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Païssios, Païssy, Païssié – la sainteté universelle et la communication des contenus culturels-spirituels à travers la traduction des noms propres en langue française

Païssios, Païssy, Païssié - universal sanctity and the communication of cultural-spiritual content through the translation of proper names into French

Abstract: This paper proposes a reflection and analysis on the translation of saints' proper names, focusing on the specific case of the adaptation into French of the anthroponym Païssié, referring to the future Romanian saint Païssié Olaru. We shall attempt to show that in the specialist literature of Orthodox spirituality and theology, as in all writings of this kind, the proper names of the protagonists function as rigid designators (Kripke 1982) of a cultural type, naming (and referring to) unique and singular individuals, deeply rooted in the traditionally Orthodox geographical and cultural spaces where they were born and where they lived out their faith. Their translation into a language such as French, which is not associated with the practice of universal Orthodoxy, is first and foremost a communication of the cultural and spiritual content of which they are the carriers.

Keywords: proper names, Orthodoxy, translation, communication, cultural content, saints