



TEKTON MINISTRIES

Encounter Christ on a Catholic Pilgrimage



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WITNESS THE LIVES *OF THE* SAINTS

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

ITALY

April 19-30, 2027



A TRULY CATHOLIC PILGRIMAGE

Tekton Ministries has been leading Catholic pilgrimages for more than 30 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 19 *Depart USA*

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

• Day 2 - Tuesday, April 20 *Arrive Rome / Orvieto / Assisi*

After our arrival in the "Eternal City", we will be met by our pilgrimage director at the airport. We will drive north, and, pending our arrival time, stop 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 worldwide 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 three nights. We will then proceed to our hotel for check-in and dinner.

(D, Mass) Overnight Assisi



Basilica of St. Francis

• Day 3 - Wednesday, April 21 *Assisi*

We will begin our day in the heart of Assisi in the Shrine of Renunciation within the Church of Santa Maria Maggiore. 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 St. Carlo Acutis lies. St. Carlo – the first millennial saint – dedicated part of his short life to cataloging Eucharistic Miracles from around the world. After venerating his resting place, we will journey to the Basilica of St. Francis to venerate St. Francis' burial place. Next, we will visit 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.

(B, D, Mass) Overnight Assisi

• Day 4 - Thursday, April 22 *Assisi*

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 bedridden, 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. This afternoon we will travel up Mt. Subasio to L'Eremo delle Carceri (the Carceri Hermitage), St. Francis' favorite retreat center, where he could remain in seclusion and prayer. We will enjoy some personal prayer time in this peaceful location before descending back into Assisi for the evening.

(B, D, Mass) Overnight Assisi

• Day 5 - Friday, April 23 *Assisi / Lanciano / San Giovanni Rotondo*

After breakfast, we will depart Assisi for Lanciano, site of the oldest miracle of the Eucharist, still preserved after twelve centuries. Here we will visit the sanctuary of the 8th century Eucharistic miracle of Lanciano. 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, and proceed to our hotel for dinner and overnight.

(B, D, Mass) Overnight San Giovanni Rotondo

• Day 6 - Saturday, April 24 *San Giovanni Rotondo*

We will spend the morning in San Giovanni Rotondo, praying where St. Padre Pio prayed and relaxing in this grace-filled village. We will visit his tomb and tour the sanctuary of the Church of Santa Maria delle Grazie, where this famous saint said Mass. This afternoon, we will drive a short distance to the Grotto of St. Michael the Archangel, and visit the church built above the cave consecrated to the Lord by St. Michael himself. After time for prayer in this sacred site, we will return to San Giovanni for dinner and overnight.

(B, D, Mass) Overnight San Giovanni Rotondo

• Day 7 - Sunday, April 25 *San Giovanni Rotondo / Manoppello / Rome*

We will depart San Giovanni early this morning and drive to Manoppello to visit the church housing the Holy Veil of Manoppello, traditionally believed to be the Veil of Veronica. After venerating this sacred icon, we will continue to Rome, checking into the hotel which will be our home for the next five nights.

(B, D, Mass) Overnight Rome

• Day 8 - Monday, April 26 *Rome*

Today we will steep ourselves in the beauty of St. Peter's Basilica, which beckons us into its interior through the arms of Bernini's Colonnade. We will marvel at Michelangelo's Pieta and pray at the Perpetual Adoration Chapel. Afterwards, we will walk through the Vatican Museums which house artifacts from around the world before experiencing the greatest masterpiece yet, the Sistine Chapel.

Painted by Michelangelo, it is the most famous ceiling in the world. We will then split up into small groups for tours of the Scavi, the necropolis under St. Peter's Basilica (pending confirmation). This evening, we will have dinner on our own followed by a walking tour of the Pantheon, the Piazza Navona, and Trevi Fountain.

(B, Mass) Overnight Rome



• Day 9 - Tuesday, April 27 Rome

Today's first stop will be the Church of Saint Alphonsus Maria de Liguori. Located on the Esquiline Hill, this Gothic Revival church serves as the international center of the Redemptorist order founded by St. Alphonsus. It is most famous for housing the original 14th-century icon of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, one of the most recognizable and venerated Marian images in the world. Pilgrims flock here to pray before this miraculous icon, which hangs prominently above the high altar. Then we will proceed to St. Mary Major where we will venerate the crib of Christ, pray at the tomb of Pope Francis, view the famous icon attributed to St. Luke, and see inestimable artwork that makes Rome renowned throughout the world. Next stop is the Basilica of Saints Cosmas and Damian. Located in the heart of Rome, it is one of the oldest and most fascinating churches. The church was dedicated by Pope Felix IV in 526 A.D. and became the first place of Christian worship in the Roman Forum area. Finally, we will make our last stop at Saint Ignazio di Loyola, an example of the exuberant Baroque style that the Jesuits popularized throughout Europe. The bodies of Jesuit saints John Berchmans and Aloysius Gonzaga are entombed under side altars inside. We will then return to our hotel for dinner.

(B, D, Mass) Overnight Rome

• Day 10 - Wednesday, April 28 Rome

This morning we will attend the weekly Papal Audience held by His Holiness, Pope Leo XIV (pending the Holy Father's schedule). This afternoon, we will travel to the third of the four major basilicas of Rome, St. Paul Outside the Walls. The basilica was originally built by Constantine in the fourth century over the site of St. Paul's tomb. It was destroyed by a fire in 1823 and was rebuilt later in the 19th century exactly as it was before the fire. After some time for prayer here, we will proceed to the Catacombs of St. Callixtus and venerate the martyrs and early saints of the Church. We will then return to our hotel for dinner. *(B, D, Mass) Overnight Rome*

• Day 11 - Thursday, April 29 Rome

This morning, we will begin with a journey to St. John Lateran, the Mother Church of the Roman Catholic faithful. Then on to Santa Croce in Gerusalemme where we will get a little piece of Jerusalem thanks to Constantine's mother, St. Helena, who brought relics of the True Cross and the titulus, the inscription from the cross, declaring Jesus 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 venerating these relics of Our Lord's crucifixion, we will climb the Scala Santa (Holy Stairs). These sacred stairs are traditionally ascended on one's knees in prayer, as 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. This afternoon, we will 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. This evening, we will celebrate a farewell dinner at a local restaurant. *(B, D, Mass) Overnight Rome*



• Day 12 - Friday, April 30 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



ITALY PILGRIMAGE DETAILS

REGISTER ONLINE AT
TektonMinistries.org

ESTIMATED PRICE PER PERSON

Double occupancy with base airfare	\$4,670.00
Current airline taxes/fuel surcharges	\$755.33

(subject to change until final ticketing)

ESTIMATED TOTAL COST	\$5,425.33
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Gratuities to guide, driver, hotel/restaurant staff	\$180.00
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(estimated/pre-collected with final invoice)

OPTIONS:

- For a single room: add \$1,255
- Land-only option: \$4,324 *(no flights included)*

Final Payment Due

January 2027

BASE RATE INCLUDES:

- Daily Mass at holy sites
- Roundtrip economy class airfare from Louisville on American Airlines
- 10 nights' accommodation, including taxes and service charges
- Portage of one piece of luggage at 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 in Rome 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 non-refundable deposit of \$300.00 per person at the time of booking. This deposit forms part of your final payment which is due 90 days prior to departure - after receiving the final invoice. All pilgrimage registrations must be made online through our website. Reservations made within 89 days of departure (or after the final invoices are sent) must be accompanied by payment in full. Any credit card payments other than the deposit 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. Pilgrimage prices are based upon a minimum number of 21 total pilgrims. Surcharges may be assessed for smaller group sizes.

Cancellations: All cancellations must be received in writing (email or letter). 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, \$300 will be charged. If canceled 90 - 61 days prior to departure, \$1000.00 will be charged. If canceled 60 - 31 days prior to departure, \$2000.00 will be charged. No refunds will be made within 30 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 may also be required to apply for ETIAS (start date TBD) to enter Europe. 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 \$755.33 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 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



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