

# Luxury Holy Land Pilgrimage

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SAINTHOOD

with Matthew Leonard

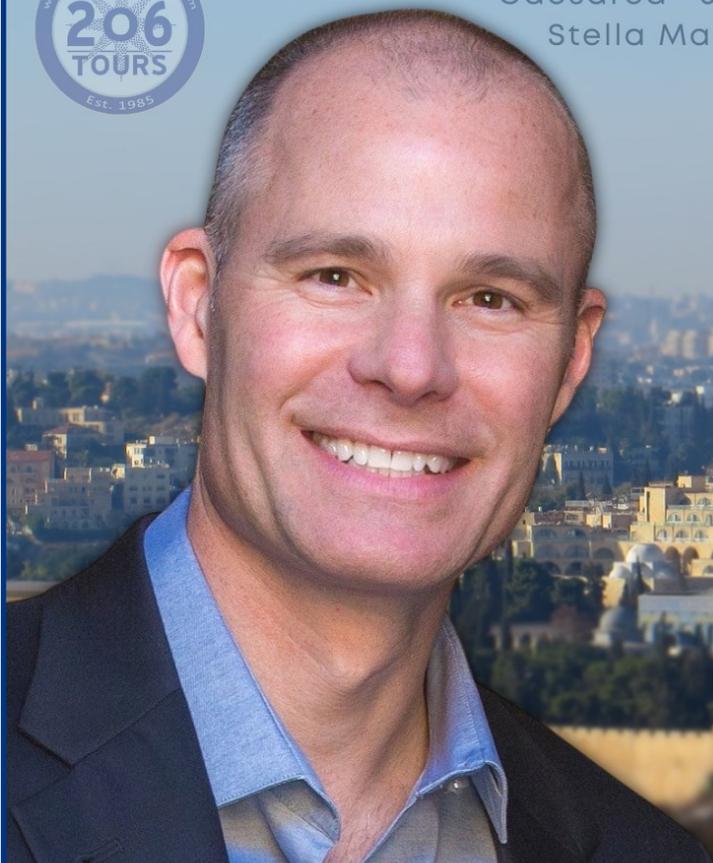
**MARCH 5 - 14, 2023**

PRICING  
STARTS AT: **\$5,439** pp with airfare  
**\$4,429** pp without airfare

Tel Aviv · Jerusalem · Temple Model · Ein Karem · Bethlehem  
Mount Tabor · Nazareth · Cana · Mount of Olives · Gethsemane  
Mt. Zion · St. Peter in Gallicantu · Tiberias · Sea of Galilee  
· Tabgha Mount of Beatitudes · Capernaum · Via Dolorosa  
Church of the Holy Sepulchre · Old City Tour of Christian  
Quarters St. Anne's · Pool of Bethesda · Western Wall · Dead Sea  
Jewish Quarters · Mount of Olives · Jericho  
Caesarea · Jordan River · Bethany  
Stella Maris (Haifa) · Emmaus



SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR:  
**Fr. Paul Moreau**



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 SCAN TO SITE

# SAMPLE DAY BY DAY ITINERARY

## **Day 1: March 5, Sun, Depart for the Holy Land**

Make your way to your local Airport, where you will board your overnight flight. Your meals are served on board.

## **Day 2: March 6, Mon, Arrive in Tel Aviv - Jerusalem**

Upon arrival in Tel Aviv, you will follow the signs to "Baggage Claim" where you will collect your luggage, and then continue on to the Arrival's Hall where you will be greeted by a Tour Guide and/or 206 Tours Rep. They will escort you out to the Bus, where your checked-bag will be placed underneath the Bus - and you will board the Group Bus and transfer to your Five Star Hotel in Jerusalem. Upon arrival, the Porters will collect your luggage and send them up to your room. You will exit the Bus, into the Lobby of the Hotel, where you will receive your Room Key and Welcome Letter. There will be free time to relax and unpack before we make our way to celebrate Mass in the evening, followed by dinner and a restful nights sleep.

## **Day 3: March 7, Tue, Temple Model - Ein Karem - Bethlehem - Jerusalem**

This morning, you will have breakfast and then depart for a day in Jerusalem, which houses the temple to which Jesus was Presented (Luke 2:22). You will start the day with a visit to the village of Ein Karem, the birthplace of John the Baptist. It is known that there are two Churches in Ein Karem, both representing the two homes of Zechariah and Elizabeth. The first is in a valley where the birth of St. John the Baptist is commemorated (Luke 1:39-80) in the Church of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist. The second is on a hill where Elizabeth spent five months in seclusion (Luke 1:24) at the Church of the Visitation. Your group will visit both of these Churches and have the opportunity to pray the Mystery of the Rosary as you walk up the hill to the Church of the Visitation. From there, we will make a short drive to visit a model of the Second Temple, as it was in the time of Jesus. We will stop for lunch, and then make your way to Bethlehem, the birthplace of Jesus. In Bethlehem, you will have the opportunity to view the Shepherd's Fields (Luke 2:8). In the caves of these fields, you are still able to see the soot marks of fires that shepherds lit to keep warm. We will stop for lunch, and then continue on the tour at the Manger Square, which stands in front of the Church of the Nativity. As you enter the Church, you will proceed down to the Grotto of the Nativity, which marks the spot of Our Savior's birth (Matthew 2:1-18). Beneath the Altar, there is a silver star and a Latin inscription that states: HIC DE VIRGINE MARIA JESUS CHRISTUS NATUS (Here Jesus Christ was born to the Virgin Mary). Following Mass in this Sacred space, your group will return to the Hotel for dinner and overnight.

## **Day 4: March 8, Wed, Mount Tabor - Nazareth - Cana - Jerusalem**

After breakfast, we will board the bus and head to the site of the Transfiguration, Mount Tabor (Matthew 17:1-50). At this site, you will have some time to reflect on Christ's Humanity and Divinity. Your group will also have the opportunity to celebrate Mass at the Basilica of the Transfiguration. We will stop for lunch at the famous restaurant - Tishreen (Arabic for "October"), and then your group will drive to Nazareth. Upon arrival, you will experience the town where Mary once lived and where Jesus lived as a child (Matthew 2:23). During the visit to Nazareth, your group will visit the Byzantine Church of St. Joseph, to which tradition identifies as the workshop and home of the Holy Family. Also, your group will visit Mary's Well where the angel Gabriel announced to the Virgin Mary that she will bear the Son of God (Luke 1:30-34). Your tour continues to Cana of Galilee, where Jesus performed his first miracle changing water to wine, visit the wedding Church where married couples will renew wedding vows. After, we will return to the Hotel for dinner and overnight.

## **Day 5: March 9, Thu, Mount of Olives - Gethsemane - Mt. Zion - St. Peter in Gallicantu - Jerusalem**

Wake up and enjoy breakfast, and then make our way to the Mount of Olives, where you will be able to take in the beautiful, panoramic view of Jerusalem. Historically, the Mount of Olives was a mandatory transit point for Jesus during many iconic moments. Then start the day with a tour to Gethsemane, a garden at the foot of the Mount of Olives. Jesus brought His disciples here to pray the night before He was crucified (Luke 22:29-53). The Garden still contains trees with roots that date back to the time of Jesus. Beside the Garden is your next stop, the Church of All Nations, built over the "Rock of Agony". This is where Jesus prayed alone on the night of His arrest. Throughout this time, you are invited to remain in prayer and to reflect on Christ's agony that he experienced. Your group will have the opportunity to visit the Western Wall, which is the last remnant of the Jewish Temple after it was destroyed in 70 C.E. Your group will visit the Pater Noster Shrine, where Jesus taught His disciples the Lord's Prayer (Pater Noster) (Luke 11:1-4). You will have the opportunity to stop at Dominus Flevit, which is a Church that commemorates where Jesus wept for Jerusalem (Luke 19:41), and then visit the Upper Room on Mt. Zion. The Upper Room is where Jesus and His disciples celebrated the Last Supper (Matthew 26:17-30) and, where Jesus appeared to His disciples after His Death and Resurrection (Mark 16:14). In addition, your group will visit the nearby Benedictine Church of the Dormition. Tradition tells us that this Church is where Mary, the Mother of Jesus, "fell asleep." The tour continues as you will visit the house of the High Priest Caiaphas (Church of St. Peter in Gallicantu). This Church commemorates where Jesus was examined and eventually imprisoned before the Council in Jerusalem. It also commemorates Peter's Denial of Christ (John 18:15-18), Peter's repentance, and Jesus' forgiveness of Peter. Return to the Hotel in time to freshen up before we make our way to dinner at the popular restaurant - Satya - fronted by famous Chef Ilan Grossi (of the popular Chakra Restaurant). The menu has Mediterranean influences, with a variety of meat, fish, and seafood dishes. Return to the Hotel for a restful nights sleep.

## **Day 6: March 10, Fri, Jerusalem - Tiberias: Sea of Galilee - Tabgha - Mount of Beatitudes - Capernaum - Jerusalem**

Your group will begin this day with breakfast at the hotel, and then board your bus and make your way towards Tiberias. Upon arrival, you will enjoy a boat ride on the beautiful and scenic, Sea of Galilee (Luke 5:1). During this ride, your group will also view the remains of a boat that dates back to the time of Jesus. Following the Sea of Galilee, we Near the Mount, is Tabgha, one of Jesus' miracle sites. At Tabgha, Jesus fed the crowd of 5,000 people from five loaves of bread and two fish (Luke 9:10-17). Also, in Tabgha is St. Peter's Primacy where Jesus bestowed Church leadership upon Peter (John 21:9). From there we will stop for lunch, and then continue to the Mount of Beatitudes, where Jesus proclaimed His great Sermon on the Mount (Luke 6:20-49). Then we will visit the birthplace of Mary Magdalene in Magdala. During the time of Jesus, this village was a prosperous fishing village that exported fish and garum (a fish sauce reduction; popular in Roman cooking). Your day concludes at Capernaum, the launching place of Jesus' ministry. In Capernaum, see the Synagogue where Jesus taught (Mark 1:21-29) and gave His sermon on the Bread of Life. Return to the Hotel where your group will enjoy dinner and overnight.

## **Day 7: March 11, Sat, Jerusalem: Via Dolorosa - Church of the Holy Sepulchre - Old City Tour of Christian Quarters - St. Anne's - Pool of Bethesda**

Your group will have a very early morning wake-up, which will begin the Via Dolorosa (The Way of the Cross) at the Antonia Fortress. This is the spot where Jesus was condemned to death by Pontius Pilate (John 18:28-19:16). Following His condemnation, He was taken (on the Road to Calvary) to His place of Crucifixion. Your group will reflect upon the Stations of the Cross as you travel through the markets of the Old City to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre (Luke 23:26-33). This Sacred destination is the site of Calvary (Jesus' crucifixion place) and, His tomb (Luke 23: 50-55). Your group will celebrate Mass at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. Following Mass, your group will return to the Hotel to enjoy a late breakfast. The tour continues through the Christian Quarters, and then a visit to the Church of St. Anne's, the home of Jesus' maternal grandparents (Anne and Joachim); and the Pool of Bethesda, where Jesus healed the crippled man (John 5:1-9). Return to the Hotel where we will have some free time before dinner and overnight.

## **Day 8: March 12, Sun, Western Wall and Jewish Quarters -Mount of Olives - Jericho - Jordan River - Bethany - Dead Sea**

Gather for breakfast, and then board your bus to visit the Western Wall, which is the last remnant of the Jewish Temple after it was destroyed in 70 C.E. From there, we will tour the Jewish Quarters, before we break for lunch. After, we will board our bus and begin our journey south towards the Jordan Valley, to the oldest inhabited city in the world, Jericho (Joshua 6:12-25). In Jericho, you view the exact location, the Mount of Temptation, where the Devil tempted Jesus during his forty-day fast (Luke 4:1). Following the visit to this mountain, continue to Jesus' baptismal site on the River Jordan (Matthew 3:13-17). After some time at the Jordan River, you will travel down the Jordan Valley to Qumran. Qumran is made up of 2,000 year old ruins from the days of the Second Temple and also the site where the Dead Sea Scrolls were written and discovered (Ezekiel 47:8-10). These writings have helped further the understanding of Jewish background in Christianity. Time and weather permitting, you will have the opportunity to take a float in the Dead Sea, the lowest and saltiest spot on Earth. Continue as you travel through the Judean wilderness, the site where Jesus spent His 40 days of fasting. Return to your Hotel for dinner and overnight.

## **Day 9: March 13, Mon, Jerusalem - Caesarea - Stella Maris (Haifa) - Emmaus - Jerusalem**

This morning, you will have breakfast, and head to Caesarea, the former capital of Judea. You will have the opportunity to visit the archaeological remains of this ancient port, which aided as base for the Herodian navy. Shortly after the time of Jesus Christ, it was revealed to Peter, in Caesarea, that the Good News (to repent) is not only intended for Jewish people but also, the entire world. This is also the place which officially ended the tradition of adhering to the Jewish ceremonial laws. As a result, Peter baptized a group of gentiles, the Roman Centurion, Cornelius, and his family. From here, we will see the Roman Theater, Herod's Palace, view the Hippodrome, and the harbor from where St. Paul sailed on his journeys. Continue north to Haifa where you will find Stella Maris, a Carmelite Monastery. The monastery is located above the cave where Elijah, the prophet, once lived. A colorful painting of this "wonder-worker" can be found on the ceiling of the Church. Celebrate Mass, your group will depart Stella Maris. From there, we will visit the site of Emmaus, the town mentioned in the Gospel of Luke from the New Testament, where Luke reports that Jesus appeared after his death and resurrection. Return to the Hotel for some time to refresh before we make our way to the famous Rooftop Bar "Wine and Cheese" located on the top of Notre Dame. Is it here, at this Vatican owned property - we will celebrate our Farewell Dinner before returning to our Hotel for overnight.

## **Day 10: March 14, Tue, Jerusalem - Free Day - Depart for return flights Home.**

This morning, you will have breakfast, and have the remainder of the day free for you to spend at your own leisure. Transfers by motor coach - to the Tel Aviv Airport for return flight(s) home - will be in accordance with the Transfer Schedule you are provided 48 hours prior.

*Including Exclusive Lectures by Matthew Leonard!*