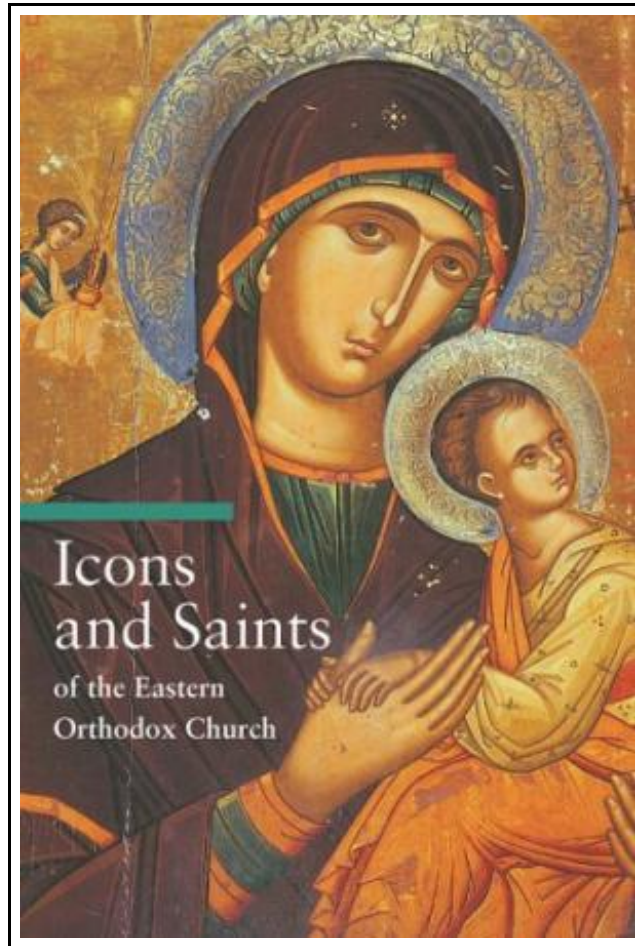


Icons and Saints of the Eastern Orthodox Church



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Reviews

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ICONS AND SAINTS OF THE EASTERN ORTHODOX CHURCH



Getty Trust Publications: J. Paul Getty Museum July 2006, 2006. Paper Back. Book Condition: New. Vital statistics (it's not a coffee table book-it's better; you have to hold it in your hands to understand): a compact 5' x 8' x 1', glossy paperback, gatefold heavy cover, every page bursting with color. We've been waiting years for a book like this. It's simply the best concise introduction we know to the theological vocabulary of Orthodox iconography, with hundreds of full-color plates describing and explaining in simple language all the most well-known saints, feasts and themes of the Church. The layout of each page is usually like this: the full-color icon predominates. A sidebar contains the following succinct information-Text/Title/Feast Day/ (usually scriptural) Sources/Iconography. Other sidebars provide descriptions that point toward specific elements in particular icons, providing explanations for practical questions the icon might provoke. An index of subjects and a helpful glossary conclude the text. Icons have variously been called 'windows in to heaven' 'a visual translation of scripture' or 'the Church's family album.' These phrases suggest but do not capture the full theological significance of holy images. Icons and Saints is unique in that it lets icons speak for themselves, while it merely translates. It's an encyclopedia of imagery. If you have ever asked or been asked, 'Why are icons painted like this?', 'What do these symbols represent?' or 'Why are icons so important?' then you will appreciate the breadth of information beautifully presented in this book. We highly recommend. 383 pp.



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