



**TEKTON MINISTRIES**

Encounter Christ on a Catholic Pilgrimage

# DISCOVER THE POWER *OF THE* EUCCHARIST

***YOU'RE INVITED ON A PILGRIMAGE TO  
THE EUCCHARISTIC SHRINES  
AND SAINTS OF***

# ITALY

**February 25 - March 7, 2024**





# 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 - Sunday, February 25 *Depart USA*

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

## • Day 2 - Monday, February 26 *Arrive Venice*

Upon arrival at the airport in Venice, we are met by our tour manager who will be with us for the duration of our pilgrimage in Italy. Venice is a city built upon 118 islands crisscrossed by 160 canals and linked by 400 footbridges. There are no roads, only canals, no traffic, only water taxis and gondolas. Proceed to our hotel, our home for the next 2 nights. (D) *Overnight Venice*

## • Day 3 - Tuesday, February 27 *Venice*

We journey to the spectacular epicenter of Venice – St. Mark's Square – around which Venetian life revolves. Called the "drawing room of Europe," by Napoleon, the square gets its name from St. Mark's Basilica, the stunning church where the body of St. Mark the Evangelist is buried. We have ample time to visit and pray in this intricately designed cathedral of 85,000 square feet, five domes, and beautiful golden mosaics. The famous Doges Palace awaits us next. Pure Venetian and built for the rulers of Venice, we wander its opulent halls before crossing the famous Bridge of Sighs. Dinner tonight will be on our own in one of the charming restaurants around the city. (B, Mass) *Overnight Venice*

## • Day 4 - Wednesday, February 28 *Venice / Siena*

Depart Venice this morning and journey to Siena, where we visit St. Dominic's, St. Catherine of Siena's parish church where she attended daily Mass and went into ecstasy. The townspeople wanted St. Catherine to be buried in her home church, but they were only able to procure her head, which is preserved for veneration in a reliquary in St. Dominic's. Adjacent to the church is her birthplace and childhood home, which has been renovated throughout the centuries into a museum, including several chapels and a cloister. Visit the cell where she fasted and prayed, then experience a highlight of our day in the Basilica of St. Francis: venerating the Eucharistic miracle of Siena. Explore the majestic Gothic Cathedral, also known as the Duomo di Siena, built in the 13th and 14th centuries, and dedicated to the Assumption of Mary before checking in at our hotel for overnight. Tonight, we wander the medieval streets of Siena,

stopping on our own for dinner. (B, Mass) *Overnight Siena*

## • Day 5 - Thursday, February 29 *Siena / Orvieto / Assisi*

This morning we will depart Siena and journey south, to the walled town of Orvieto. In the 13th century, in nearby Bolsena, a priest doubted the Eucharistic Presence during Mass and the host turned to real flesh and the wine to real blood during the consecration. The priest brought the blood-stained Corporal to Pope Urban in Orvieto, and it is now kept in a special reliquary for the faithful to view. It



was also in Orvieto where Pope Urban IV called for a world-wide Feast of Corpus Christi. After venerating the sacred Eucharistic miracle, we will continue to Assisi, home of Sts Francis and Clare. (B, D, Mass) *Overnight Assisi*

## • Day 6 - Friday, March 1 *Assisi*

We begin our day in the heart of Assisi in the Shrine of Renunciation within St. Mary Major church. This shrine was built to commemorate the spot where St. Francis renounced his wealth and family and began his life of poverty and service to the Lord. It is now where the tomb of Bl. Carlo Acutis lies. Bl. Carlo – the first millennial saint – dedicated part of his short life to cataloging Eucharistic Miracles from around the world. After venerating his resting place, journey to the Basilica of St. Francis to venerate this saint's burial place. Witness where the power of the Eucharist turned away an army. The invading Saracen army was 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." Also in the convent, we will visit the chapel where Jesus spoke to St. Francis from the crucifix, then proceed to the valley below. Here 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. Dinner tonight will be on our own. *(B, Mass) Overnight Assisi*

- **Day 7 - Saturday, March 2**  
**Assisi / Cascia / Loreto / Lancia**

Journey to Cascia to visit the Shrine of St. Rita and venerate the Eucharistic Miracle of Cascia. In 1330, a priest biting the Eucharist to a sick man, placed a consecrated Host in a prayer book. When he opened the book, he saw the Host was transformed into a blood clot and the pages of the book were stained with blood. Continue east, stopping in Loreto, to visit the Shrine of the Holy House, said to be the same house in which the Virgin Mary was born and raised in Nazareth. This is where she received the visitation of the angel announcing that she was the mother of Jesus and according to tradition the home was transported by four angels from Nazareth to its present resting place in Loreto. Afterwards, we will continue our journey along the Adriatic to Lancia, site of the oldest miracle of the Eucharist, still preserved



St. Mary Major

after twelve centuries. Check in to our hotel for dinner and overnight. *(B, D, Mass) Overnight Lancia*

- **Day 8 - Sunday, March 3**  
**Lancia / San Giovanni Rotondo**

This morning we'll visit the sanctuary of the 8th century Eucharistic miracle of Lancia. There will be time for adoration as well as a tour of the museum detailing the history of the miracle. After time for prayer and reflection, we will then drive along the coast to San Giovanni Rotondo, the home of St Padre Pio. Visit his tomb and tour the sanctuary of the Church of Santa Maria delle Grazie, where this famous Saint said Mass. After visiting this mystical Saint's cell and the parlor where he greeted the faithful, we proceed to our hotel for the night. *(B, D, Mass) Overnight San Giovanni Rotondo*

- **Day 9 - Monday, March 4**  
**San Giovanni Rotondo / Monte San Angelo / Manoppello / Rome**

Depart San Giovanni early this morning and drive up to Monte Sant' Angelo for a breathtaking view of the Gargano Peninsula and a visit to the Grotto of Michael the Archangel. Afterwards, stop in Manoppello and visit the church housing the Holy Veil of Manoppello, traditionally believed to be the Veil of Veronica. Venerate this sacred icon and continue to Rome, checking into the hotel which will be our home for the next three nights. *(B, D, Mass) Overnight Rome*

- **Day 10 - Tuesday, March 5**  
**Rome**

This day is filled with wonder and awe as we steep ourselves in

the beauty of St. Peter's Basilica, which beckons us into its interior through the arms of Bernini's Colonnade. Marvel at Michelangelo's Pieta and pray at the Perpetual Adoration Chapel renovated by St. John Paul II. Afterwards, we walk through the Vatican Museums which house artifacts from around the world and Eucharistic art to prepare ourselves for the greatest masterpiece yet: The Sistine Chapel. Painted by Michelangelo, it is the most famous ceiling in the world under which popes are chosen to lead the faithful. This afternoon, we visit St. Paul Outside the Walls, originally built by Constantine in the fourth century over the site of St. Paul's tomb. After some time for prayer, we proceed to the Catacombs of St. Callistus and venerate the martyrs and early saints of the Church. Dinner tonight will be on our own. *(B, Mass) Overnight Rome*

- **Day 11 - Wednesday, March 6**  
**Rome**

The Scala Santa, or Holy Stairs, are prayed this day by going up them on your knees because they are so sacred. Christ walked on these 28 marble stairs at the home of Pontius Pilate before he was condemned to death. Our prayerful experience continues with a visit to St. John Lateran, the Mother Church of the Roman Catholic faithful and the oldest basilica in Europe followed by a stop at St. Clement's Basilica, built in honor of the fourth pope. An original fresco inside this basilica depicts St. Clement celebrating Mass, giving us a visible history of Eucharistic worship at the end of the first century. Afterwards, journey to the church of Santa Pudenziana, site of the only Eucharistic Miracle in Rome. Nearby is St. Mary Major, where we venerate the crib of Christ, view the famous icon attributed to St. Luke, and see inestimable artwork that makes Rome renowned throughout the world. End our Italian pilgrimage with a festive farewell dinner at a local restaurant. *(B, D, Mass) Overnight Rome*

- **Day 12 - Thursday, March 7**  
**Rome / U.S.A.**

Today we say "Ciao" to Italy 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*



# ITALY PILGRIMAGE DETAILS

REGISTER ONLINE AT  
[TektonMinistries.org](http://TektonMinistries.org)

## PRICE PER PERSON

Double occupancy with base airfare	\$3,960.00
Current airline taxes/fuel surcharges	\$560.30

(subject to change until final ticketing)

Gratuities to guide, driver, hotel/restaurant staff	\$155.00
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(estimated/pre-collected with final invoice)

<b>ESTIMATED TOTAL COST</b>	<b>\$4,675.30</b>
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## OPTIONS:

- For a single room: add \$818
- Land-only option: \$3,583 (no flights included)

**Final Payment Due**

**November 2023**

## BASE RATE INCLUDES:

- Daily Mass at holy sites
- Roundtrip economy class airfare from Omaha on Delta Airlines/Air France/KLM
- 10 nights' accommodation, including taxes and service charges
- Portage 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
- Farewell dinner on day 10
- Breakfast and dinner per itinerary (excluding drinks)

*Rates do not include: 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 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 - 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. 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 Delta Airlines/Air France/KLM. 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 \$560.30 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 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 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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