



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

June 16-26, 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, June 16 *Depart USA*

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

● Day 2 - Monday, June 17 *Arrive Rome / Orvieto / Assisi*

After our arrival in the "Eternal City", we will be met by our tour manager at the airport and drive north, stopping in 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 our drive through the beautiful Umbrian countryside to Assisi, a town which welcomes us in the spirit of St. Francis and St. Clare, and our home for the next four nights. We will then proceed to our hotel for check-in and dinner. (D) *Overnight Assisi*



Basilica of St. Francis

● Day 3 - Tuesday, June 18 *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. After a tour of this marvelous basilica, 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. This afternoon, we will 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." The balance of the afternoon will be free until dinner and overnight in our hotel. (B, D, Mass) *Overnight Assisi*

● Day 4 - Wednesday, June 19 *Assisi / Siena / Assisi*

The home of St. Catherine of Siena beckons as we venerate the great Eucharistic Miracle of Siena at the Basilica of St. Francis on our day trip from Assisi. Thieves stole a container of consecrated Hosts, which were later found in the church's offertory box. They were reverently collected and have remained incorrupt since 1730. We then visit the Basilica of St. Dominic where St. Catherine attended daily Mass and went into spiritual ecstasy. Inside, the Chapel of Vaults holds the only portrait of the saint painted while she was alive. Some of her relics are also here to venerate. Adjacent to the church is the home where she lived, fasted, and prayed. We take a stroll through the ancient streets of Siena, which converge on the Piazza del Campo known as one of the most beautiful squares in the world with its soaring bell tower and unique shell-like shape. We'll enjoy some time for personal activities before returning to Assisi. (B, D, Mass) *Overnight Assisi*

● Day 5 - Thursday, June 20 *Assisi*

This morning we will visit St. Mary of the Angels Basilica, the site of the beloved Porziuncola the tiny chapel rebuilt by St. Francis and his fellow friars after Francis took the commandment from the Lord to "rebuild my church" literally, and where St. Clare began her life as a nun. Afterwards, we will make our way up Monte Subasio – either on foot or minibus (our large motorcoach cannot handle the sharp turns) - to L' Eremo delle Carceri, or the Carceri hermitage. These caves are where St. Francis and his followers first prayed and started their ministry to the world. Here, where St Francis often prayed, in the midst of the lush green forest and the singing birds, one gets a deep sense of the Franciscan spirit. After some time for prayer and our own private reflections, we return to the valley of Assisi. We will have some personal time for reflection to walk the streets of this medieval town and absorb the spirit of Saints Francis and Clare. Dinner tonight will be on our own. (B, Mass) *Overnight Assisi*

● Day 6 - Friday, June 21 *Assisi / Greccio / Rome*

This morning we will depart Assisi and journey south to the medieval town of Greccio. Greccio itself, set on a beautiful mountaintop, is famous for its cool summer climate and its mineral springs. However, it is even more renowned for its connections with St. Francis of Assisi and as the birthplace of the Christmas crèche. On Christmas Night 1223, St. Francis led shepherds to the top of a nearby hill where they gathered in a stable sheltering an ox and a donkey. According to legend, the Baby Jesus miraculously appeared in the manger. On this spot the Franciscan convent of Greccio was built, and the Chapel of the Crib was erected in 1228, the year St. Francis was canonized. Continue to Rome, our home for the next five nights. Depending upon

our arrival, we will either have an overview of the city first or check into our hotel. The balance of the day will be free to settle in or explore the area around our hotel before dinner. (B, D, Mass) *Overnight Rome*

● **Day 7 - Saturday, June 22**
Rome

Our first full day in Rome 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. Marveling at Michelangelo's Pieta and praying at the Perpetual Adoration Chapel renovated by St. John Paul II are just two of the highlights of our tour. Afterwards, we walk through the Vatican Museums which house artifacts from the 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. One is always looking up at the masterwork of art that explains the theology of God. Later this afternoon, we take a peaceful tour of the tranquil Vatican Gardens (B, D, Mass) *Overnight Rome*



● **Day 8 - Sunday, June 23**
Rome

We begin this morning in the heart of ancient Rome with visits to the Colosseum and Forum. Afterwards, those who desire will head over to St. Peter's Square to pray the Angelus with Pope Francis and receive his blessing – as his schedule allows. After lunch, we proceed to the charming Trastevere district. Venerate the remains of the patron saint of music at the Church of St. Cecilia and then visit the Basilica of Santa Maria - one of the oldest churches of Rome. The balance of the day will be free for personal activities exploring this district, including dinner on our own. (B, Mass) *Overnight Rome*

● **Day 9 - Monday, June 24**
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. For those who cannot climb the stairs on their knees there are other stairs leading to the chapel at the top. 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. Finally, at St. Mary Major 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. We will have another opportunity this evening



to explore Rome at our leisure, including dinner on our own. (B, Mass) *Overnight Rome*

● **Day 10 - Tuesday, June 25**
Rome

Our morning begins at 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 visit the Tre Fontane, site of three fountains and three churches, where St. Paul was beheaded. Afterwards, we proceed to the Catacombs of St. Callistus and venerate the martyrs and early saints of the Church. This evening, we will enjoy our farewell dinner at a local restaurant near the Piazza Navona, after which we celebrate the conclusion of our pilgrimage with a walking tour to the Pantheon, Spanish Steps, and the Trevi Fountain where a coin thrown over your shoulder will guarantee you another visit to Rome. (B, D, Mass) *Overnight Rome*

● **Day 11 - Wednesday, June 26**
Rome / U.S.A.

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

B=Breakfast D=Dinner



ITALY PILGRIMAGE DETAILS

REGISTER ONLINE AT
TektonMinistries.org

PRICE PER PERSON

Double occupancy with base airfare \$4,765.00
Current airline taxes/fuel surcharges \$675.30

(subject to change until final ticketing)

Gratuities to guide, driver, hotel/restaurant staff \$150.00
(estimated/pre-collected with final invoice)

ESTIMATED TOTAL COST \$5,590.30

OPTIONS:

- For a single room: add \$989
- Land-only option: \$3,654 (no flights included)

Final Payment Due

March 2024

BASE RATE INCLUDES:

- Daily Mass at holy sites
- Roundtrip economy class airfare from Indianapolis on United Airlines
- 9 nights' accommodation, 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
- Farewell dinner at a local restaurant 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. Late payments may be subject to a late fee and/or possible removal from the pilgrimage. This pilgrimage is based upon a minimum of 27 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 United 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 \$675.30 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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