# PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND With Monsignor Robert Kurwicki Vicar General - Diocese of Jefferson City

Tiberias # Nazareth # Cana # Capernaum # Mt. Tabor

Jericho # Qumran # Bethany # Jerusalem # Bethlehem # The Holy

Sepulcher # Dead Sea # The Sacred Tomb # Mt. Carmel

Garden of Gethsemane # Mt. Beatitudes

November 8-19, 2021



Monday, November 8th - We depart from our home city for an evening connecting overnight flight to Tel Aviv. Dinner and breakfast served aboard.

D (dinner) & B (breakfast)

Tuesday, November 9th - We land at Ben Gurion Airport midday. We clear customs & our next stop is in Caesarea Maritima, capital of the Roman Province of Judea. We recall that St. Paul was imprisoned in Caesarea before being sent to Rome. Also in this city St. Peter baptized the first Gentile converts. We will see the Crusaders' Moat and fortifications built by St. Louis the King. We will also see the well preserved Roman Amphitheater. Soon thereafter, we drive to Haifa where we will celebrate the Opening Mass of our Pilgrimage at the Carmelite Chapel at the Stella Maris Monastery. Here we have the opportunity for the Investiture of the Brown Scapular. In the afternoon we transfer by motor coach north to the city of Tiberias to our hotel, located directly on the Sea of Galilee. We check in to our hotel and have dinner together.









Wednesday, November 10th - This morning we drive to the north rim of the Sea of Galilee to visit Kursi where Jesus delivered and healed a man possessed by demons. Following our visit, we then arrive at Capernaum, known as the Second City of Jesus, where we will see the ruins of the second century Synagogue (John: 6). In this city Our Lord called a number of the Apostles, he taught the Good News of our Redemption and he cured many people of their afflictions. At this site, we Celebrate HOLY MASS at the HOUSE OF PETER. After our visit, we are provided lunch at a local favorite called **Pilgerhaus**. Following lunch, we ascend a hill called Mount of Beatitudes. Once we reach the Mount, we walk the grounds overlooking the Sea of Galilee, we remember Our Lord's profound teaching of the Eight Beatitudes. Here, we are given time for Prayer Reflection on the Mountain. After, we then board our motorcoach for a site called Tabgha (Seven Springs), where our first stop is the Multiplication of Loaves and Next we visit the Church of the Primacy of Peter, the place where Our Lord bestowed upon Peter the role of leadership of the Church. Here we will pray for the intentions At the end of the afternoon we are again at the shore of the Sea of of the Holy Father. Galilee, where we embark on a boat ride, remembering the scripture passages of Jesus and His apostles on this lake. We return to our hotel for dinner. B, L (lunch) & D Tiberias

Thursday, November 11th - This morning we head to Nazareth. Shortly before our destination we stop in Cana. Here we recall the scene of Our Lord's first miracle, remembering His Blessed Mother's words, "Do whatever He tells you." We will celebrate HOLY MASS in the CHURCH IN CANA. Couples in our group will have the opportunity to renew their Marriage Vows. Arriving in Nazareth, where Jesus spent most of His Life, we go to the beautiful Basilica of the Annunciation. There in the Grotto of the Annunciation we venerate the very spot where the Word Was Made Flesh. We will also visit the nearby Church of St. Joseph's Workshop. After a lunch break we ascend the heights of Mt. Tabor, where Jesus took Peter, James and John and was gloriously Transfigured in their sight. We take time to walk the grounds, pray in the Church of the Transfiguration and marvel at the views. After returning to our hotel we have a Special dinner together at one of the best Restaurants in Tiberias; The Hermitage.

B & D TIBERIAS

Friday, November 12th - We check out of our hotel this morning and we drive south through the fertile Jordan River Valley, arriving just above the place where the Jordan empties into the Dead Sea. We go directly to its bank and recall that here, when St. John was baptizing those who responded to his call for repentance, he heard Our Lord and obediently Baptized Jesus Himself. We will renew our own Baptismal Promises at the river. We then go to the shore of the Dead Sea, the lowest spot on earth. We can even take the opportunity for a dip in these mineral rich waters. We can find a light snack here. Then, we drive through Jericho, the most ancient city in the Holy Land. We recall its prominence for events in both the Old and the New Testaments. Driving up to Jerusalem, but before arriving at this Holy

City, we will stop at **Bethany**, the home of Martha, Mary and Lazarus, to visit the **Church of St. Lazarus**. Here, we **Celebrate Mass in the Crusader Church**. Thereafter, we drive a short distance to Jerusalem, where we check in to our hotel, which is across the street from the Walls of the Old City of Jerusalem, and our lodging for the next six nights. We have dinner together.

B & D JERUSALEM

Saturday, November 13th - This morning we drive to the Summit of Mt. Olives to visit the Chapel of the Ascension and the Church of Pater Noster. Walking the Palm Sunday Road, we visit and celebrate MASS IN DOMINUS FLEVIT CHAPEL. There, too, we have a wonderful panoramic view of the City of Jerusalem. At the base of Mt. Olives we enter the Garden of Gethsemane, scene of Our Lord's Agony in the Garden. This afternoon we travel to Ein Karem to visit the Church of St. John the Baptist and the Visitation Church, where Mary came to visit her cousin Elizabeth and spoke praise of God with her Magnificat. Following the Sanctuaries of the Visitation and of the birthplace of St. John the Baptist, the hermitage of St. John in the Desert commemorates the place where the Precursor found refuge after fleeing from the Massacre of the Innocents. It includes the Sanctuary, the Grotto, the spring and the Tomb of Elizabeth.

B & D JERUSALEM





Sunday, November 14th - Traveling a short distance south of Jerusalem, we arrive in Bethlehem. Our visit begins in the countryside at the Shepherds Fields of Boaz, remembering the angels' glad tidings to the shepherds. We celebrate our MASS in a GROTTO OF SHEPHERDS FIELDS. Within the Town of Bethlehem at Holy Nativity Church we go to venerate the Holy Grotto of the Nativity and the adjacent Holy Manger, as well as the Grotto of St. Jerome, the setting where this early saint translated the Bible into the Vulgate (into the Latin language). We also will be in the Franciscan church of St. Catherine, scene of Bethlehem's Christmas Midnight Mass. For lunch, we will venture near the Shephard's Fields in Bethlehem to a restaurant with terrific views called the Shepherds Nai. Incredible & bountiful Mediterranean food awaits; Salads, Pita, Kabob's coffee and Baklava. Time permitting, we will stop at a Bethlehem store that offers olive wood religious carvings and many other items.



B, L & D JERUSALEM

Monday, November 15th - This morning we make our way to the Franciscan Cencal Chapel, located near Zion Gate. Then a few steps away we pay a visit to the traditional site of the Upper Room, and there prayerfully recall that this was the setting for Holy Thursday, the Easter Sunday appearance of Our Lord as well as the descent of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost. Just across the road we are at the entrance of the Church of St. Peter in Gallicantu. This church is built over the spot where Jesus was held in the dungeon of Caiphas' house, and the site of St. Peter's triple denial of Our Lord. Nearby we see Dormition Abbey Church that honors the passage of Our Lady from this life to Heaven. After a light lunch, we enter the Old City of Jerusalem at St. Stephen's Gate where our first stop is at the Church of St. Anne and the Pools of Bethesda. Next, in preparation for making the Way of the Cross, we visit the CHAPEL OF FLAGELLATION. Here, we CELEBRATE HOLY MASS. Carrying a wooden cross and praying the Way of the Cross along the streets and among the markets and shops as Jesus did on His journey to Calvary, we follow the Via Dolorosa to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. Within the church, we visit Golgotha and complete our devotions at the Sacred Tomb of Jesus. After dinner we go to the base of Mt. Olives to the Church of All Nations at Gethsemane for a Holy Hour from 8:00 to 9:00 PM B & D JERUSALEM



Tuesday, January 16th - After a later start this morning on our way out of Jerusalem, we stop at the Israel Museum, which houses the Dead Sea Scrolls and features an outdoor display of the City of Jerusalem and the Second Temple as it was in the time of Our Lord. After a light lunch, we then venture to the Abu Gosh Monastery for HOLY MASS. Abu Gosh is an active Monastery where we recall the two disciples walking to Emmaus & encountering our Lord. Once at their destination, they finally recognize him in the breaking of bread. The Resurrection Church or also known as the Church of the Crusaders in Abu Gosh, built during the time of the Crusaders who belonged to the Knights Hospitaller, and today is a part of the Benedictine monastery in Abu Ghosh. After our Mass, we have time to explore the site.

Following, we have a special treat this evening will be **Vespers** with the **Monks at the Abbey of Abu Gosh**. Time permitting as well as light available, we will stop by **Haas Promenade** en route back to our Hotel.

B & D JERUSALEM

Wednesday, November 17th - Early this morning we celebrate HOLY MASS AT THE TOMB OF JESUS in the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. This truly will be a privilege and the highlight of our entire pilgrimage. We walk back to our Hotel for breakfast. Today, we have time free to explore the Old City, devotions and or rest. Optional: We go to a Gate of the Old City where we enter and are at the sacred Jewish Temple area of the Western Wall or Wailing Wall. Prayers are offered up at these remaining holy stones of the glorious second temple. We are aware that now the only structures standing above on the Temple Mount itself are the Moslem Shrines of the Dome of the Rock and Mosque al Aqsa. Lunch is on your own. This evening as our farewell to Jerusalem, we go out to be served a special Middle East Dinner at the Eucalyptus Restaurant.

B & D JERUSALEM

Thursday, November 18th - After a late breakfast at The Notre Dame, we check out. Driving west, we reach **Deir Rafat Monastery**. This Monastery is dedicated to **Our Lady of Palestine**. The facade in the Convent Church bears the Latin inscription "Reginae Palaestinae", meaning "to the Queen of Palestine". A large statue of the Virgin Mary dominates as does the painted ceiling of the Church. The Latin Patriarchate, Luigi Barlassina, established this Monastery in 1927. Today, the Little Sisters of Bethlehem serve in the Shrine bringing forward a project of prayer, care and support for young people in difficulty. Here we **Celebrate our Daily Mass**. Soon after, we arrive at the coastline and reach the old city of **Jaffa**, now a suburb to the south of modern **Tel Aviv**. In biblical history we read that Jonah sailed from this port city in his flight from God. In Acts we read that here St. Peter stayed at the house of **Simon the Tanner** and also performed the miracle of raising **Tabitha** from the dead. In **St. Peter Church in Jaffa** is where we have an opportunity for prayer and reflection. Soon thereafter, we have dinner together at **St. George Restaurant** and then head to the airport for our late evening flight home.

B JERUSALEM

Friday, November 19th - Our flight reach the U.S. this morning, where we pass through Customs and connect to a flight that will bring us to our home city this same day.

#### ₩ ₩ ₩ Included Features ₩ ₩ ₩

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- 9 Nights in First Class Hotels (The Leonardo Plaza & The Notre Dame)
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## PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND With Monsignor Robert Kurwicki Vicar General



November 8 - 19, 2021

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### PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND With Monsignor Robert Kurwicki February 8 - 17, 2021



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