

### A TRULY CATHOLIC PILGRIMAGE

I invite you to join me on this 11 Day Holy Land Catholic Pilgrimage that will expand your knowledge of the New Testament and this sacred land. A journey following in the footsteps of Jesus will change the way you read the Bible, the way you live your life, and the way you understand the Church. Consider this brochure my personal invitation to be a part of this journey in faith, and pilgrimage of witness.

-Father Tom

**Tekton Ministries** has been leading Catholic pilgrimages to the Holy Land for more than 25 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 where the seeds of Catholicism were first planted to be spread across the world. Although we visit more than 50 sites in this holy and historic region, daily Mass and time for prayerful reflection are important parts of each day's experience.

### Land-Only pilgrimage itinerary starts below

#### Day 1 - Wednesday, April 3 Tel Aviv

Today our immersion in the land of Israel where Christ walked begins. We will make our own way to the hotel in Tel Aviv and meet our fellow pilgrims at a welcome reception this evening at 6pm. Dinner will be on your own. *Overnight Tel Aviv* 

### Day 2 - Thursday, April 4 Tel Aviv / Nazareth / Cana / Mt. Tabor

After breakfast, we will meet our guide who will be with us for the duration of the pilgrimage and make the scripture come alive as we follow in the footsteps of Jesus. We travel north to Nazareth, the childhood home of Jesus. Visit the Basilica of the Annunciation that holds the Cave of the Annunciation where Gabriel appeared to Mary and "the Word was made flesh" (John 1:14) and see St. Joseph's Carpentry Shop, where the foster father of Jesus worked. This afternoon, journey to Cana in Galilee to pray where Jesus performed His first miracle, turning the water into wine. (John 2) If you wish, you may renew your wedding vows here as a lasting remembrance of this holy site. Our last excursion of the day is to the summit of Mt. Tabor, the site of the Transfiguration in which his appearance was radiantly transformed. (Mt 17.1-9, Mk 9.2-10, Lk. 9.28-26) Proceed to our hotel in Tiberias, our home for the next three nights. (B, D, Mass) Overnight Galilee

### • Day 3 - Friday, April 5 Sea of Galilee / Tabgha / Capernaum / Mt. of Beatitudes

This morning we enjoy a scenic boat ride across the Sea of Galilee, the setting of many moments in Christ's life. We will visit the Church of Peter's Primacy on the shores of Galilee. A rock at the center of the Church is believed to be the actual table where the apostles ate breakfast with Christ after His Resurrection. We proceed to Tabgha to ponder the site where Jesus multiplied the loaves and fish to feed more than 5,000 people (Luke 9:13), then continue to Capernaum - the center of Jesus's three-year public ministry. Here, Christ healed Peter's mother-in-law of a fever, brought a child back to life, cured a leper, healed the centurion's servant and cast out a demon from a young boy. We will visit the synagogue where Jesus taught and then proceed to our last site of this grace-filled day - the Mount of Beatitudes

where Christ gave His Sermon on the Mount. (Matthew 5-7) Return to our hotel for dinner and overnight. (B, D, Mass) Overnight Galilee

# Day 4 - Saturday, April 6 Caesarea Philippi / Bethsaida / Chorazin

This morning we ascend the Golan Heights, a fertile plateau with expansive views over Israel. Stop at the Banias Spring, a waterfall that rises from under a cave and is one of the sources of the Jordan River. It was here in Banias (known in Biblical times as Caesarea Philippi) where Peter made his confession of faith in Jesus as the Messiah and where Jesus gave Peter his new name, declaring him the Rock upon which He would build His Church (Matthew 16:16-19). Journey to Bethsaida where we visit the home of Andrew and Peter and marvel at the humble beginnings of two of the greatest disciples, followed by Chorazin, cursed by Jesus for their lack of faith (Lk. 10). Return to our hotel, where we will have the balance of the day free for personal prayer and reflection along the shores of the Sea of Galilee on our last evening in this region. Dinner tonight will be on our own to explore some of the regional cuisine and spend time with each other sharing our experiences of the past few days. (B, Mass) Overnight Galilee

# Day 5 - Sunday, April 7 Mt. of Beatitudes / Kursi / Ajloun / Anjara / Dead Sea

This morning we celebrate Mass at the Mt. of Beatitudes. Depart this region and travel south towards Jordan, stopping at Kursi, where Jesus met a possessed man and cast out a legion of demons into the herd of swine (Luke 8:26). Continue to the Sheikh Hussein Bridge where we will cross from Israel into Jordan and drive to Anjara and Our Lady of the Mountain Church, where tradition says Jesus and his mother Mary stopped with his disciples and rested in a cave when they traveled between Jerusalem and Galilee. Continue south to the shores of the Dead Sea, and proceed to our hotel near its uplifting waters for check-in. (B, D, Mass) Overnight near the Dead Sea

# Day 6 - Monday, April 8 Dead Sea - day trip to Petra

This morning we will drive south to Petra, one of the most magnificent sites in the Middle East and one of the Seven Wonders of the World. The "Rose Red City" of Petra is literally carved into the sides of a deep gorge and the only entrance is through the "Siq", a narrow slit in the rock enclosed by beautiful limestone cliffs. Walking between the 100-foot cliffs we will see a remarkable sight: temples, tombs, and dwellings chiseled right into the limestone walls. Following our sightseeing of Petra, we will return to our hotel along the shores of the Dead Sea. Dinner tonight will be on our own. (B, Mass) Overnight near the Dead Sea



# Day 7 - Tuesday, April 9 Dead Sea / Jordan River / Bethany / Jerusalem

This morning we will depart our hotel and journey north to visit Bethany beyond the Jordan, the Baptismal Site of our Lord (on the Jordanian side of the river.) Renew your baptismal vows in the very river where Jesus was baptized by John the Baptist. (Mark 1:9) These are the waters the prophet Elijah divided and crossed with Elisha and which Naaman the Syrian dipped in seven times to cure his leprosy. We then cross the Allenby Bridge from Jordan back into Israel and drive to Bethany to see the House of Mary, Martha, and Lazarus and the Tomb of Lazarus where Jesus raised him from the dead. This is

where Jesus declared to Martha that He is "the Resurrection and the Life" (John 11:25). Go a short distance to Jerusalem for check-in at our hotel, our home base for the next four nights. (B, D, Mass) Overnight Jerusalem



### Day 8 - Wednesday, April 10 Ein Karem / Bethlehem

This morning we drive to Ein Karem, where St. John the Baptist was born. Pray at the Visitation Church where Mary proclaimed her service to God in her Magnificat prayer after traveling to visit her cousin, Elizabeth. Afterwards, journey to one of the most joyous sites connected to the Holy Night Christ was born - the church located in the Shepherd's Fields in Bethlehem, marking the spot where the shepherds heard the chorus of angels proclaiming Jesus' birth. In the city of Bethlehem, meaning "House of Bread," we visit the Nativity Church that sits above the traditional Grotto of Jesus' Birth. Ponder the Manger, Grotto of St. Jerome and the Church of St. Catherine, the parish church for Bethlehem's Catholics. We will also visit the Milk Grotto Chapel, where Christian tradition says the Holy Family found refuge during the massacre of the Innocents before they could flee to Egypt, before returning to Jerusalem. (B, D, Mass) Overnight Jerusalem

## Day 9 - Thursday, April 11 Mt. of Olives / Gethsemane / Mt. Zion

We begin this morning at the top of the Mount of Olives for a panoramic view of Jerusalem and visit two churches located on the mount: The Church of the Pater Noster where Jesus taught his disciples how to pray the "Our Father" and the Ascension Chapel, the site where Jesus ascended into Heaven. Descend the mount on the path Christ walked on the "Palm Sunday Road" to Dominus Flevit, where Christ wept over Jerusalem and her future destruction. Then enter into the Garden of Gethsemane where Christ had his agony and was betrayed. Here we have Mass in the Church of All Nations at the Rock of Agony, the very rock Christ prayed at and sweated blood before he was to be crucified. This afternoon we travel to Mt. Zion, where Christ celebrated the Last Supper in the Upper Room. Together we will then journey to pray the rosary at the Church of the Dormition, the traditional site where Mary was assumed into heaven. Our final stop is at one of the most striking churches in Jerusalem -St. Peter in Gallicantu- that hosts a wide array of art styles. A golden rooster sits atop it recalling the place where Peter denied Jesus three times (Matthew 26). It was the palace of the high priest Caiaphas, where Jesus was brought to jail after his arrest and kept in the dungeon that sits underneath the Church. (B, D, Mass) Overnight Jerusalem

## Day 10 - Friday, April 12 Old City / Via Dolorosa / Calvary

We enter the Old City of Jerusalem through St. Stephen's Gate to visit the Church of St. Anne, where the Blessed Virgin Mary was born. Afterwards, is the Pool of Bethesda, where Jesus healed the paralytic man. We will continue to see Pilate's Judgement Hall, the Chapel of Flagellation, the Arch of Ecce Homo, where Pilate said, "Behold the man," with Jesus standing before the crowds in His crown of thorns and with His body torn after his scourging. Prayerfully, we will walk the Via Dolorosa to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre and have the opportunity to climb the steps up to Mt. Calvary to pray at the site of the Crucifixion. Venerate the site where Jesus body was anointed, the tomb where He was buried and rose from the dead and the Chapel

of St. Helena where she found the true cross. After ample time for personal prayer and reflection, we will go to the Temple Area of the Old City to visit the Wailing Wall, a solemn site for the Jewish people and the last remaining section of the temple that stood during Jesus' time. We will also view the Temple Mount featuring the Dome of the Rock and El Aqsa Mosque. This evening we enjoy a traditional Middle Eastern farewell dinner and have time to reflect upon all our experiences of this pilgrimage. (B, D, Mass) Overnight Jerusalem

### Day 11 - Saturday, April 13 Jerusalem / Tel Aviv / USA

Our time pondering the wonder and awe of the Holy Land comes to an end. Depart for your return flight home.



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B=Breakfast D=Dinner



### HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE DETAILS

#### LAND-ONLY BASE PRICE PER PERSON

Double occupancy \$3,490.00
Gratuities to guide, driver, hotel/restaurant staff \$160.00

TOTAL COST \$3,650.00

#### **OPTIONS:**

- For a single room: add \$1,065
- Pre-night and post-night hotel accomodations available upon request

**Final Payment Due** 

January 2024

#### **BASE RATE INCLUDES:**

- Daily Mass at holy sites
- Reception with cocktails and appetizers on day 1
- · Jordan entry visa and border crossing taxes
- 10 nights' accommodation, including taxes and service charges
- · Gratuities to guide, driver, and hotel staff
- · 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)
- · Middle Eastern dinner on day 11

Rates do not include: Airfare, airport transfers, lunches, drinks with meals

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 26 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 - 46 days prior to departure, \$300.00 will be charged. If canceled 45 - 15 days prior to departure, \$1000.00 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. U.S. citizens do not require visas for Israel, but one is required for Jordan, to be provided by Tekton Ministries. 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 transportation is not included. However, we would be happy to help you book your flights.

**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:** Currently, Israel requires proof of medical insurance coverage for the duration of your stay. 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:** Airfare, airport transfers, airline taxes/fuel surcharges, 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 establishing 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 cooperating 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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