



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

# WITNESS THE LIVES *OF THE* SAINTS

Fr. Timothy Reid invites you  
***ON A PILGRIMAGE TO  
THE SHRINES AND SAINTS OF***

# **ITALY, SLOVENIA AND CROATIA**

**April 21 - May 2, 2025**



# 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 - Monday, April 21**  
**Depart USA**

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

- **Day 2 - Tuesday, April 22**  
**Arrive Milan**

Upon arrival in Milan, we will be met by our tour manager who will be with us for the duration of our pilgrimage. Depending upon our arrival time, we will visit the Duomo, one of the world's largest Gothic Cathedrals. The Duomo houses the tomb of St. Charles Borromeo, known for his leadership during the counter-reformation, as well as the baptistry where St. Augustine was baptized by St. Ambrose. We then proceed to the Basilica of Sant' Ambrogio honoring St. Ambrose, the patron saint of Milan. Afterwards we will check into our hotel for dinner and overnight. (D) Overnight Milan



- **Day 3 - Wednesday, April 23**  
**Milan**

We depart Milan for a day trip to Turin. Here we begin in the Duomo – the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist – housing the reliquary containing the Shroud of Turin. We will have what is

perhaps a once in a lifetime opportunity to view the Shroud (pending confirmation). After time for prayer here and veneration of the shroud, we can visit other side chapels of the Cathedral, including the resting place of Bl. Pier Giorgio Frassati (soon to be canonized). This afternoon we proceed to the Basilica di Maria Ausiliatrice (Mary, Help of Christians). This church houses the body of St. John Bosco (and was originally part of the home for boys he founded), St. Mary Mazzarello, St. Dominic Savio, and relics of over 6,000 other saints. After time for prayer here we return to our hotel in Milan for dinner and overnight. (B, D) Overnight Milan

**\*\*NOTE:** The above schedule is dependent upon the announcement of public veneration of the Shroud of Turin. If the Shroud will not be displayed, we will remain in Milan for this day, with the exact schedule to be determined.

- **Day 4 - Thursday, April 24**  
**Milan / Pavia / Bologna**

Today we depart Milan and journey to Pavia. The remains of St. Augustine, Doctor of the Church and author of many works integral to our Catholic faith, lie here in the Basilica of San Pietro in Ciel d'Oro. The relics of St. Augustine are kept in a marble reliquary on the upper floor of the church. After time for veneration and free time for lunch, we continue our travels east to Bologna.

(B, D) Overnight Bologna

- **Day 5 - Friday, April 25**  
**Bologna**

Today we visit Piazza Maggiore, the main square of Bologna, Palazzo Comunale, and the Basilica di San Petronio. This afternoon we journey to the Basilica di San Domenico, a significant religious site in Bologna. Admire its Gothic architecture and visit the Chapel of Saint Dominic, which houses his tomb and stunning artwork.

(B, D) Overnight Bologna



- **Day 6 - Saturday, April 26**  
**Bologna / Padua**

We depart Bologna today and proceed to Padua, burial place of two great saints – St. Luke and St. Anthony. First, we venerate the tomb of St. Luke in the 16th-century Basilica of St. Justina. Continue to the Basilica of St. Anthony. Upon his death, he was buried at the small St. Mary Chapel, part of a small convent that he founded. Just one



year later construction on the basilica chapel began and was built to incorporate St. Mary's. In the basilica, we can venerate the tongue and larynx of St. Anthony, which are preserved in a reliquary of the basilica's treasury. Our last stop in Padua is the Scrovegni Chapel, a very small yet beautifully painted building, containing frescoes painted by Giotto. Finally, we proceed to our hotel for dinner and overnight. (B, D) Overnight Padua

● **Day 7 - Sunday, April 27**  
**Padua / Ljubljana**

We depart Padua today and cross into Slovenia, driving to the capital of Ljubljana. Here we enjoy a half-day city tour including the town's beautiful bridges, Congress Square, City Hall, Parliament, the Central open-air Market, and the Robba Fountain. We will also visit the Cathedral of St. Nicholas, where we will have time for prayer before continuing to our hotel for dinner and overnight. (B, D) Overnight Ljubljana



Church of the Assumption of Mary / Bled Castle (Bled Island)

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● **Day 8 - Monday, April 28**  
**Ljubljana**

A short drive from Ljubljana lies the Alpine Lake Bled. Besides the charming town along the lakeshore, we will visit Bled Castle, the oldest in Slovenia. We will journey out onto the lake to visit the Church of the Assumption of Mary on an island a little way offshore. After time in Bled, we return to Ljubljana for dinner and overnight. (B, D) Overnight Ljubljana

● **Day 9 - Tuesday, April 29**  
**Ljubljana / Zagreb**

We depart Ljubljana and cross into Croatia. Upon arrival, we enjoy a walking tour of the city center and Upper Town, just steps from our hotel. We'll proceed through Ban Jelacic Square on our way up to an outside visit the Cathedral of the Assumption of Our Lady (inside visit may be possible if reconstruction is complete after a devastating earthquake in 2020). Afterwards we journey to St. Mark Square and the magnificent and colorful church of the same name. Proceed to the Stone Gate and the Market Dolac before returning to Ban Jelacic Square and our hotel. (B, D) Overnight Zagreb

● **Day 10 - Wednesday, April 30**  
**Zagreb**

Today we travel a short distance outside of Zagreb to the National Shrine of Croatia (Marija Bistrica). Here we will learn the story of the hidden Virgin Mary statue and view the fruits of the intercession of Our Lady in the plaques from throughout the world thanking her

for answered prayers. We continue to the Baroque town of Varazdin, where we will visit the Cathedral of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary. After some free time for lunch, drive a short distance away to the town of Ludbreg and the Sanctuary of the most Precious Blood of Christ. It was here during a Mass in 1411 where the consecrated wine turned into blood. After much study, Pope Leo X published a Papal Bull permitting veneration of the relic of the Precious Blood, now contained within a vial inside a monstrance. We will have time for prayer and veneration of the relic before returning to Zagreb for dinner and overnight. (B, D) Overnight Zagreb



National Shrine of Croatia - Marija Bistrica (Outside Zagreb)

Fraxinus, CC BY-SA 3.0 <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0>, via Wikimedia

● **Day 11 - Thursday, May 1**  
**Zagreb**

This morning, we will celebrate Mass and then enjoy a free day to explore the Upper Town of Zagreb on your own. This district features a splendid labyrinth of narrow cobblestone streets and wonderful buildings. Do not miss views of the city, which are well worth the short climb. You may also take a short funicular ride instead of walking. The Zagreb Upper Town streetlamps still run on gas and are manually lit every day, just before dark. This evening, we come together to celebrate a farewell dinner commemorating the culmination of our pilgrimage. (B, D) Overnight Zagreb

● **Day 12 - Friday, May 2**  
**Zagreb / USA**

Transfer to the airport in Zagreb this morning where we will check in for our return flights home, taking with us all the graces and blessings of this pilgrimage.

B=Breakfast D=Dinner



# ITALY PILGRIMAGE DETAILS

REGISTER ONLINE AT  
TektonMinistries.org

## PRICE PER PERSON

Double occupancy with base airfare \$4,400.00  
Current airline taxes/fuel surcharges \$614.96

(subject to change until final ticketing)

**ESTIMATED TOTAL COST \$5,014.96**

Gratuities to guide, driver, hotel/restaurant staff \$175.00

(estimated/pre-collected with final invoice)

## OPTIONS:

- For a single room: add \$1,063
- Land-only option: \$3,903 (no flights included)

Final Payment Due

January 2025

## BASE RATE INCLUDES:

- Daily Mass at holy sites
- Roundtrip economy class airfare from Charlotte on Lufthansa
- 10 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 on day 11
- 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 31 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, Slovenia, or Croatia. 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 Lufthansa. 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 \$614.96 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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