

## Pilgrimage to Poland with Father Patrick Gibbons Parish: St. Cecilia Catholic Church October 11 - 21, 2026

Join Father Patrick Gibbons and parishioners from St. Cecilia Catholic Church on an inspiring 11-day pilgrimage to Poland, October 11–21, 2026. Walk in the footsteps of St. John Paul II, St. Faustina, St. Maximilian Kolbe, and Blessed Jerzy Popiełuszko as you pray at Poland's most sacred sites—including the Black Madonna at Jasna Góra, the Divine Mercy Shrine in Łagiewniki, Auschwitz-Birkenau, Wadowice, and the Wieliczka Salt Mine. Daily Mass, moments of deep reflection, and visits to historic cities and the stunning Tatra Mountains combine to create a transformative spiritual journey. Return home renewed in faith and filled with the grace of this resilient Catholic nation.

B (breakfast) L (lunch) D (dinner)



#### Sunday, October 11th

We depart from St. Louis, MO in the morning to connect to the overnight transatlantic flight to **Gdansk**. Dinner and breakfast served aboard.

#### Monday, October 12th – Gdansk

Arrive at Gdansk Airport and meet our professional English-speaking tour escort. Upon arrival, we take a Tour of Gdansk including the **St. Mary's Church**, the **Royal Route**, the **Golden Gate**, **Neptune Statue**, **Mariacka Street** and **Dlugie Pobrzeze**. Our first **mass** of the pilgrimage will be celebrated at **St. Mary's Church** in the **Royal Chapel**. We check into our Hotel. Welcome dinner at the hotel & Overnight at the hotel. **D Gdansk** 

#### Tuesday, October 13th – Gdansk → Warsaw

After breakfast and checkout, we board our motor coach for Warsaw this morning. Our first stop is the **Castle of the Teutonic Order in Malbork**. This 13th-century fortified monastery belonging to the Teutonic Order was substantially enlarged and embellished after 1309, when the seat of the Grand Master moved here from Venice. The Castle is a 13th-century Teutonic castle and fortress located in the town of Malbork, Poland. It is the largest castle in the world measured by land area and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Upon arrival in Warsaw, we are free for lunch on our own. Then we will celebrate **Mass** at **St. James Church** in the **Resurrection Chapel**. Soon after, we check into our hotel. Dinner will be at our hotel.



#### Wednesday, October 14th – Warsaw

After a restful sleep and breakfast, go to a Roman Catholic church located in Warsaw; it is the center of the Divine Mercy and St. Faustina Parish. From 1863 to 1944 the building served as an internal chapel within the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy Monastery compound; destroyed during the Warsaw Uprising, it remained a ruin until the early 21st century, when it was brought to the current shape. The church and its immediate surroundings gained nationwide iconic status in the 1980's. Here Mass will be celebrated. Immediately after mass we take a tour of the Monastery. Lord Jesus instructed Sister Faustina to venerate the hour of His death and to connect with Him in prayer referring to the value and merits of His Passion. "At three o'clock, implore My mercy, especially for sinners; and, if only for a brief moment, immerse yourself in My Passion, particularly in My abandonment at the moment of agony. This is the hour of great mercy for the whole world. I will allow you to enter into My mortal sorrow." We will pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet. Soon after, we have a guided tour of Warsaw including: Umschlagplatz Memorial, The Ghetto Heroes Monument, the Palace of Culture, Barbican, Cathedral of St. John the Baptist, Market Square, Royal Palace and Royal Palace Square, St. Anna Church. After lunch on our own, our sightseeing concludes at Lazienki Park with its beautiful gardens, Chopin's Monument and the Palace on the Water. Soon we return to our Hotel to get ready for dinner at a local restaurant. **B & D Warsaw** 

#### Thursday, October 15th – Warsaw → Częstochowa

In the morning we have our breakfast, then check out. Today we visit Saint Stanislaus Kostka Church. It is the most significant church of Zoliborz, a district of Warsaw. The parish was created in 1927 and in 1930 construction work started on the monumental neo-romanesque church building; it was interrupted by World War II and finished in 1963. The church is the well-known Sanctuary of Blessed Jerzy Popiełuszko, who was the spiritual leader of Solidarność and was killed by the Communists in 1984. Here we are able to visit the exhibition of this martyred Priest. From 1980, he conducted very popular Masses for the Fatherland that became a kind of manifesto for the social movement and protesters, attracting people from all around Poland. This is also the place of his burial and his tomb is situated beside the church. The site was visited by Pope John Paul II in 1987. We depart for Częstochowa and upon arrival have lunch on our own. Then we visit Jasna Gora Monastery. The Monastery is a famous Polish shrine to the Virgin Mary. The image of the Black Madonna of Częstochowa, also known as Our Lady of Częstochowa, to which miraculous powers are attributed, is one of Jasna Góra's most precious treasures. Among the monastery's other treasures and artifacts of interest is the medal from the 1983 Nobel Peace Prize received by Lech Wałęsa, the former Polish president and trade-union organizer. We will see the Treasury, the Knights Hall, the Refectory and the Basilica of the Holy Cross & the Nativity of the Virgin Mary. After our tour we celebrate Holy Mass here. Then we drive to & check into our hotel. After dinner at our hotel, we have an opportunity to attend the Apel Jasnogorski - Evening Prayer to the Virgin Mary. B & D Częstochowa



#### Friday, October 16th – Częstochowa → Zakopane

Before breakfast, you may rise early to attend the unveiling of the **Black Madonna Icon**. After breakfast and hotel check out, **Mass** will be at **Jasna Gora Monastery** this morning. Then we drive to Oswiecim where upon arrival we are free to have lunch on our own. After lunch we have a guided visit to the infamous **Auschwitz-Birkenau Nazi Concentration Camp**. We visit the cell of the martyred **St. Maximilian Kolbe**, a Polish Conventual Franciscan friar, who voluntarily surrendered his life so that another prisoner might live. Saint Maximilian Kolbe is known as the "Apostle of Consecration to Mary," and he was canonized by Pope John Paul II in October, 1982. We will also drive by **Birkenau**, site of the martyrdom of **Edith Stein**, **St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross**. After lunch on our own, we continue to Zakopane located at the foothills of The Tatra Mountains, where peasants still live in wooden houses and bears roam wild in the forests. Here, we check into our hotel for the next 2 days. We dine out tonight at a local restaurant. **B & D Zakopane** 



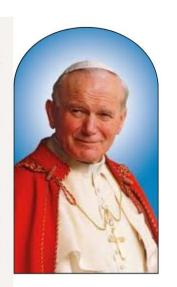
#### Saturday, October 17th - Zakopane

This morning after breakfast, we enjoy a raft trip down the **Dunajec River** through the Pieniny Gorge and along the Polish-Slovak border, which is one of the greatest tourist attractions in Poland. The serene tour begins at the raft wharf in Sromowce Nizne and ends 9 miles later in Szczawnica. The towering cliffs, the gorge's limestone rock formations, the picturesque mountain scenery, and the colorful river guides make for a wonderful day in a pristine and wild environment. After, we return to Zakopane and marvel at the superb vistas of this gateway to Poland's most popular ski areas. Saint Pope John Paul II skied here. We enjoy lunch together in a local restaurant with highlander folk music. After lunch, we celebrate Holy Mass at the Sanctuary of the Holy Virgin of Fatima, a chapel constructed in 1999 in gratitude for Pope John Paul II's survival of an assassination attempt. After Mass we take a tour of the chapel. Then we will take a cable car up Mt. Gubalowka for a great view of the Tatras, central Europe's highest mountains. Later, we have free time for shopping on Krupowki Street and enjoy the highlander atmosphere of the town. Dinner at the hotel.

B, L & D Zakopane

#### Sunday, October 18th - Zakopane → Krakow

After breakfast at the hotel and check-out, we depart for Wieliczka. We will stop in Ludzmierz for Mass at a beautiful Marian Sanctuary in Ludzmierz. This Church is related to the cult of Our Lady of Ludzmierz, very important for mountaineers who live in the surrounding Tatra Mountains. In its adjacent Rosary Garden Pope John Paul II prayed in 1997 during his pilgrimage to Poland. Ludźmierz, the oldest village in Podhale, Poland's southernmost region. As we continue to Wieliczka, we find a good spot for lunch on our own. Soon we find ourselves at the entrance of the Wieliczka Salt Mine, in the town of Wieliczka. From Neolithic times, sodium chloride (table salt) was produced there from the upwelling brine. The Wieliczka salt mine, excavated from the 13th century, produced table salt continuously until 2007, as one of the world's oldest operating salt mines. This is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Its attractions include the shafts and labyrinthine passageways, displays of historic salt-mining technology, an underground lake, four chapels and numerous statues carved by miners out of the rock salt. After, we continue to Krakow & check into our hotel for the next 3 days. Dinner at our hotel.

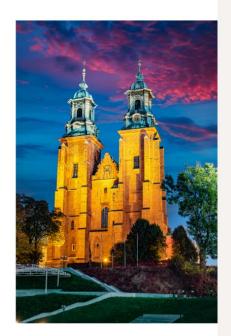




#### Monday, October 19th – Krakow

After our breakfast we drive to Wadowice – the hometown of John Paul II. We begin at the **Church of the Presentation of the Virgin Mary** where he was baptized. Here we celebrate **Mass**. Then we visit his childhood home which is now a museum. After we enjoy lunch together at a local restaurant in Wadowice. Then we depart for Krakow but en route, we stop at **Kalwaria Zebrzydowska** which was a popular pilgrimage place for Pope John Paul II when he was a young man and where in the 17th century the Palatine of Krakow founded a Franciscan Monastery. On the slope of the hill and the valley is an architectural '**Way of the Cross**' made up of 40 chapels set on the surrounding hills. After, we drive back to our hotel in Krakow for dinner.

**B & D Krakow** 



#### Tuesday, October 20th - Krakow

After breakfast, we have a sightseeing tour of Krakow, one of the oldest cities in Poland and its first capital city with the entire Old Town area listed on the UNESCO World Heritage. Visit the amazing Wawel Hill with the first Polish royal residence The Wawel Castle - enter the Royal Chambers and the Wawel Cathedral. Continue with a walk along Grodzka Street, on the way passing the beautiful churches of St. Andrew, St. Peter and Paul, and St. Francis of Assisi. Reach the Market Square (at two hundred meters squared, it became the largest marketplace in Europe) and hear the silver trumpet of the bugler from St. Mary's Tower. We will visit the church, where we can see the extraordinary Europe's largest wooden altar, the work of Wit Stwosz. Next, we stop at E. Wedel Chocolate Lounge. Here we are served coffee/tea with the delicious cakes for which they are known. Next, we make a stop at the Dominican Friary. We will celebrate our daily Holy Mass here. After Mass, we have lunch on our own. Next, we drive to Lagiewniki, the Capital of Divine Mercy. Here, we enjoy a tour led by one of the sisters. It was here that the message of the Divine Mercy originated, which Christ Himself wished to pass on to our generation through the mediation of St. Faustina. The Sanctuary houses the grace-working image of the Merciful Jesus and the relics of St. Faustina. As we visit the Shrine of Divine Mercy, we will see St. Faustina's convent chapel and her Tomb. We visit the newly constructed Shrine of Divinity dedicated by Pope John Paul II on his last visit to Poland in 2002. Afterwards, we visit the new center 'Have No Fear!' John Paul II Centre (the official name of which refers to his famous words during his inauguration speech). The primary highlights for visitors are the Sanctuary of Blessed John Paul II - a chapel with relics of the former pope, including a vial of his blood. Tonight we go out for a farewell dinner. **B & D Krakow** 

#### Wednesday, October 21st

We leave the hotel and check-out very early in the morning, then transfer to Krakow's International Airport to take the homebound flight.





### ⊕ ⊕ ⊕ INCLUDED FEATURES ⊕ ⊕ ⊕

- ROUND TRIP AIR FARE
- DAILY BUFFET BREAKFAST & DINNERS
- 9 NIGHTS IN 4 STAR HOTELS
- GDANSK, KRAKOW, WARSAW, AUSCHWITZ, CZĘSTOCHOWA
- FAREWELL DINNER & SPECIALTY MEALS



- PROFESSIONAL TOUR GUIDES
- TRAVEL TYME HOST
- HEADPHONES ON TOURS
   WHERE APPLICABLE
- DAILY MASS AT SHRINES & CHURCHES PER ITINERARY
- TIPS AT HOTELS,
   RESTAURANTS & GUIDES

NOT INCLUDED: EXTRA BEVERAGES AND MEALS NOT LISTED IN ITINERARY,
YOUR OWN PERSONAL ROOM CHARGES
TIPS TO IN COUNTRY TOUR MANAGER AND DRIVER(S). SUGGESTED AMOUNT
PER DAY: DRIVER 5 EURO & 10 EURO FOR TOUR MANAGER
YOU MUST BE ABLE TO WALK A MINIMUM OF 5 MILES PER DAY UNDER YOUR OWN POWER

PRICE: \$4849.00 PER PERSON, BASED ON DOUBLE OCCUPANCY FROM ST. LOUIS. AN ADDITIONAL COST FOR TAXES & SURCHARGES OF \$105.00, SUBJECT TO CHANGE. FOR SINGLE ROOM, PLEASE ADD: \$657.00

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## PILGRIMAGE TO POLAND WITH FATHER PATRICK GIBBONS PARISH: ST. CECILIA CATHOLIC CHURCH

OCTOBER 11 - 21, 2026

TravelTyme Pilgrimages

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CHECK THE FOLLOWING: I (WE) R	EQUEST: SINGLE ROOM	DOUBLE ROOM (2 PEOPLE)	
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# PILGRIMAGE TO POLAND WITH FATHER PATRICK GIBBONS PARISH: ST. CECILIA CATHOLIC CHURCH OCTOBER 11 - 21, 2026



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This plan provides insurance coverage that only applies during the covered trip. You may have coverage from other sources that provides you with similar benefits but may be subject to different restrictions depending upon your other coverages. You may wish to compare the terms of this policy with your existing life, health, home, and automobile insurance policies. If you have any questions about your current coverage, call your insurer or insurance agent or broker. Coverage is offered by Travel Guard Group, Inc (Travel Guard). California lic. no.0893606, 3300 Business Park Drive, Stevens Point, WI 54482, www.travelguard.com. CA DOI toll free number: 800-927-HELP. This is only a brief description of the coverage(s) available. The Policy will contain reductions, limitations, exclusions and termination provisions. Insurance underwritten by National Union Fire Insurance Company of Pittsburgh, Pa., a Pennsylvania insurance company, with its principal place of business at 175 Water Street, 15th Floor, New York, NY 10038. It is currently authorized to transact business in all states and the District of Columbia. NAIC No. 19445. Coverage may not be available in all states. Your travel retailer may not be licensed to sell insurance, and cannot answer technical questions about the benefits, exclusions, and conditions of this insurance and cannot evaluate the adequacy of your existing insurance. The purchase of travel insurance is not required in order to purchase any other product or service from the travel retailer. Travel assistance services provided by Travel Guard. 1678 03/09/18 TG-41107-18