

PLANNED ITINERARY FOR MAY 17-27, 2023 PILGRIMAGE TO HOLY LAND

details subject to change

MASS DAILY, TRIDENTINE RITE/LATIN IF POSSIBLE

At Altars At The Holy Sites

Wednesday May 17 to Thursday May 18: Depart 5:40 PM on Austrian Air OS 90 arriving Thursday morning at Vienna airport at 7:50 am, transfer at 10 am to OS 857 arriving TLV 2:25 PM. Motor Coach to Nazareth, to Rosary Sisters Guesthouse where we stay for next 2 nights (May 18 and 19). On arrival, have Mass in Nazareth, and a short visit to Basilica and Dinner

Friday May 19: Mass, visit and pray at Mary's Well in Nazareth where Mary went daily for water, the synagogue where Jesus preached and was attacked, St. Joseph's workshop, Joseph's tomb. Ample time for prayer at the Grotto of the Annunciation.

Saturday May 20 through Sunday May 21: Visit Mt Tabor where the Transfiguration took place and have Mass and lunch there, then Cana, and on to the "Pilgerhaus" (owned by the Benedictines) on the shore of the Sea of Galilee, where we will spend the next two nights. While there we will visit and pray at the Primacy of Peter (where after the Resurrection the apostles were fishing through the night and in the morning saw Jesus), Tabgha (where the multiplication of loaves and fishes took place), Capernaum (the home of the Apostles and Jesus for two years of His ministry), the Mount of Beatitudes (where Jesus gave the Sermon on the Mount), Tabgha (where the multiplication of loaves and fishes took place, prefiguring the Eucharist), Safed (the "Holy City" of Jewish mysticism), Caesaria Philippi (where Jesus told Peter "You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church), Kursi (where Jesus cast the "legion of demons" out of the demoniac, and they went into the herd of pigs), Chorazin (which Jesus "cursed" saying "Woe to you Chorazin..."), and have a boat ride across the Sea of Galilee.

Monday May 22: After morning Mass, leave the Sea of Galilee for Jerusalem, stopping on the way at Jericho to visit and pray at the site of Jesus' baptism by St. John in the Jordan (also the spot where Joshua first led the Jews into the Promised Land after the Exodus from Egypt, and the spot where Elijah crossed the Jordan to ascend to Heaven in a fiery chariot). Then to nearby Jericho, where we ascend the Mt of Temptation (by cable car) and pray at the site where Jesus fasted for 40 days and withstood the temptations of Satan (it is now an Orthodox monastery). If possible we will have lunch on top of the mount. Then on to Jerusalem. On the way, if possible, we will stop and pray at Jacob's Well, where Jesus met the Samaritan woman and famously said "Salvation is from the Jews..." and/or perhaps Bethany and visit the house of Martha, Mary, and Lazarus. In Jerusalem we will be staying at Casa Nova, in the heart of the Christian quarter of the Old City and run by the Franciscans for the 3 nights of May 22, 23, and 24.

Tuesday May 23 through Thursday, May 25: During our 3 days in Jerusalem, we will visit and pray at, and in some cases have our Mass at: the Holy Sepulcher, where Jesus was crucified and resurrected; the Upper Room, site of the Last Supper and Jesus' first reappearance after His resurrection; Gethsemane, where Jesus prayed just before His arrest and crucifixion; Gallicantu, where Jesus was imprisoned in Caiaphas' palace the night before His crucifixion; Gabbatha, where Jesus was condemned by Pilate; the Way of the Cross and all the stations on it; the Western Wall and the Temple Mount, where the Jewish Temple stood (and Jesus preached during Holy Week); optionally for those who wish Yad Vashem (the Holocaust Museum); the Church of the Dormition (perhaps where Mary was assumed into Heaven), St Stephen's Priory (where St. Stephen gave his famous talk and was stoned while St. Paul watched, becoming the "protomartyr"), etc.

Please Note: Each morning in Jerusalem, before dawn those who wish will have the opportunity to walk to the Holy Sepulcher (only about a 5 minute walk away) to pray for several hours before breakfast (it is much quieter then) and if they wish, attend additional Masses. We will usually also have the chance to visit there at the end of the day, before dinner.

Thursday, May 25: After a full day in Jerusalem, we will board the bus to take us the short distance to Ein Karem, the birthplace of John the Baptist and where the Visitation took place. We will be staying there for the remaining two nights at the Franciscan Pilgrimage house there, Casa Nova Ein Karem.

Friday May 26 - Saturday May 27: Friday will start with a drive to Bethlehem, where we will have Mass, visit the Birth Cave of Jesus, the Shepherds' Field, the Milk Cave where Mary nursed Jesus, the Basilica, the cave where St Jerome translated the Vulgate, the tomb of the innocents Herod had slaughtered, etc. We then return to Ein Karem for our last afternoon and evening, visiting the spot of the Visitation, the birthplace and home of John the Baptist, the cave in the wilderness where he lived (if time allows), and the tomb of Alphonse Ratisbonne. After dinner, a few hours of sleep before we depart in the very early morning (perhaps 2AM) for the airport to fly back to the US on Austrian Airlines OS 860 departing 6:15AM to Vienna arriving at 9AM, transfer to OS 89 leaving Vienna 10:40 AM arriving EWR (Newark airport) at 1:55pm.