

JOIN THE ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. PAUL &
MINNEAPOLIS OFFICE OF EVANGELIZATION ON A
GRANDPARENTS' PILGRIMAGE TO THE
HOLY LAND

WITH FR. JOSEPH BAMBENEK



JANUARY 7TH – 16TH, 2020

itinerary

DAY 1 – TUESDAY, JANUARY 7: DEPART USA

Depart USA via overnight flights on scheduled airline to Tel Aviv, Israel.

DAY 2 – WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8: ARRIVE TEL AVIV | SEA OF GALILEE ☕ 🏰

Arrive in Tel Aviv and meet your professional tour manager, then transfer by private motor coach to the Sea of Galilee and check into your religious house in the town of Tiberias. Celebrate Mass (pending flight arrival time). This evening enjoy a Welcome Dinner at the hotel in Tiberias.

DAY 3 – THURSDAY, JANUARY 9: MOUNT TABOR | CANA | NAZARETH ☕ 🏰

Drive to Mount Tabor and ascend the mountain where Jesus met Moses and Elijah at the Transfiguration. Then, travel to the town of Cana in Galilee, the site of the first miracle of Jesus. Travel to Nazareth and celebrate Mass at the Basilica of the Annunciation. Pray at the grotto where the Incarnation began and visit the Church of the Holy Family. Time permitting, visit the ruins of the ancient city of Sepphoris, where the original home of St. Anne and St. Joachim is believed to have stood. Return to Tiberias for dinner and overnight.

DAY 4 – FRIDAY, JANUARY 10: BANIAS | TABGHA | MOUNT OF BEATITUDES ☕ 🏰

This morning, celebrate Mass at the Church of the Beatitudes and pray at the place where Jesus preached the Sermon on the Mount, teaching on the ethics of a disciple. Then, travel north to Banias (Caesarea Philippi) where Jesus anointed Peter as the first Pope. Travel back down to Galilee to visit Kursi, where the demons were cast from the Gadarene. Finally, journey to Tabgha where Jesus multiplied the loaves and fishes and appeared to the Apostles on the Sea of Galilee after the Resurrection. Dinner and overnight in Tiberias.

DAY 5 – SATURDAY, JANUARY 11: CAPERNAUM | MAGDALA | SEA OF GALILEE | JERUSALEM ☕ 🏰

Today, walk the banks of the Sea of Galilee and take a boat ride to visit Capernaum. See the ancient synagogue where Jesus taught about eating his Flesh and Blood. Then, visit the ancient city of Mary Magdala, with newly discovered excavations. Celebrate Mass at the Chapel of the Boat. Then, travel south, through the Jordan Valley, where Jesus healed the ten lepers and taught parables about the relationship between rich and poor. Along the way see many biblical sites; look across to Moses' Mount Nebo and see Jericho, where the blind man was healed and the conversion of Zacchaeus towards the poor. Renew baptismal vows in the Jordan River at the authentic site. Arrive in Jerusalem to check in to your hotel for the next five nights. Dinner and overnight in Jerusalem.

DAY 6 – SUNDAY, JANUARY 12: BETHLEHEM | EIN KEREM | EMMAUS ☕ 🏰

Depart this morning for Bethlehem to celebrate Mass at Shepherds Field. Visit the Church of the Nativity, to see the cave where Jesus was born, and spend some time in prayer at the Chapel of St. Catherine. After lunch on your own, travel to Ein Kerem to visit the Church of the Visitation. End the day with a visit to Emmaus. Dinner and overnight in Jerusalem.

DAY 7 – MONDAY, JANUARY 13: WESTERN WALL AND THE OLD CITY ☕ 🏰

Begin the day with a walking tour of the Old City, where Jesus taught parables on the great commandment of love. Pray for mercy and peace at the Western Wall. Enter St. Stephen's Gate and celebrate Mass at the Church of St. Anne, where Mary was born. See the Pools of Bethesda where Jesus healed a lame man. After lunch visit Mount Zion and the Church of St. Peter in Gallicantu ("where the cock crowed"). Then, visit the Upper Room (Cenacle) where the first ordination of priests took place in addition to Pentecost. Visit Dormition Abbey where Mary "fell asleep." Return to the hotel for dinner and overnight in Jerusalem.

DAY 8 – TUESDAY, JANUARY 14: PASSION OF CHRIST | MT. OF OLIVES | GARDEN OF GETHSEMANE ☕ 🏰

Depart for an early morning meditation on suffering in the world by walking the Way of the Cross (the Via Dolorosa) and praying the Stations of the Cross ending at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, where Jesus demonstrated mercy by his crucifixion and resurrection. At the church are the tomb of Christ and Calvary. Take time for personal prayer and meditation. Drive to the Mount of Olives and visit Church of Dominus Flevit, where Jesus wept. Visit the Garden of Gethsemane and pray at the Grotto of the Arrest. Celebrate Mass at the Church of all Nations at the Garden of Gethsemane. Farewell Dinner and overnight in Jerusalem.

DAY 9 – WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15: FREE DAY | OPTIONAL DAY TRIP ☕ 🏰

This morning, celebrate Mass at the Church of St. Stephen the Martyr. Then, enjoy free time in Jerusalem to explore on your own and to revisit some of your favorite places in the area.

OPTIONAL DAY TRIP: Visit the site where the Dead Sea Scrolls were found, Masada (a Herodian stronghold, situated on top of an isolated rock plateau, overlooking the Dead Sea) and the Dead Sea. Partial overnight in Jerusalem (flights depart through the night).

DAY 10 – THURSDAY, JANUARY 16: RETURN TO USA ☕

Return home from Tel Aviv after a memorable spiritual journey to the Holy Land.

OPTIONAL CYPRUS EXTENSION: JANUARY 16-18, 2020 (SUBJECT TO SUFFICIENT INTEREST)

Travel from Tel Aviv to Larnaca, Cyprus, a beautiful Mediterranean island. Visit the archaeological site of Salamis, the Birth Place of St. Barnabas. See also the city of Famagusta, surrounded by the Venetian Walls. After the Fall of Jerusalem to the Ottomans, Guy de Lusignan the King of Jerusalem came to Cyprus and gave the order to build 365 churches, one for each day. See a few of the ruins and visit St. Nicolas Cathedral. Visit St. Barnabas Monastery and venerate the Tomb of St. Barnabas. Tour the city-center of Larnaca and the St. Lazarus Church built in the 9th century over the Tomb of St. Lazarus. According to the tradition St. Lazarus came to Cyprus after his resurrection and became the first bishop of Kition (ancient Larnaca). Overnights in Larnaca. Return flights home from Tel Aviv.

☕ = CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST | 🏰 = DINNER

*Itinerary is tentative and subject to change; specified Masses pending confirmation