

Priests Retreat to France

Ars ✚ Lyon ✚ Paray-le-Monial ✚ Nevers
Chartres ✚ Lisieux ✚ Normandy
Mont Saint - Michel

Pilgrimage Leader: Bishop W. Shawn McKnight
Catholic Diocese of Jefferson City

Retreat Leader: Father Brett Brannen
School of Theology
The Pontifical College Josephinum
April 10th - April 20th, 2023





B = breakfast **L** = lunch **D** = dinner

Monday, April 10 - Depart from Columbia to Lyon. Dinner and breakfast served aboard.

Tuesday, April 11 - Arriving in Lyon airport or train station this morning, we take a motorcoach to Ars and check into **La Providence Retreat House** in the heart of **Ars**. There, we will have dinner together then proceed to our first conference and Holy Mass.

L & D Ars

Wednesday, April 12 - Ars retreat (Two Conferences a day with daily Rosary & Mass).

B, L & D Ars

Thursday, April 13 - Ars retreat (Two Conferences a day with daily Rosary & Mass).

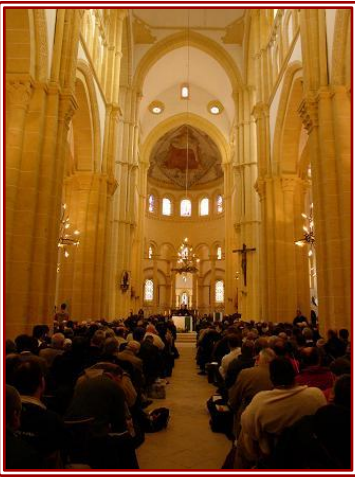
B, L & D Ars

Friday, April 14 - Ars retreat (Two Conferences a day with daily Rosary & Mass).

B, L & D Ars

Saturday, April 15 - Today after breakfast we board our motorcoach and drive towards Lyon. Here we start our day with a **Private Mass at Basilica Notre Dame De Fourviere**. Consecrated in 1896, the basilica is at the top of “the hill which prays”. It is dedicated to the Virgin Mary and is listed as a historical monument, registered to the UNESCO World Heritage Site. After our Mass in the Basilica, we visit the hill of Fourvière which currently preserves the Gallo-Roman origins of Lyon (Museum of Gallo-Roman civilization, magnificently restored ruins of the theater, odeon, temple, aqueducts, Roman roads. After our walking tour, we make a stop at **L'Antiquaille**. This is a museum dedicated to highlighting the origins of Christianity in Gaul. We have a private tour of the museum with an English speaking guide, which features the prison where 177 Christians were held by the Romans, and ultimately died as Martyrs for Christ. After a light lunch, we reboard our motorcoach and drive to where the Church Council were held in 1245 and 1274. The city's fabulous cathedral is a mostly gothic construction built between the 12th and 15th centuries. The majority of the original stained-glass windows are still here and date to the 1300s. The most captivating are the north, south and west roses, as well as the apse's lancet. The astronomical clock inside is nine metres tall and was installed in the 1300s. After our tour & Rosary in the Cathedral, we then make our way to **Église Saint-Bonaventure**. After our quick visit with our guide, we drive to the Birthplace of the **Cure of Ars**. Here in Dardilly, we visit St. John Vianney's home until the age of 20. Here he and his family practiced their faith in secret at the French Revolution raged. Later, we arrive back at our guest house for our final evening of prayer and reflection.

B, L & D Ars



Sunday, April 16 - This morning, we rise and head North arriving at **Paray-le-Monial for Holy Mass** in the chapel in the Monastery of the Visitation Sisters. There we venerate the Tomb of **St. Margaret Mary Alacoque**, who was privileged by apparitions of Our Lord Jesus Christ, who gave her the mission to spread devotion to the Most Sacred Heart. From this sprung the pious practice of First Friday devotions. We will have about an hour to walk the grounds or have light Pastry & a Coffee. Soon after we reach **Nevers**, the city where **St. Bernadette** spent the latter part of her life as a nun. Here, we will have time for lunch. We then venture to the Convent of St. Gildard where we will have the opportunity to recite the Rosary at the **Tomb of St. Bernadette**, reflecting on the Life of this holy peasant girl who was favored with eighteen apparitions of the Virgin Mary in Lourdes. Later this morning we enter the beautiful Loire Valley and reach **Bourges**. As we pass through the city we can gaze upon one of the great masterpieces of Gothic art, the **Cathedral of St. Stephen**. We disembark from our Motorcoach and tour this Magnificent Cathedral. After, we check in at our hotel and there enjoy dinner together. **B & D Bourges**



Monday, April 17 - After our breakfast, we move north to reach Chartres, still important today as a center for Christian Pilgrims. Our guided tour late this morning will be within the city's world famous Cathedral, where we are shown its wonderfully colored stained-glass windows dating back to the 12th and 13th centuries. Those windows display a predominant color of "blue of Chartres." Here we celebrate **HOLY MASS at the Chartres Cathedral**. Soon after, we will have time for lunch on our own. We then board our motorcoach and drive to the northwest. Our destination will be at **Mont Saint-Michel**, one of the wonders of the western world, built on a granite island just over one-half mile in circumference and 260 feet high. It is surrounded by the sea at high tide. Upon our arrival, we check into our hotel and have time to prepare for our dinner together. **B & D Mont Saint Michel**



Tuesday, April 18 - This morning, we make our way to St. Michel Abbey for guided tour. Here we will celebrate **HOLY MASS in the CHAPEL at the MONASTERY**. After some time to explore, we drive to the north to visit the **Normandy Beaches**. Before our guided tour, we will have time for lunch on our own. It will be with strong feelings that we see some of the areas where the allies fought to recover freedom. We will reach **Arromanches** on the Normandy coast, a major focal point of the invasion in 1944. We stop to see **Pegasus Bridge**, which was a key and a strategic supply line secured by the Allies on opening day of the invasion, and made famous in the film *The Longest Day*. On a bluff overlooking Omaha Beach is the **American Cemetery**, containing the remains of 9,387 American military. Nearby we see **Pointe du Hoc**, a 100 foot cliff, fortified by the German army with concrete casements, but which was captured by the U.S. Army Rangers, who scaled the cliffs. There will be time for lunch on our own. If time allows, close by is a town called **Bayeau**, the first French town to be liberated, and which was miraculously saved from bombardment. We will view the famous **Tapestry of Bayeau**, a



work which is 76 feet long and 1 ½ feet high, which retraces the epic of William the Conqueror's expedition to England. Costumes, ships and arms of the Middle Ages are presented with astonishing realism. Soon, we arrive Lisieux for dinner and overnight. **B & D Lisieux**

Wednesday, April 19 - This morning we visit **Les Buissonnets**, the family home of St. Therese in Lisieux. Her life of doing the simple things well on her path to sanctity has been so inspiring to so many. Her parents, Louis and Azelie Martin, raised five daughters, all of whom entered the religious life. A proclamation canonizing them as saints was done in October 2015. They are called the first married couple who have been elevated to such a status. We visit the **Carmelite Monastery Chapel** and there venerate the **Tomb of St. Therese**. On the edge of town is the place where we will celebrate **HOLY MASS in the BASILICA OF ST. THERESE or AT HER TOMB**. Inside this magnificent church we ponder her life, depicted on the beautiful mosaic interior, and reflect on how this young woman of faith and Doctor of the Church, called the **Little Flower**, reached sainthood. Before leaving, we visit the tombs of her parents, located in the Crypt behind the Basilica. Soon thereafter, we go to the **Lisieux Cathedral**. The present cathedral was built between 1170 and the middle of the 13th century through the initiative of **Bishop Arnulf**. It is wrongly claimed that Henry Plantagenet, Count of Anjou, Duke of Normandy and future king of England, married Eleanor of Aquitaine at the cathedral in 1152. In fact they married in Poitiers Cathedral. Having been involved in the trial of **Joan of Arc**, **Pierre Cauchon** was in fact named as Bishop of Lisieux in 1432 and is buried there. Tonight, we have our farewell dinner together in our hotel. **B & D Lisieux**

Thursday, April 20 - This morning we check-out of our hotel and head to Charles De Gaulle Airport for our flight home arriving back home this same day.

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✚ ✚ ✚ Included Features ✚ ✚ ✚

- Retreat led by Monsignor Richard Hilgartner
- Round-trip airfare from Columbia to Paris, Paris to Columbia
- High Speed train between Paris & Lyon
- Daily buffet breakfast & Dinners
- 10 Nights lodging at retreat & First Class Hotels
- (Baggage Handling in & out at Hotels (1 Piece)
- All entries into Shrines, Churches and Guided Tours
- Round trip transport from Jefferson City to Columbia Regional airport
- Travel Tyme Escort
- 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.

For further information contact **Travel Tyme Pilgrimages: 636.391.1000**



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