# ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST OXFORD 11 DAYS PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND





## **Your Pilgrimage Features**

- + Roundtrip air transportation from MEM to Tel-Aviv
- + Michael House Boutique Hotel Nazareth. & Rosary Sisters Guest house Jerusalem
- + Land transportation via deluxe private motor coach
- + Taxes, Fuel Surcharges and Tips
- + Breakfast and Dinner Daily
- + Entrance fees to all sites on itinerary
- + Daily Masses
- + Professional Christian English-speaking guide
- + The Itinerary is subject to change.
- + Porterage includes one bag per pilgrim.
- + Single room supplement \$600.

# **Please Read This Important Information**

Deposit - \$400 (Payable on booking) Second Payment due - Feb. 1, 2024 50% Full balance due - April 1, 2024

Each tour member must hold a U.S. passport that valid up to 6 months after the scheduled return. The passport must be valid until Feb 8, 2025.

Application forms are available at your local passport Office or U.S. Postal Service. Any required visas will be processed for US citizens only.

Non-US citizens are solely responsible for obtaining any required visas.

Rates based on Double-occupancy, the airline tax and fuel surcharge and currency exchange rate(s) at the date of quotation to your host. Subject to change up to 30 days prior to departure.

July 22 - August 1, 2024 From Memphis (MEM) PRICE: \$4,800 ALL INCLUSIVE (EXCEPT LUNCHES)

Led by: Fr. Mark Shoffner



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## Day1: July 22 - Depart for Holy Land

Depart for Tel Aviv with complimentary meals and beverages served onboard your international flight.

## Day2: Depart From Memphis, MEM to Tel-Aviv (TLV)

On arrival in Tel Aviv, we proceed through Passport Control to meet our private airport assistant, and claim our luggage. Our group will meet straight forward with our guide.

Evening: Proceed to our hotel in Nazareth



#### Day 3: July 24 -Nazareth- Mt. Tabor - Cana - Nazareth

This morning, we drive to Mount Tabor (The site of the Transfiguration) and then to Cana of Galilee to visit the Wedding Church (Mass) where Jesus performed the first of his signs, changing water to wine. We continue our drive to Nazareth and visit the Basilica of the Annunciation starting with the Grotto of the Annunciation and the Church then we will visit the house of the Holy Family underneath the Church of St. Joseph. Meeting with Vicar of Nazareth.

Evening: Dinner and overnight at your hotel in Nazareth

#### Day 4: July 25 -Nazareth - Tiberias - Sea of Galilee- Capernaum - Mt. of Beatitudes

This morning, we drive to the Sea of Galilee to visit the Mt. of Beatitudes where our Lord gave the Sermon on the Mount, (Celebrate Mass) and continue to Tabgha to see the splendid mosaic of the loaves and fish with which he fed the Five Thousand. Visit the Church of St. Peter's Primacy and then go to visit Capernaum to see the house of St. Peter and the Synagogue where our Lord preached. You will have the opportunity to try the St. Peter's fish for lunch today. One of today's highlights is a boat ride across the Sea of Galilee and we will also see the "Jesus Boat" a 2000 year old boat found at the shores of Magdala. Evening: Dinner and overnight at your hotel in Nazareth



### Day 5: July 26 – Nazareth - Haifa - Caesarea

This Morning, we will drive to the Beautiful city of Haifa and go on Mt. Carmel where The Carmelites started 900 years ago. We celebrate Mass at the Church of Stella Maris, "the Star of the Sea". We will have a panoramic view of the city Haifa and the beautiful Baha'i Gardens. We drive west to Caesarea Maritime, where St. Peter Baptized Cornelius and St. Paul was a prisoner for a while before going to Rome. Here we visit the Roman Aqueducts and the Roman Theater and the palace of Pontius Pilate. Then, we continue our drive to Jerusalem.

Evening: Dinner and overnight at your hotel in Nazareth

# Day 6: July 27 - Samaria - Baptism Site - Jericho - Dead Sea - Jerusalem

Nazareth - Samaria - Jericho - Dead Sea - Jerusalem
After breakfast, you will drive Samaria to visit in Nablus the Jacob's well and to visit the ruins of the Old Sebaste. Then you will drive south to enter Jericho.
(Mass this day in Nablus). We continue driving to Jericho stopping by the Jordan River to renew our baptism vows. View Mt. Temptation where Jesus fasted and was tempted by Satan. We will continue to swim (or rather a float!) in the mineral rich waters of the Dead Sea, renowned for its healing properties. (Mass this day in Jericho).



Evening: Dinner and Overnight in Jerusalem

#### Day 7: July 28 - Bethlehem – Ain Karem - Jerusalem

We continue to Drive to Bethlehem visiting the place of birth of our Lord, The Basilica of the Nativity. We will visit the Grotto of Nativity and the Church of St. Catherine where the Midnight Mass is celebrated and the Caves of St. Joseph and St.Jerome underneath the church. (Celebrate Mass). Visit

Shepherd's Fields, where the Angels appeared to the shepherds who were watching over their flocks during the night.

Time for Shopping in the end of the day.

We drive to Ain - Karem to visit the Birthplace of St. John the Baptist and the Church of the Visitation where Mary came to visit her kinswoman Elizabeth and proclaimed the 'Magnificat'.

Evening: Dinner and overnight in Jerusalem

### Day 8: July 29 - Bethany- Mount Zion - Upper Room

After breakfast, we drive to Bethany and visit Lazarus Tomb. We start our day visiting Bethany, (Celebrate Mass). was a favorite place of rest and refuge for Jesus. When Lazarus was dying, as John's Gospel (11:1-44) recounts, his sisters sent for Jesus. But Jesus delayed his arrival until four days after Lazarus had been buried, "so that the Son of God may be glorified".

In the afternoon, we go on Mount Zion to visit the Church of the Dormition

commemorating our Blessed Mother falling asleep. Next, we go to visit the Cenacle /Upper Room, the place of the Last Supper and Pentecost. We also visit the Church of Saint Peter in Gallicantu. The house of the high priest of the Jews Caiaphas where Jesus was imprisoned for the night and where Peter denied our Lord.

Evening: Dinner and Overnight in Jerusalem

## Day 9: July 30 - Jerusalem - The Passion of Jesus' last hours

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We enter the Old City Jerusalem to visit the Dome of the Rock and El-Aqsa Mosque and the Western Wall and the Jewish Quarter and the Cardo. After Lunch we will transfer to St. Anna Church for the visit

of the Pool of Betesda. We continue to the Judgment Hall known as the Antonia Fortress where he was led to be condemned to death by Pontius Pilate. At that place we start walking the Via Dolorosa through the markets of the Old City praying the Stations of the Cross, we reflect on the greatness of His sacrifice, stopping at each of the fourteen stations of the cross until we reach the Church of Holy Sepulcher. Visit Calvary and the empty Tomb of our Lord and the different sections of the church. Holy Mass in the Holy Sepulchre. Visit of the Latin Patriarchate and meeting with the Patriarch. Evening: Dinner and Overnight in Jerusalem



## Day 10: July 31 - Jerusalem - Mt. of Olives

In the morning, we drive to the top of Mt. Olives for a panoramic view of Jerusalem for a better understanding of its geography and some of the key sites surrounding the area. Visit the Church of Pater Noster where Jesus taught his disciples how to pray, and then we walk on the Palm Sunday road to the Church of Dominus Flevit, where our Lord wept over the city. Continue our walk on the Palm Sunday road to the Garden of Gethsemane. At Gethsemane is the Rock of Agony where Jesus uttered his last prayer. Spend some time in reflection and meditation inside the church.



(Holy Mass in the Garden of Gethsemane) Evening: Dinner and Overnight in Jerusalem

## Day 11: August 1 – TEL AVIV- USA

Fly back to USA

In the morning departure from Tel-Aviv and flight back to the USA with unforgettable memories etched in our minds.