

# Buyers Guide to Stained Glass for Eastern Orthodox Churches

Eastern Orthodox churches across the world represent the earliest Christian denomination, one of the two branches of the first Christian Church, the other being Roman Catholic. Beginning in the ancient regions of the Bible, these churches are rooted in the cultures of their origin as well as the teachings of Christ and His Apostles, who first brought the Gospel to these regions. Stained glass has been a glorious part of Eastern Orthodox Church décor throughout the ages, classically designed in ornate, Gothic style, with vivid color and dramatic imagery. Some of the most beautiful stained glass art is displayed as part of Eastern Orthodox churches located throughout the world. This brief guide is intended as a resource for those representatives who are choosing the proper stained glass art for their Eastern Orthodox Churches.

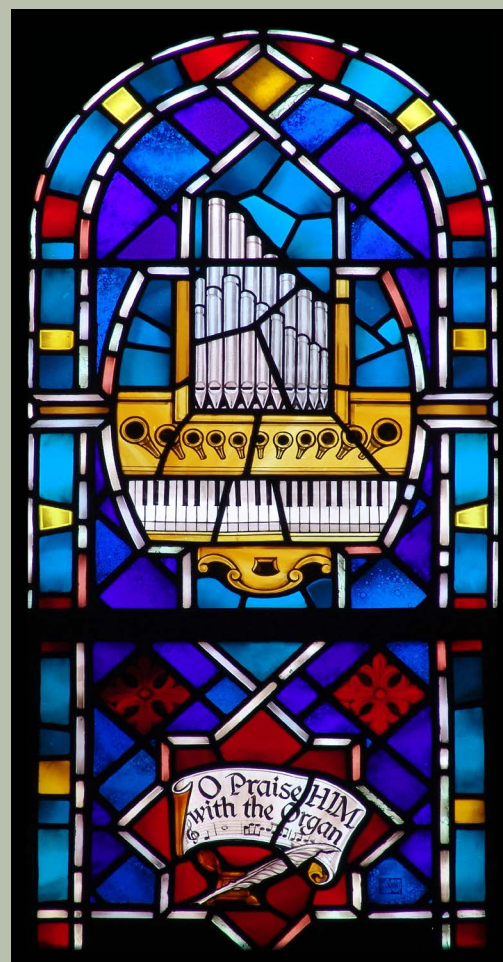
*"The word orthodox means 'true glory' as well as 'straight teaching.' 'Giving glory to God is the purpose of life' is the keynote of this tradition. Praising God, giving God thanks, and receiving God's presence in the sanctified gifts capture the heart of worship."*

[http://www.bereanbeacon.org/article/sorted/09\\_Eastern\\_Orthodoxy\\_Articles/Orthodox\\_Bishops\\_High\\_Priests.pdf](http://www.bereanbeacon.org/article/sorted/09_Eastern_Orthodoxy_Articles/Orthodox_Bishops_High_Priests.pdf)



## *Introduction to Stained Glass for Eastern Orthodox Churches*

Each of the Eastern Orthodox Churches, including the Greek Orthodox, the Russian Orthodox, the Coptic Orthodox and other ethnic related branches that make up Eastern Orthodox congregations, reflect the specific cultures, some ancient, of their people. Saint George, for instance, is particularly revered by many Eastern Orthodox worshippers, especially Greek Orthodox congregations. Saint Gregorios is favored by the Syrian Church and Saint Nicholas of Myra is beloved by Russian Orthodox believers. At Stained Glass, Inc. in Greenville, Texas, an extensive online gallery of superior stained glass art features several designs honoring traditional icons and saints of the Eastern Orthodox Church. In addition, artists at Stained Glass, Inc. are often commissioned to custom design and create stained glass that meets the specific needs of Eastern Orthodox congregations, based on client preferences and ideas.





# Eastern Orthodox Church Stained Glass Trends

Believed to be the church founded by Saint Paul himself, the Eastern Orthodox Church enjoys a long history of Christian devotion, martyrdom and saints throughout the centuries. Stained glass windows, door inserts and other stained glass art has been a centerpiece for extraordinary cathedrals and churches all over the world, some hundreds of years old. Apostles and saints, the Virgin Mother Mary and other icons in the Eastern Orthodox Church are often honored as part of these exquisite creations. The master artists in the studios of Stained Glass, Inc. carefully blend expertise, design elements, old world artistry and cutting edge technology to ensure superior quality and breathtaking beauty in every commissioned piece. Some Eastern Orthodox saints featured in the extensive online gallery include:



**Paul the Apostle** – Founder of the Eastern Orthodox Church, the Apostle Paul is honored here in vibrant colors of blue, emerald and red. Realistically rendered and centering a classically designed work of stained glass art, this piece is a true treasure.



**Saint Catherine** – A lovely depiction of Saint Catherine, also known as Saint Catherine of Alexandria, is portrayed in glowing color and light, holding the wheel that was the instrument of her martyrdom. Highly revered by Eastern Orthodox worshippers, Saint Catherine is a favorite subject in stained glass for windows or other church décor.





**Saint Gregorios** – For Eastern Orthodox Syrian Church worshippers, Saint Gregorios is especially favored as the subject of astonishing stained glass art windows. This example from Stained Glass, Inc.'s online gallery is enthralling, expertly crafted in arched elaborate classic gothic style, arranged in vibrantly colored panels that catch and reflect the glow of light throughout the day.

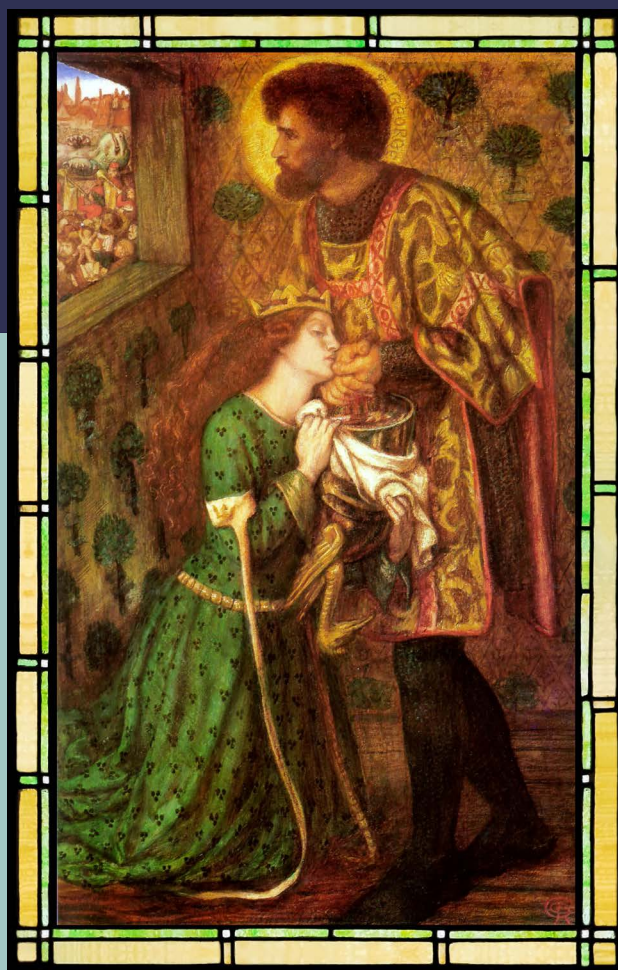
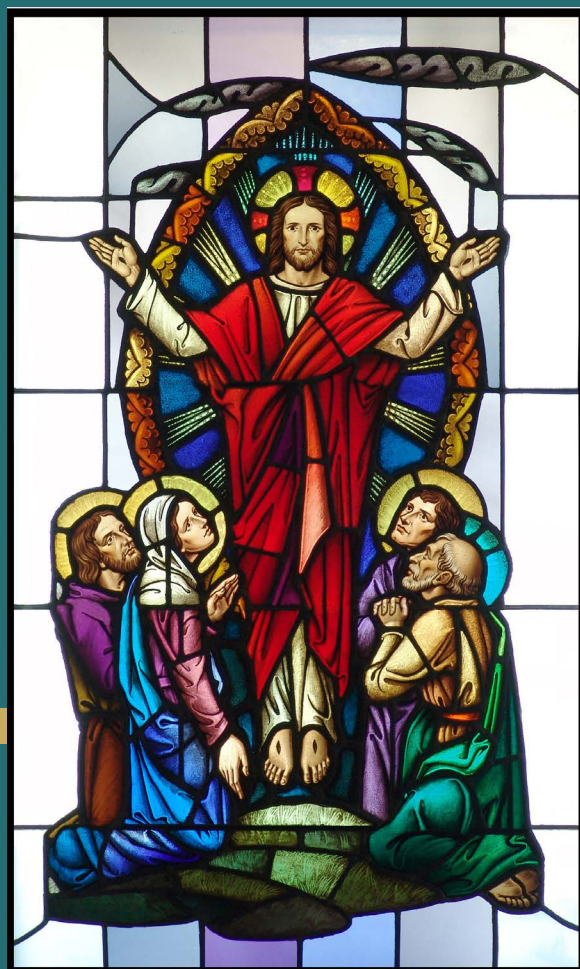


**Saint Athanasius** – Athanasius of Alexandra, especially revered in the Coptic Orthodox Church, is depicted in glorious stained glass that features hues that cross the full spectrum of color. The use of blues and indigo foster an ethereal glow that is created when natural light is reflected across this lovely panel.



## *Stained Glass Designs Unique to Eastern Orthodox Churches*

Stained glass in Eastern Orthodox churches throughout the world is often designed classically in the traditional Gothic, elaborate style, symmetrically perfect and dramatic. For many American Eastern Orthodox churches, however, buildings incorporate a more contemporary style, reflecting more up to date design elements to bring ancient Christian teachings to life. These congregations often prefer more modern design technique to complement contemporary architecture, without sacrificing the sacred message of Eastern Orthodox Christianity. Stained glass windows in the gallery at Stained Glass, Inc. that employ some of these exciting new elements of contemporary design include:



**Saint George and the Princess Sabra** – This stunning reproduction of the classic painting by Rossetti portrays Princess Sabra thanking Saint George for slaying the dragon. A classic painting brought to life in stained glass color and light, this work is the perfect accent for contemporary Eastern Orthodox Church décor.

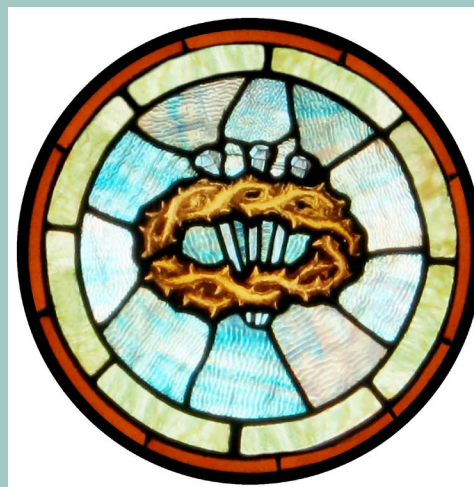
**Apostles Commissioned** – Christ's Great Commission, His directive to believers to bring the gospel to all the world, is a central Christian tenet in the Eastern Orthodox Church, founded by the very apostles who were tasked by Jesus. This lovely work of stained glass art was created by artisans using bright, colorful design that pairs color and light for maximum effect.

**Mary Pearlesque** – This stunning work of stained glass art inspires awe and reverence as the Virgin Mary is portrayed with flawless imagery that brings her features to life for all who are blessed to behold her. Set on a contemporary design in light, iridescent panels pick up and reflect rays of pearly light around the figure of the Holy Mother of Christ. Inspiring and uplifting, this lovely stained glass window is perfect as a centerpiece for contemporary Easter Orthodox Church décor.



**Blessed Union** – Another example of custom designed stained glass to meet the specific needs of a client, this joyful rose window depiction of the bond of Christian marriage is perfect for application during wedding celebrations, anniversaries and other special wedding-related occasions. Stained Glass, Inc. window inserts are designed for quick installation and can be easily changed for special occasions and religious observances.

**Crown of Thorns** – A rose window, circular and centered by the beloved Christian symbol of the crown of thorns, is encircled by a frame of vivid scarlet, iridescent blue and green tones in interesting patterns is an inspiring accent for any place of worship.







*"The Empire through which these first Christian missionaries traveled was, particularly in its eastern part, an empire of cities. This determined the administrative structure of the primitive church. The basic unit was the community in each city, governed by its own bishop; to assist the bishop there were presbyters or priests, and deacons."*

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## For Those Choosing Eastern Orthodox Church Windows

Artisans and experts in the art of stained glass from the studios of Stained Glass, Inc. are available at <http://stainedglassinc.com/> to help you get started on your quest for the perfect stained glass accents for your Eastern Orthodox Church building.

From start to finish, professionals in the art can lend clients their expertise, guidance and advice, ensuring perfect results. Stained glass designs are commissioned and custom designed according to client preferences, and stained glass panels are created to install easily behind existing windows, making it simple to rotate designs to honor specific occasions and events.

## Stained Glass, Inc. is the Solution for Eastern Orthodox Church Stained Glass Needs

At Stained Glass, Inc. quality and unmatched beauty is our priority, and we achieve perfection with every commission. Our reputation is based on our proven record:

- Artisans in the studios of Stained Glass, Inc. are masters in old world technique and cutting edge technology, ensuring top quality and flawless beauty every time
- Cost effective, energy efficient and environmentally friendly stained glass
- Stained glass from Stained Glass, Inc. is 200 times stronger than ordinary glass
- Easy to install panels that fit behind existing glass windows, versatile for changing to fit any occasion or religious observation
- Heat fused mineral pigments for intense, deep color to reflect light as it shifts through the day