



**TEKTON MINISTRIES**  
Encounter Christ on a Catholic Pilgrimage

# WITNESS THE LIVES OF THE SAINTS

You are invited on a pilgrimage  
**CELEBRATING THE  
DIACONATE ORDINATION** of  
**MATTHEW POHLMAN** to

# ITALY

September 23 -  
October 1, 2023



# A TRULY CATHOLIC PILGRIMAGE

**Tekton Ministries** has been leading Catholic pilgrimages for more than 20 years. Working closely with your priest to create thoughtfully planned itineraries, we help make the Catholic faith more tangible to your daily life by taking you to the heart of our Mother Church today. Although we visit numerous sites in this holy and historic region, daily Mass and time for prayerful reflection are important parts of each day's experience.

We use only experienced Christian or Catholic guides, so you receive truthful explanations of scripture and the places we encounter. When the disciple Philip asked the Eunuch (who was reading Isaiah) if he understood what he was reading, the man responded, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" (Acts 8:35) Just as Philip guided the Eunuch with "the good news of Jesus," your Tekton pilgrimage will guide you into a deeper understanding of the Scriptures. Our prayers, service, and love of our Lord go with you.

- **Day 1 - Saturday, September 23**  
**Depart USA**

Our pilgrimage begins as we depart on our overnight flight to Rome. Meals and refreshments will be served aloft.

- **Day 2 - Sunday, September 24**  
**Arrive Rome**

Upon arrival in Rome, we will be met at the airport by our tour manager, who will be with us for the duration of our pilgrimage. Proceed to the heart of "The Eternal City" for an immersion in ancient Roman culture with visits to the Forum and Colosseum. Afterwards, check into our hotel before heading to the NAC to celebrate the Diaconate Family Mass. A light reception in the courtyard will follow. The evening is free for personal exploration of the city, including dinner out on your own.



St. Paul Outside the Walls

- **Day 3 - Monday, September 25**  
**Rome**

We begin our day at the Vatican Museums, which house art and artifacts from around the world. We will be sure to see St. Pope John Paul II's car – Corozzo and the Rooms of Raphael. The final highlight of this visit will be the Sistine Chapel, the most famous ceiling in the world under which popes are still chosen to this day. After lunch on our own, we will return to the Vatican for a tour of St. Peter's Basilica, where we contemplate centuries of history of the Catholic Church. Here we see the life-like Pieta

statue by Michelangelo, stunning paintings, and the importance of Eucharistic Adoration at the chapel renovated under the direction of St. John Paul II. Our visit culminates with a tour of the Scavi – the necropolis underneath the basilica. Dinner this evening will include a glass of wine at Da Meo Pattaca, enjoying the outdoor seating and live music that only adds to this beautiful experience. (B, D)



Basilica of St. John Lateran

- **Day 4 - Tuesday, September 26**  
**Rome**

This morning we climb the Scala Santa (Holy Stairs), which our Lord climbed on His way to His condemnation, followed by a visit to the Basilica of St. John Lateran. Then we travel to Santa Croce in Gerusalemme where we get another little piece of Jerusalem thanks to Constantine's mother, St. Helena, who brought relics of the True Cross and the inscription that hung over the cross which stated Jesus was King of the Jews. At one time, soil from Jerusalem covered the Basilica's floor, so it truly was part of the Holy Land. After lunch, we will walk to the Gregorian University and the Trevi Fountain, where a coin thrown over your shoulder is reported to guarantee another visit to Rome. Then, enjoy a wine tasting experience before dinner this evening. (B, D)



Papal Audience

- **Day 5 - Wednesday, September 27**  
**Rome**

This morning we will attend the weekly Papal Audience held by His Holiness, Pope Francis (pending the Holy Father's schedule). After lunch on our own, journey to the basilica of St. Paul Outside the Walls, the great church built by Constantine over the tomb of St. Paul. This evening we travel back to the NAC (or other designated church) for the evening prayer vigil with and for the candidates for ordination. Dinner this evening will be on your own. (B)

● **Day 6 - Thursday, September 28**

**Rome**

Today is free for events surrounding the Diaconate Ordination at the Vatican. After the Ordination we will proceed to the North American College for a light lunch reception. The afternoon will be free for personal exploration of sites around Rome before a dinner reception at La Soffitta, including one beer per patron. (B, D)



● **Day 9 - Sunday, October 1**

**Rome / USA**

Today we say "Ciao" to Italia and transfer to the airport for our return flight home, cherishing all the wonderful memories and graces of this pilgrimage. (B)

B=Breakfast D=Dinner



● **Day 7 - Friday, September 29**

**Rome / Assisi / Rome**

We begin by participating in a Mass of Thanksgiving with the newly ordained at the basilica of St. Cecilia. We then drive north to Assisi, a town which welcomes us in the spirit of St. Francis and St. Clare. Upon arrival we will visit St. Mary of the Angels Basilica, site of the Porziuncola, the tiny church in the woods where St. Francis began his ministry and where St. Clare began her religious life. Proceed to the Basilica of St. Clare, which holds the famous San Damiano Crucifix that spoke to St. Francis, and where the golden locks of St. Clare's hair and St. Francis' poor patched tunic are kept. In the heart of Assisi, we will witness where the power of the Eucharist turned away an army. The invading Saracens were about to attack the Convent of San Damiano where St. Clare lived with her nuns in 1241. Even though bed-ridden, St. Clare got up and held the Blessed Sacrament in the air and saw the advancing army flee in terror establishing "The Miracle of the Eucharist of Assisi." Journey to the Basilica of St. Francis to venerate his burial place and marvel at the mother church of the Franciscan order. Return to Rome late this evening. (B, D)



● **Day 8 - Saturday, September 30**

**Rome**

Today is free for your to explore Rome on your own. We will come back together this evening for a Sunday Vigil Mass at the NAC, followed by a farewell dinner at Ristorante Scarpone, including a glass of wine. (B, D)

# ITALY PILGRIMAGE DETAILS

REGISTER ONLINE AT  
TektonMinistries.org

## BASE PRICE PER PERSON

Double occupancy with base airfare **\$3,835.00**

## ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL EXPENSES (applied to final invoice)

Current airline taxes/fuel surcharges **\$443.65**

(subject to change until final ticketing)

Gratuities to guide, driver, hotel/restaurant staff **\$120.00**

(estimated)

**ESTIMATED TOTAL COST \$4,398.65**

## OPTIONS:

- For a single room: add \$893
- Land-only option: \$3,082 (no flights or gratuities included)

Final Payment Due

June 2022

## BASE RATE INCLUDES:

- Daily Mass at holy sites
- Roundtrip economy airfare from Omaha on American Airlines
- 7 nights' accommodations, including taxes and service charges
- Porterage of one piece of luggage at airports and hotels
- Knowledgeable, friendly, Catholic/Christian guides; whisper headsets; deluxe motor coach transportation to holy sites; all entrance fees listed on itinerary
- Breakfast and dinner as per itinerary (excluding drinks)

**Base rates do not include:** meals not listed in the itinerary, most drinks with meals, and gratuities

**Reservations and Payment:** Tekton Ministries requires a deposit of \$300.00 per person at the time of booking. This deposit forms a part of your final payment which is due 90 days prior to departure. Reservations made within 89 days of departure must be accompanied by payment in full. Payments made by credit card will incur a convenience fee. Any reservations received within 45 days of departure will incur a late booking fee of \$100.00 per person. This pilgrimage is based upon a minimum of 21 total pilgrims. Surcharges may be assessed for a smaller group size.

**Cancellations:** All cancellations must be in writing. The following per person cancellation charges will apply in addition to any airline penalties and charges incurred by our suppliers: If canceled 91 days or more prior to departure, a \$150.00 administrative fee will be charged. If canceled 90 - 31 days prior to departure, \$300.00 will be charged. If canceled 30 - 15 days prior to departure, \$1,000.00 will be charged. No refunds will be made within 14 days of departure. In addition, once the airline tickets have been issued, 100% of the airfare is non-refundable unless you have been advised otherwise at the time of your booking.

**Travel Documents:** A passport which is valid for 6 months past the date of your return flight home is required of all U. S. citizens. However, U.S. citizens do not require visas for Italy. If you are not a U.S. citizen, please call to find out if you need a visa. Tekton Ministries is not responsible for individual visas or passports.

**Hotels:** Accommodations are based on double occupancy rooms with private facilities. A limited number of single rooms are available at the supplement quoted and should be requested at the time of booking.

**Air Transportation:** Air travel is in economy class on American Airlines. Fares are based upon levels in effect at the time of printing and fares and flight schedules are subject to change without notice. Note that any ticketing changes or cancellations made within 120 days of your departure date will incur airline penalties.

**Baggage:** Each passenger is allowed one checked bag and one carry-on. Tekton Ministries is not responsible for lost, damaged or stolen baggage.

**Travel Insurance:** We strongly recommend that you purchase comprehensive travel insurance for your trip. Registration information will be provided upon receipt of your deposit.

**Not Included in base price:** Airline taxes/fuel surcharges (currently \$443.65 per person, but subject to change until the time of ticketing), gratuities to guide, driver, and hotel staff, passport/visa fees, personal travel insurance, laundry, beverages and items not on the regular menu of included meals, excess baggage charges, optional sightseeing and expenses of a personal nature.

**Refunds:** Subject to the foregoing Cancellation Terms, upon cancellation of travel related services, all sums paid to Tekton Ministries/George's International Tours for such services will be promptly returned to the passenger, provided the passenger has not caused such cancellation and is not in violation of any of the terms and conditions previously, clearly and conspicuously disclosed and agreed to by the passenger. This refund provision does not apply where Tekton Ministries/George's International Tours has remitted the payment to another registered seller of travel or a carrier and they default in providing the agreed-upon transportation or service without providing a refund. In such a situation, Tekton Ministries/George's International Tours agrees to provide passenger with a written statement accompanied by a copy of the bank records estab-

lishing the disbursement of the payment, and if disbursed to a seller of travel, proof of their current registration.

**Trust Account Disclosure:** California law requires certain sellers of travel to have a trust account or bond. George's International Tours has such a trust account.

**Travel Consumer Restitution Corporation ("TCRC"):** George's International Tours is a participant in the Travel Consumer Restitution Corporation ("TCRC"). You, the passenger, may request reimbursement from TCRC if George's International Tours was registered and participating in the TCRC at the time of sale and the passenger is located in California at the time of payment. Please be advised that passengers purchasing from outside of California are not covered by the TCRC. Eligible passengers may file a claim with TCRC if the passenger is owed a refund of more than \$50 for transportation or travel services which George's International Tours failed to forward to a proper provider or if such money was not refunded to you when required. The maximum amount, which may be paid by the TCRC to any one passenger is the total amount paid on behalf of the passenger to George's International Tours, not to exceed \$15,000. A claim must be submitted to the TCRC within six months after the scheduled completion date of the travel. A claim must include sufficient information and documentation to prove your claim and a \$35 processing fee. You must agree to waive your right to other civil remedies against a registered participating Seller of Travel for matters arising out of a sale for which you file a claim with the TCRC, if you were located in California at the time of the sale. You may request a claim form by writing to: Travel Consumer Restitution Corporation, P.O. Box 6001, Larkspur, CA 94977-6001; or by faxing a request to 415-927-7698.

**Responsibility Clause:** Tekton Ministries, George's International Tours and/or their co-operating selling agents and/or their suppliers of services offer these tours for sale only on the express understanding that they themselves do not perform or in any way assume liability for the performance of the individual components, transfers, hotels, flights, car, motorcoaches, etc. of these tours and act only to combine these components into a single unit of sale for the convenience of the general public, and are not responsible therefore, either directly or indirectly, for any loss, accident, or injury which may result from any act, omission, negligence in or responsible for performing or providing these component services. The transportation companies concerned take no responsibility for any act, omission, or event during the time the passengers are not aboard their conveyances. The passenger contract issued by the transportation company shall constitute the sole contract between the transportation company and the passenger. Additional expenses incurred as a result of delay, change of schedules, illness, weather, strikes, hostilities, quarantine, government requisition of hotel space or any other reasons beyond the control of the tour operator or travel agent shall be borne by the passenger. Tour operator reserves the right to substitute hotels of similar category if necessary and to alter itineraries. Your deposit certifies that you agree with the above terms and conditions.



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