



## The Art of Prayer

*Kallistos Ware (Editor) , Igumen Chariton (Compiled by) , E. Kadloubovsky (Translator) , E.M. Palmer (Translator)*

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A spiritual anthology drawn from the Greek and Russian traditions, concerned in particular with the most frequently used and best loved of all Orthodox prayers--the Jesus Prayer. Texts are taken chiefly from the letters of Bishop Theophan the Recluse, along with many other writers.

## The Art of Prayer Details

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# From Reader Review The Art of Prayer for online ebook

## David Withun says

This isn't actually a work all its own but a selection of quotes from various Church Fathers and a few others, and especially St. Theophan the Recluse, on the Jesus Prayer and on related topics of Orthodox spirituality. The selections are, of course, fantastic. The book is filled from cover to cover with practical advice from our holy fathers and mothers on how to pursue a more intimate relationship with our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ. I recommend it very much to those interested in either trying to understand Orthodox spirituality or who would themselves like to deepen their spiritual life.

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## Joanna Eleftheriou says

I'll always be rereading this book, till I memorize it.

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## Rose says

that book really took much time 2 b finished. I can't evaluate it properly. It was good I can't deny that, but how much good don't know. The topics r fantastic. I don't know what type of ppl I can recommend that book to, all I know it's not for beginners, u need to have background about the art of prayer before starting it 2 b able 2 understand the standards the book has.

It has one big goal focused on , that was so good & useful to me.

An advice, if get bored at the start, fight & keep going, there is a treasure need 2 b found n that book.

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## Georgie Zhiw says

Perfect.

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## Ephraim Lawson Bowick says

My Spiritual Father gave me this book when I initially began to be drawn to the Orthodox Church. If you're interested in hesychasm, or seeking further, more intimate relationship with our Creator, I HIGHLY recommend this book. St. Theophan the Recluse will become like a mentor to you after flipping through this book.

Best read in small increments.

Forgive me a sinner,

Lawson

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**Maureen E says**

This is an Orthodox Christian anthology, largely taken from the Philokalia, on prayer. It includes sections from St. Theophan the Recluse, St. Ignaty Brianchininnov, and others. Highly recommended, although more for Orthodox than non-Orthodox.

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**Angelica Madeline says**

Loved every page, the kind of book you should carry with you everywhere or have by your bedside table and re-read over and over again. A true feast for the mind and heart. May God bless St. Theophan The Recluse and all the monks all over the world. "Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have Mercy upon me, a sinner".

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**Scott says**

As a guide to the Orthodox art of prayer this book is ideal. There is much repetition, but I find sometimes we need that repetition. A slight twist in how a sentence is phrased, or a slightly different context, can mean the difference between understanding and not. Highly recommended for anyone interested in true prayer rather than a superficial litany of material wants and desires.

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**Julio Alvarado says**

I read this book based off of the recommendation to primarily focus on it's perspective on prayer but from how the ancient patriarchs heard the voice of God for their lives. This book had a few good insights into this process that I was looking for but the majority of the content of this book focus more on the traditional perspective of prayer in terms of what to say in prayer and quoting scripted prayers from different resources.

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**Kristie Soliman says**

Very good and helpful read. Repetitive at times, which at first bothered me but I grew fond of the repetition about halfway through the book when I actually started to try to practice the things written here.

This isn't necessarily the best intro to prayer. The part of the book dedicated to the Jesus prayer has a lot of good things for introduction, but as a whole, the writers speak of very high level concepts, sometimes written specifically to monks, and could be confusing or even disturbing to someone not well-versed in the sayings of the fathers.

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## Joshua Treviño says

I won't write too much on this, as I feel fairly unqualified, for various reasons, to write on religious books. (Though I will say that I find the great Vladimir Lossky to be absolutely impenetrable.) Still, I will note that I got this book long, long before I converted to Orthodox Christianity -- about seven years before, in fact -- and I found it a treasure then, and a treasure now. You don't need to be Orthodox to read, appreciate, and benefit from *The Art of Prayer*.

The passages in this collection are culled from the much longer *Philokalia*. That collection of monastic works is a treasure in itself, but it is first and foremost monastic, and so its utility to the lay reader is somewhat obscure. *The Art of Prayer* focuses upon exactly what its title suggests, and there is a beauty and a profundity to it. In reading it, there is the element of stern Russians and mystical Greeks speaking down through the centuries -- but there is also, above all else, the sense that Elijah must have had when he heard the "still small voice" that was the Lord.

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