

## Pilgrimage to the Holyland led by Father Lalo Martinez

Jan 30 - Feb 08, 2024



You are invited to join Father Martinez to walk in the footsteps of Jesus! This is an opportunity to renew your mind, spirit and faith. Is Jesus calling you to be part of this trip of a lifetime?

### **Tuesday, January 30**

Depart the USA on your way to Tel Aviv.

### **Wednesday, January 31**

Arrive at Ben-Gurion Airport where an Ami Travel representative greets us and give us an introduction about the forthcoming trip - Travel North via the Lower Galilee valleys to our hotel in Nazareth for dinner and overnight stay.

### **Thursday, February 01**

Tour the Sea of Galilee; celebrate Mass at the newly discovered Magdala; visit the Mount of the Beatitudes, Tabgha - the site of the Feeding of the Multitudes, the Church of St. Peter's Primacy. Visit Capernaum and Simon Peter's house. We shall take a boat ride across the Sea of Galilee and enjoy a lunch of St. Peter's Fish. Dinner and overnight in Nazareth.

### **Friday, February 02**

Ascend to the top of Mount Tabor – the site of the Transfiguration – where we celebrate Mass. and continue through the Valley of Armageddon to Mt. Carmel- where the Prophet Elijah confronted the pagan priests ( 1st Kings 18). On to Caesarea where Paul was imprisoned and Cornelius baptized, see the Roman Theater, the aqueduct and the Crusader ruins. Return to Nazareth to the Synagogue where Jesus stood to proclaim and preach the stirring words of Isaiah (Luke 4:16-27). Join the Adoration at the Basilica of Annunciation. Dinner and overnight in the Galilee.

### **Saturday, February 03**

Start the day by celebrating Mass in Cana – where we shall renew marriage vows. Explore Sephorris the multi-cultural center of Roman Galilee and the traditional hometown of Sts. Anne and Joachim with its recently discovered exquisite mosaic floors. Return to Nazareth - ascend to "the brow of the hill" known as "Mt.

Precipice". Following dinner participate in the Candlelight Procession at the Basilica of the Annunciation. Dinner and overnight in Nazareth.

### **Sunday, February 04**

Celebrate Mass in Nazareth at the magnificent Church of the Annunciation built on top of Virgin Mary's house. Following Breakfast Depart the Galilee via the Jordan Valley to the Jordan River to renew baptismal promises and make our way to the Dead Sea and to Masada - site of the Jewish zealots' last stand against the Romans. See the Qumran Caves - where the Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered and enjoy a footlong experience in the Dead Sea. Drive-by Jericho - the oldest and the lowest city in the world. Ascend to the Holy city - Jerusalem for dinner and overnight.

### **Monday, February 05**

Begin our journey in nearby Bethlehem to visit the ancient Church of Nativity where we shall celebrate Mass. Enjoy your shopping in a Bethlehem bazaar and later visit Manger Square and the beautiful Shepherds' Fields. Return to Jerusalem to explore Mt. Zion: David's Tomb, the Room of the Last Supper and the Dormition Abbey - site of the Assumption of the Virgin. Dinner and overnight stay in Jerusalem.

### **Tuesday, February 06**

Morning Mass inside the Church of the Holy Sepulcher. Continue to Mt of Olives: Chapel of Ascension and Palm Sunday Road. Walk Inside the Old City. Walk the Stations of the Cross; visit the various quarters and the underground excavations. See the Temple ruins and the Western Wall amidst the buildings of old Jerusalem. End the day at St Peter in Gallicantu (cock-crowing) built over the palace of the High Priest Caiaphas. Dinner and overnight stay Jerusalem.

### **Wednesday, February 07**

Morning at leisure - we shall direct you to places you may visit at your own pace, or do your last shopping. Afternoon visit Ein Karem - birthplace of St John the Baptist and site of the Visitation. Celebrate Mass at Emmaus. Our last visit will be at Jaffa where Jonah set sail on his way to Nineveh; where St Peter revived Tabitha and had the vision on the rooftop. End our pilgrimage with a farewell and continue to the airport.

### **Thursday, February 08**

Morning arrival to Chicago's O'Hare Airport.