

*Catholic Travel Centre*  
*Worldwide Tours and Pilgrimages*  
~ presents ~

## **A Paulist Pilgrimage to the Holy Land**

**Walking in the Footsteps of Jesus**

**Under the Spiritual Direction of Rev. Richard R. Andre, C. S. P.**

***Pilgrimage Coordinator: Mr. Sergio Pellicano***

**Proposed Itinerary: 12 Days, February 10 – 21, 2020**

### **MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, DAY 1: DEPART THE USA**

We depart this evening on our flight from JFK to Tel Aviv. Complimentary meals and beverages are served on our overseas flight.

*Optional for pilgrims arriving in New York by Sunday evening: Monday gathering at the Church of St. Paul the Apostle, the mother church of the Paulist Fathers. There will be an opportunity to tour the church, meet other Paulists and collaborators, and learn more about various Paulist ministries. Bus transportation from the church to the airport could also be arranged. Details will be sent to all pilgrims at a later date; an RSVP and an additional fee will be required for bus transportation.*

### **TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, DAY 2: ARRIVE TEL AVIV / TRANSFER TO JERUSALEM**

Upon arrival in Tel Aviv we meet our Catholic Travel Centre representative, who will escort us to Jerusalem and our hotel in the Old City. Dinner is served at our accommodations. (D)

### **WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, DAY 3: JERUSALEM: ISRAEL MUSEUM & THE OLD CITY**

This morning we gather for an orientation meeting at our hotel. Next, we visit the Israel Museum for a background lesson on the history of the Holy City with its model of Jerusalem in the 2nd Temple Period, and the Dead Sea Scrolls. After that, we return to the Old City. We will have some time for our included lunch.

Later this afternoon we visit the Church of St. Ann, which marks the birthplace of the Virgin Mary, and see the Pools of Bethesda. Here at the Church of St. Ann we celebrate the opening Mass of our pilgrimage, followed by some time for prayer and reflection at the nearby Pools. We continue on to the Temple Mount and view the Dome of the Rock and El Aqsa Mosque from the outside (subject to local conditions). We pray at the Wailing (Western) Wall, where we mingle with devout Jews. (B, L, D)

#### **THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13, DAY 4: JERUSALEM: GETHSEMANE, MT. ZION & RABBINICAL TUNNELS**

This morning we make our way to the Garden of Gethsemane for a quiet hour, including a reconciliation service, before gathering to celebrate Mass in the Church of All Nations. Then we cross the Kidron Valley to the Palace of Caiaphas, a site known today as St. Peter in Gallicantu (“crowing rooster”). We then make our way to Mt. Zion, where we visit the Upper Room (commemorating the Last Supper and the first Christian Pentecost), the nearby Tomb of David, and the Benedictine Abbey of the Dormition. We have some time for our included lunch.

We visit the fascinating Rabbinical Tunnels leading us through the Second Temple era. The tunnel and exhibit give us a good understanding of the construction of the Temple Mount, the giant stones and water supply, and the Roman street where our Lord was led to judgment. Dinner this evening is at our hotel, preceded by a speaker who will tell us more about the Jewish faith and its traditions. (B, L, D)

#### **FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14, DAY 5: JERUSALEM: YAD VASHEM, JERICHO & DEAD SEA**

We begin today at Yad Vashem Memorial Museum, which tells the story of the Holocaust. Next, we travel into the Judean desert; the Good Samaritan story is related to this area. We continue to Jericho, where we celebrate Mass at Good Shepherd Church. After some time our included lunch, we tour Jericho, considered by many to be the oldest city on earth. We continue on to the Dead Sea, where we are invited to swim in the amazing salt waters. We return to our accommodations for a presentation from Catholic Relief Services (CRS) about their important work in this land, followed by dinner. (B, L, D)

#### **SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15, DAY 6: JERUSALEM: EXCURSION TO BETHLEHEM**

We travel today to Bethlehem where we begin with Mass in Shepherd’s Field. We visit the Church of the Nativity, St. Jerome’s Chapel, and St. Catherine’s Church, followed by lunch at the nearby Casa Nova.

After lunch we visit the Bethlehem Children’s Home to learn about the important work of the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul. We take some time to browse in the local shops and learn about the local Christian community. This evening we invite a leader of the Muslim community to tell us more about their faith and traditions, with dinner following. (B, D)

#### **SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16, DAY 7: JERUSALEM: VIA DOLOROSA, HOLY SEPULCHRE & EIN KAREM**

We begin the morning early as we gather at the Antonia Palace to walk the *Via Dolorosa*, the Way of the Cross, culminating at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, the site where Jesus was crucified and buried, and more importantly, where he rose again. Here we celebrate Mass followed by a visit of the Church. After our included lunch in Ein Karem, we visit the Church of St. John the Baptist and the Church of the Visitation. We have free time back in the Old City before dinner at our accommodations. (B,L, D)

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17, DAY 8: JERUSALEM: MOUNT OF OLIVES / EMMAUS / CAESAREA MARITIMA / GALILEE**

We visit the Mount of Olives for panoramic view of the city of Jerusalem, followed by a visit to the Church of Pater Noster, where tradition says that Jesus taught his disciples the Lord's Prayer. Our next stop is Emmaus, where our Lord met the disciples after His resurrection. We celebrate Mass in the Crusader Chapel at Abu Gosh.

After a light lunch along the highway, we continue on to Galilee. We begin our time there with a boat ride across the Sea of Galilee, recalling the many stories of Jesus and His disciples which took place along the shores of this lake. We arrive at our accommodations along the shores of the Sea of Galilee. (B, L, D)

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, DAY 9: GALILEE: EXCURSION TO CANA & NAZARETH**

After breakfast, we travel to the Mount of Beatitudes, spend time to visit the chapel and walk the beautiful gardens. We then continue on to Nazareth, Mary's home and the town where Jesus played as a child, learned a trade, and grew to adulthood. We celebrate Mass at the Basilica of the Annunciation and tour the Church of St. Joseph, followed by lunch at the nearby Casa Nova. Before leaving town, we pause to pray at the Chapel of Charles de Foucauld. On our way back to the Sea of Galilee, we stop in Cana, site of Jesus' first miracle, where we invite couples to renew their marriage vows. We celebrate a reconciliation service back at our accommodations before dinner. (B, L, D)

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, DAY 10: GALILEE: CAPERNAUM, TABGHA, PETER'S PRIMACY & BOAT RIDE**

Ours is a day in Galilee. We visit Capernaum, the city where Jesus performed much of his ministry recorded in the gospels. Here we have time for reflection. We have our included lunch at our accommodations.

This afternoon, we briefly visit the village of Nain, where Jesus raised the widow's son (Luke 7). We then travel to Mount Tabor to celebrate Mass at the Basilica of the Transfiguration. We then return to our accommodations for dinner and the evening and time for sharing all we have experienced together over the past 10 days. (B, L, D)

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20, DAY 11: GALILEE: / JORDAN RIVER / JERICHO / BETHANY / FAREWELL DINNER**

After breakfast, we check out of our accommodations in Galilee. We celebrate the final Mass of our pilgrimage at the Chapel of the Primacy of Peter, where Peter was reconciled with Jesus (John 21). After some reflection time on the shore of the sea, we visit Tabgha, where Jesus fed the five thousand. We then head all the way back south to the mouth of the Jordan River, where Jesus was baptized by John. Here, we renew our baptismal promises.

After our included lunch, we stop in Bethany, marking the site where Our Lord raised Lazarus from the Dead. We head back to Jerusalem for our final dinner in a private

room at the Ambassador Hotel. After dinner we continue on to Tel Aviv to board our flight for our return home. (B, L, D)

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21, DAY 12: RETURN TO THE USA**

We fly home, our hearts and suitcases filled with a lifetime of memories of our Paulist Pilgrimage to the Holy Land.

*Note: While no changes are anticipated, there may be unforeseen occasions when certain alterations become necessary to this itinerary, either due to changes in airline schedules or for other reasons.*

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