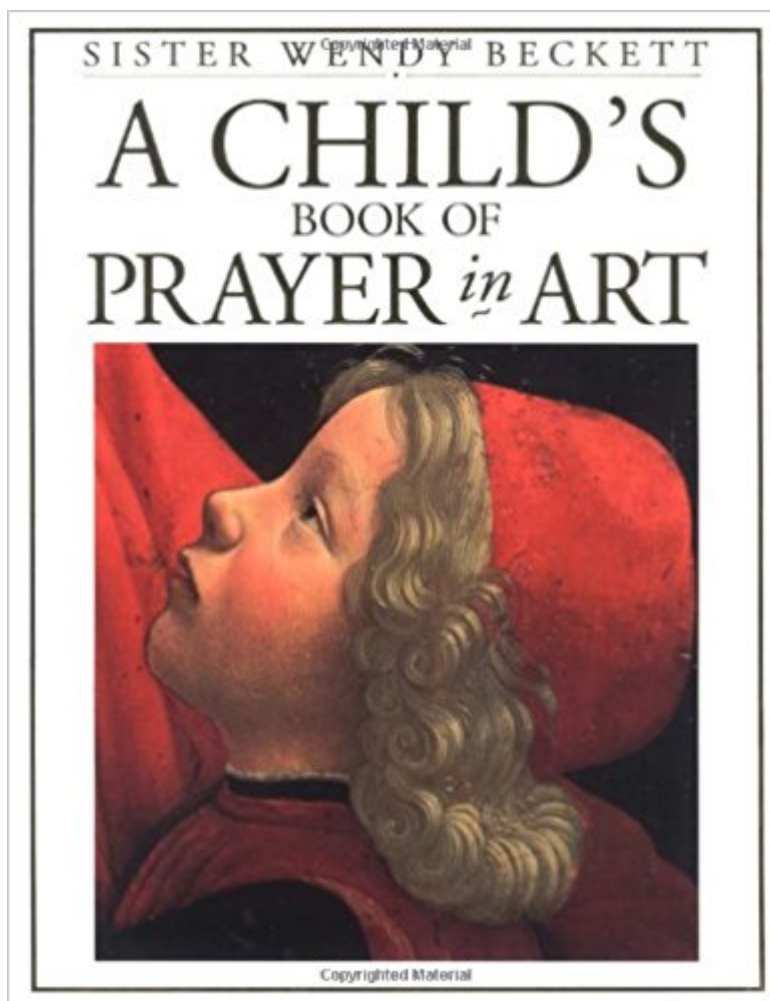


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# Child's Book Of Prayer In Art



## Synopsis

. . . introduces children to art as a means of discovering faith . . . this is a remarkable book, not only for its innate spirituality and wisdom, but also for its harmonious partnership of great art and astute interpretation.--Booklist.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 32 pages

Publisher: DK CHILDREN; Complete Numbers Starting with 1, 1st Ed edition (March 1, 1995)

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Product Dimensions: 9.2 x 0.4 x 12 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.6 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 25 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #300,048 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #195 in Books > Children's Books > Religions > Christianity > Prayer #283 in Books > Children's Books > Religions > Christianity > Devotional #310 in Books > Arts & Photography > Study & Teaching

Grade Level: Preschool - 12

## Customer Reviews

Grade 2-6? Sister Wendy, a TV personality in Britain, shows that art and religion are still mutually illuminating on the page as well as on the screen. Here, for each of a dozen works of art, she finds a moral quality to commend. Ghirlandaio's painting of a child looking raptly up into the face of an old man with a warty nose, for example, is taken by Sister Wendy to illustrate "love." The other qualities covered are respect, family, understanding, learning, forgiveness, choosing heaven, true happiness, thinking, determination, selflessness, and listening. In each case, the verso shows the whole picture; on the right are two sections of it, slightly enlarged. Two chunks of black type present Sr. Wendy's description of the painting and reflection on its moral lesson. In the center of the page is a block of large red type in quotation marks: a prayer, requesting that the petitioner be able to act on this particular moral principle. Every one is a prayer of petition for the child's own moral character: there are no prayers of glorification, thanksgiving, contrition, etc. All of the art, whether overtly religious (i.e., Christian) or secular, is turned to a specifically religious purpose. No one could reasonably object either to the sterling qualities showcased, or to the lovely reproductions. However, the didactic aims of this book are obvious. Adults who feel that this sort of didacticism?teaching

virtue?is just what kids need will love this book. Those who may feel that art is its own excuse for being can still enjoy the pictures. ?Patricia (Dooley) Lothrop Green, St. George's School, Newport, RI  
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Gr. 3<sup>^</sup>-6. Linking the work of 15 different artists, from Michelangelo to Millet, to a spiritual value such as respect or forgiveness, Sister Wendy Beckett introduces children to art as a means of discovering faith. She contends that "looking at art is one way of listening to God," and her text reveals that neither looking at art nor listening to God is a passive activity. She even suggests that adults not "sincerely trying to live in love and truth" themselves refrain from discussing the ideas presented with children, who "learn more from what we are than from what we say." Each oversize, double-page spread presents a large painting, two enlarged details, and brief description and commentary, with a lovely, simple prayer appearing midpage in big, red type. The commentary is insightful and wise. Beckett's evaluation of Millet's Seated Shepherdess, for example, communicates the shepherd girl's poverty and isolation as well as her apparent contentedness while it emphasizes the need for quiet times to think and to make choices that matter. "Nobody can tell us how to live," Beckett writes. "We all have to

This is a wonderful book and I am so glad to give it to my niece, who is a young artist. Sister Wendy is an inspiring art history teacher and the book is full of beautiful works of art by amazing artists.

I am already a big fan of Sister Wendy. I have had no art education whatsoever and her books have been my introduction to so many lovely artworks. Her passion shows through on every page. This book is not as long as most of her others, but it doesn't need to be. The simple concept of pairing a great work of art with a character trait really works. A child can easily learn to recognize a beautiful piece of art and apply it to the concept discussed. The artwork is described in detail suitable for an older child or adult and keeps this book pleasurable for all.

Wonderful explanation on the art to inspire new thoughts and encourage a depth when viewing art. Great insight from Sr. Wendy.

Wonderful book for both adults and children. Excellent and insightful commentary from Sister Wendy.

Loving Sister Wendy's Book of Meditations, I wanted to share the love with my nine year old grandson. Advice: Take one picture, one meditation, and elicit from him what he sees in the picture, what he thinks it means, etc. In a few days, or next week, sit together and discuss another picture. This is a "delicious" menu which must be savored slowly and deliberately, to be enjoyed for its best. Do not, repeat do not, read it with your child as though it were a novel. Do it right and you and your child will love it.

It was wonderful. A timeless classic by a very sensitive and intelligent religious person.

Wonderful book for adults and children, bringing us peace, calm and strength.

Beautiful artwork, wonderful descriptions and wonderful moral lessons. Perfect for a first communion or just for a young person who loves art.

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