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Vaults of Heaven Wall Labels

Fairfield University Art Museum

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Church of Christ of Chora (Kariye Camii), Istanbul

11th–12th century, restored 1316

Parakklesion, west bay, south wall

Saints Procopius of Scythopolis (martyred in 303 CE) and Sabas the General (abbot and hermit, d. 532 CE) are shown here. The west bay of the parakklesion is decorated with large images of saints, most in military costume.

Church of Christ of Chora (Kariye Camii), Istanbul

11th–12th century, restored 1316

Inner narthex, south dome and adjacent arch

The medallion at the summit of the south dome contains an image of Christ Pantokrator (the blessing Christ as Ruler of All). The walls and vaults are decorated with mosaics depicting scenes such as the Healing of the Two Blind Men, Christ Healing Peter's Mother-in-law, the Presentation of Mary in the Temple, and Mary Being Fed by an Angel.

New Church of Tokalı (Buckle Church), Church 7, Göreme

Mid-10th century

Nave, view of the north tympanum

In the top register are the Journey to Bethlehem (left) and the Dream of Joseph (right). Images of saints decorate the blind arches below. The frieze above the arcade contains scenes from the life of Christ—Baptism, Temptation, Calling of the First Disciples, and the Marriage at Cana. Images of The Nativity (left) and the Annunciation (right) are painted on the vaulted ceiling of the nave.

**New Church of Tokalı (Buckle Church),
Church 7, Göreme**

Mid-10th century

East corridor

This Eleusa (Virgin of Tenderness), which adorns the east wall of the east corridor, is one of the earliest-known examples of this iconographic type.

**Meryem Ana Kilisesi (Church of the
Mother of God), Church 33, Göreme**

First half of the 11th century

A series of arcades separates the elevated sanctuary from the nave. A large crack to the left is evidence of the conservation problems faced by many of the churches of Cappadocia.

**Karanlık Kilise (Dark Church),
Church 23, Göreme**

Mid-11th century

General view of interior, looking east

The central cupola (top) bears an image of Christ Pantokrator (Ruler of All). Depictions of archangels decorate the domes. In the curve of the apse is the Deësis – Christ flanked by the Virgin and John the Baptist in postures of supplication.

**Karanlık Kilise (Dark Church),
Church 23, Göreme**

Mid-11th century

The tympanum (the semicircular surface above the entry) is decorated with an image of the Transfiguration of Christ. Above, on the vaulted ceiling, is the Entry of Christ into Jerusalem.

**Karanlık Kilise (Dark Church),
Church 23, Göreme**

Mid-11th century

The tympanum (the semicircular surface above the entry) is decorated with an image of the Crucifixion. On the vaulted ceiling above, the Betrayal of Judas (left) is depicted.