

AGENDA

**0418 Diaconate of Chicago - Marian Pilgrimage to Portugal
France and Spain with Fr. Chuck Faso OFM**

Apr 15 - Apr 25, 2018



CHICAGO DIACONATE 2018 PILGRIMAGE: A MARIAN PILGRIMAGE TO FATIMA AND LOURDES WITH BLESSINGS ALONG THE WAY FROM ST. TERESA OF AVILA, ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS AND ST. IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA YOUR HOSTS: DEACON RICHARD HUDZIK, DEACON DAVID BRENCIC AND OUR FAVORITE FRANCISCAN—FATHER CHUCK FASO, OFM AN INVITATION TO ALL DEACONS, WIVES, PARISHIONERS, FAMILY AND FRIENDS WHO WANT TO DEEPEN THEIR FAITH, TRAVEL WITH OTHERS ATTEND MASS DAILY AND PRAY AND LEARN OF THE DEPTHS OF SOME OF OUR GREATEST SAINTS We are holding group seats with American Airlines per below schedule. Departure ORD April 15th at 4:48pm and back to ORD April 25th at 6:58pm. Package price per person, based on double room occupancy (excluding the elements in the “not included” paragraph): Net price per person: \$3,495 Single room supplement: add \$750 PRICE INCLUDES: • Roundtrip airfare ORD/Lisbon and Barcelona/ORD • Nine nights 4-Star hotel accommodation • Daily buffet breakfast and 8 dinners • Professional bilingual tour escort/guide who will accompany the group throughout • English speaking local guides in Ávila, Salamanca, Burgos, Toulouse, Montserrat, Barcelona • Entrance fees per itinerary • Portage at hotels (one suitcase per person) • Deluxe motor-coach • Headsets PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE; • International departure taxes and fuel surcharge (as of July, 2017; \$352 per person). Final amount to be determined at time of ticketing. • Gratuities to guides, drivers and hotel staff (suggested \$125 per participant) • Optional Travel Insurance (recommended)

Sunday, April 15

Depart Chicago to Lisbon, Portugal.

Monday, April 16

The group will arrive in Lisbon to start the journey with a panoramic sightseeing tour of Portugal’s capital city, passing by the main avenues, "downtown" with the Rossio and Comercio Squares, continue with a drive to the Alfama, the oldest quarter of Lisbon, to visit the Church of St. Anthony, the nearby St. Anthony Museum and the Cathedral. Then proceed to the monumental district of Belem to see the Belem Tower, the

Monument to the Discoveries and the Jeronimos Church. In the late afternoon depart for Fatima, one of the most famous Marian Shrines in Europe. Participate in the Rosaries and Candlelight Procession. Dinner and overnight in Fatima.

Tuesday, April 17

In the morning, the group will visit the small village of Aljustrel, home of Lucia, Francisco and Jacinta, the three children who witnessed the Apparitions of the Blessed Mother starting in 1917. The group will then visit Valinhos, where Our Lady appeared in August of that year as well as the parish church where the children were baptized and where family members were buried in the cemetery. In the afternoon, visit some of the highlights of Fatima including the Capelinha (also known as the "Chapel of the Apparitions") as well as the Basilica. This basilica contains, among other things, the tombs of two of the children of Fatima, Jacinta and Francisco. Then explore Fatima on your own, shop for religious articles and other souvenirs, or spend time in private devotion. An optional video presentation on the history of Fatima will be offered in the evening at the Consolata Fathers Center. Participate in the Rosaries and Candlelight Procession. Dinner and overnight in Fatima.

Wednesday, April 18

After breakfast, departure to Salamanca. Saint Teresa's presence in Salamanca can be seen from Plaza Mayor square to the University. In the square you can see a medallion dedicated to the saint, and she is Doctor Honoris Causa of Salamanca University. In the New Cathedral there is a chapel in her honor, and she used to go to the Convent of San Esteban to ask the Dominican friars for advice. Saint Teresa of Ávila wrote a kind chronological diary of her travels: "The Book of Her Foundations." She was commissioned to write this book by the Jesuit community at the Pontifical University of Salamanca. Proceed to Alba de Tormes, where you can visit Santa Teresa of Ávila's tomb and see two of her most important relics: her heart and her left arm. Dinner and overnight in Avila.

Thursday, April 19

Following breakfast visit Ávila. The City of Kings and of Saints completely encircled by 11th century walls. This is the Birthplace of St. Theresa, one of the greatest mystics of the Church. Depart to Fontiveros, birthplace of St John of the Cross. Visit the Church of St. Cipriano where Saint John of the Cross was baptised –John, instrumental in founding the Discalced Carmelites-. Proceed to Burgos. Dinner and overnight in Burgos.

Friday, April 20

Following breakfast, visit of Burgos. In addition to the architectural masterpiece of Burgos which is the Cathedral, declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO, and the Royal Monastery of Huelgas Reales together with the famous Chapel of Saint James the Apostle, Burgos is where Saint Teresa arrived here in 1581 to establish her last convent: the Convent of San José and Santa Ana. Here you can see several of Saint Teresa's relics, such as her espadrilles, a veil and a letter that she wrote. We may also visit the Church of San Ginés, where Saint Teresa would go to Mass. Following Saint Teresa's footsteps, pass by the Hospital of La Concepción and the Church of Saints Cosmas and Damian, where she stayed. Continuation to Loyola / Azpeitia, birthplace of Ignatius of Loyola. Visit of the Loyola sanctuary built on the birthplace of St. Ignatius of Loyola, founder of the Order of the Jesuits. Continue to Lourdes. Participate in the Candlelight Procession. Dinner and overnight in Lourdes.

Saturday, April 21

After breakfast, participate in a walking tour of Lourdes, the town so closely linked to the life of St. Bernadette. Visit the "Boly Mill" (site of the birthplace of St. Bernadette), and the "Cachot," another home of

the family. In fact, this is where she lived at the time of the Apparitions. Also visit the parish church of her family (where St Bernadette was baptized). Participate in the Candlelight Procession. Dinner and overnight in Lourdes.

Sunday, April 22

After breakfast, free time for devotions. Depart for Toulouse where we shall visit of the the Carmelite convent, built in the 17th Century with its remarkable 17th Century painted murals by Jean-Pierre and 18th Century paintings by Jean-Baptiste Despax. Visit church of the Jacobins - burial place of St Thomas of Aquinas and the Basilica of St Sernin. Dinner and overnight in Toulouse.

Monday, April 23

Following breakfast, depart to Barcelona. Following lunch, a panoramic visit of the city or half day walking tour , seeing La Monumental Bullring, Sagrada Familia, Casa Batllo, Joan Miro Park, Fountain of 3 Rivers, The Venetian towers, Magic Fountain, Olympic Stadium, Port of Barcelona, Christopher Columbus Column, Las Ramblas and other sites. Transfer to the hotel in Barcelona. Dinner and overnight in Barcelona.

Tuesday, April 24

Following breakfast drive to Manresa, to visit the cave of St. Ignatius and to Montserrat to visit one of the most famous monasteries of Spain, the so called "National Monument" of Catalunya - in the middle of a spectacular landscape. Return to Barcelona for a free late afternoon. Dinner and farewell in Barcelona.

Wednesday, April 25

Breakfast and free time before be transferred to Barcelona International Airport for departure flight.