

St. Thomas Aquinas - College Station, TX
Join **Deacon Frank B. Ashley III, Ed.D.**for a 11-Day Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

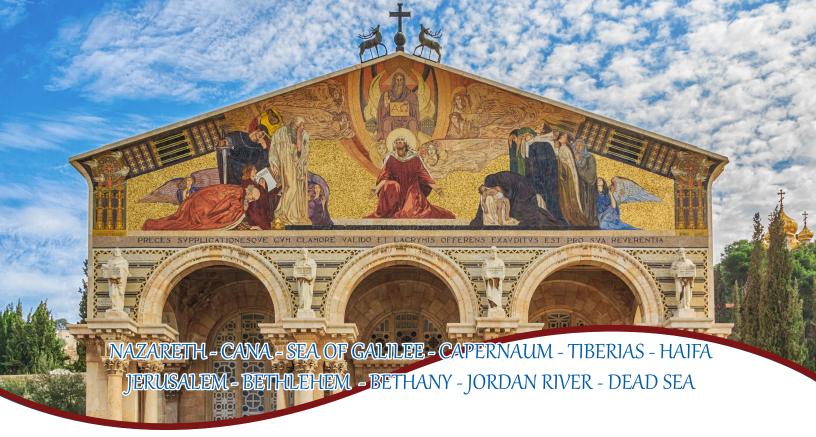
Walking in the Footsteps of Jesus
August 6 - 16, 2021
\$3,350 Per Person

**Round Trip Air from Houston, TX** 

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#### **DAY 1: DEPART FROM USA TO ISRAEL**

**Today:** Your pilgrimage begins today as you depart on your overnight flight to Israel. Meals and drinks served aloft.

#### **DAY 2: TEL AVIV / NETANYA**

**Today:** Arrive at Ben Gurion Airport. Travel through customs and meet our guide-escort who will accompany you throughout your pilgrimage. Board your coach bus for the trip to your hotel in Netanya. Upon arrival in Netanya, you will check-in to your hotel for the evening.

**Evening:** Dinner and overnight accommodations will be at your hotel.

#### **DAY 3: MT. TABOR / CANA / NAZARETH**

**Today:** Go to Mount Tabor, scene of the Transfiguration. Cana, the site of Jesus's first miracle, here couples may renew their wedding vows. Basilica of the Annunciation, St. Joseph's Church, Mary's Well and the Old Market.

**Evening:** Dinner and overnight accommodations will be at your hotel.

#### **DAY 4: SEA OF GALILEE / CAPERNAUM / TIBERIAS**

**Today:** Go to Capernaum where Jesus lived, and the old synagogue where Jesus preached. Mount of Beatitudes (the location of Sermon on the Mount). Tabgha, the site where the miracle of Multiplication of Fish and Bread took place. Boat trip on the Sea of Galilee.

**Evening:** Dinner and overnight accommodations will be at your hotel.

# DAY 5: HAIFA / MT. CARMEL / STELLA MARIS / CAESAREA BY THE SEA / JERUSALEM

**Today:** We drive to Haifa and visit Mt. Carmel where The Carmelites established their monastery 900 years ago. We celebrate Mass at the Church of Stella Maris, "the Star of the Sea". You will have a panoramic view of the City Haifa and the beautiful Baha'i Gardens. We continue our drive south along the Mediterranean Sea and stop at Caesarea Maritime. This is where St. Peter baptized Cornelius and St. Paul was a prisoner for two years before his transport to Rome and martyrdom.

We view the original Roman Aqueduct that brought water to the city and walk in and around the Roman Theater. Take a glimpse of the ancient remains of Herod's palace sitting in the tranquil blue Mediterranean. We now travel south and climb the hill up towards the Holy City of Jerusalem.

**Evening:** Dinner and overnight accommodations will be at your hotel.

#### DAY 6: BETHLEHEM / SHEPHERD'S FIELD / CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY

**Today:** We start our visit in Bethlehem and visit the Shepherd's Fields where the angels announced to the shepherds the birth of the Christ Child. Then we visit the Church of the Nativity that stands upon the site where Jesus was born. Mass will be held in Bethlehem at St. Catherine of Alexandra or the Shepherds Field's Chapel. Enjoy lunch in a local Mediterranean restaurant. After lunch, we take the afternoon to shop in Bethlehem.

**Evening:** Dinner and overnight accommodations will be at your hotel.

# DAY 7: JERUSALEM / MT. OF OLIVES / GETSEMANE / PATER NOSTER / DOMINUS FLEVIT / UPPER ROOM / DORMITION CHURCH / CHURCH OF ST. PETER GALLICANTU

**Today:** We visit the Mt. of Olives. This includes a dramatic view of the Old City from the Mount of Olives, revealing a city with 4,000 years of history. We visit the Pater Noster where Jesus taught the Lord's Prayer to his disciples. We walk the Palm Sunday route stopping at Dominus Flevit, where Jesus wept over Jerusalem. In the Garden of Gethsemane, we see The Rock of Agony where Jesus prayed his last prayer before his arrest. Mass will be at the Church of all Nations. We drive to the hill of Mount Zion, the highest point in ancient Jerusalem, it is dominated by the Church of the Dormition. We will visit the Upper Room, where Jesus had the Last Supper. The location is identified in Christian tradition as the place where the Virgin Mary died or "fell asleep", as the name suggests. End our day at St. Peter in Gallicantu. Where Peter denied Our Lord thrice.

**Evening:** Dinner and overnight accommodations will be at your hotel.

#### **DAY 8: JERUSALEM / THE PASSION OF OUR LORD**

**Today:** We retrace the last steps of Jesus, as we walk along the Via Dolorosa (Way of Sorrow), through the markets of the Old City praying the Stations of the Cross. We reflect on the greatness of his sacrifice.



Finally, we arrive at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre to celebrate Mass. At St. Anne's Church, the home of the Virgin Mary and her parents Saints Joachim and Anne we stop for a short prayer. We pass the Ecce Home where Pilate proclaimed "Behold the man"; then on to the Wailing Wall, the most holy place for Jews. The rest of the day is open for visits to other Holy Sites, shopping or resting at your hotel.

**Evening:** Dinner and overnight accommodations will be at your hotel

#### **DAY 9: EIN KAREM / JERUSALEM**

**Today:** After breakfast, you will travel to Ein Karem, known as the birthplace of St. John the Baptist and the Church of Visitation where the Blessed Virgin Mary visited her cousin Elizabeth who announced "Blessed are thou Among Women". Returning to Jerusalem, view the Model of Jerusalem of the Second Temple Era (Second Temple scale model for an overview of Jerusalem as it was at the time of Jesus). Continue to the Israel Museum to visit the Shrine of the Book.

**Evening:** Dinner and overnight accommodations will be at your hotel.

# DAY 10: BETHANY / JORDAN RIVER / JERICHO / QUMRAN / DEAD SEA

**Today:** We visit Bethany, site where Lazarus lived with his sisters Martha and Mary. Continue to the Jordan River to renew our baptismal vows. Drive down the Jordan Valley and stop at the oasis town of Jericho. Visit the excavations of the oldest city in the world. We view the Mt. of Temptation where Jesus fasted and was tempted by Satan. We will visit the excavations of Qumran where the Dead Sea Scrolls were uncovered. On the way back, there is time for a swim (or rather a float!) in the mineral-rich waters of the Dead Sea, renowned for its healing properties. Return towards Bethlehem.

**Evening:** Dinner and overnight accommodations will be at your hotel.

#### **DAY 11: TEL AVIV / USA**

**Today:** This morning we will transfer to the airport to catch our return flight home.

## YOUR TRIP INCLUDES

- Round Trip Airfare.
- All airport taxes & Fuel SURCHARGES!
  - First class Hotels 4 stars.
  - Transfers as per itinerary.
  - Breakfast and Dinner Daily.
  - Professional local Catholic guide(s).
- Sightseeing and admissions fees as per itnerary.
  - Daily Masses.
  - The Group Protection Plan has been purchased on behalf of all travelers.

## **NOT INCLUDED**

- Lunches.
- Optional Group Deluxe
   Protection Plan (offering benefits for Trip Cancellation and more!).
  - Extended Cancellation Protection Plan.
  - Tips for your guide & driver.
  - Items of a personal nature.

## **TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

#### THE TOUR PRICE INCLUDES

Air Transportation Economy classes and Round Trip airfares are based at the time of the reservation, Rates and Times are subject to change without notice.

Airfares once issued ARE NON-REFUNDABLE, NON –TRANSFERABLE AND CAN'T BE USED TOWARDS FUTURE TRAVEL.

**Land Transportation** All land transportation as describe in the itinerary will be by Deluxe Motor Coach, some may be equipped with WI-FI service. **Hotels** First class Hotels (Hotel rooms are double occupancy (2 people per room with private bath).

**Single Room** There is an additional cost per person specified on registration form. Single rooms are limited and will be awarded on a first come first serve basis.

**Meal Plan** The meal plan offers 2 meals per day and consists of both breakfast and dinner. You are responsible for your lunch.

**Baggage** Nativity Pilgrimage limits all passengers to 1 piece of checked luggage and 1 carry-on. (All passengers should check with the airlines carriers for up to date baggage weight and dimensions).

Airport Taxes, Fuel Surcharges and Security Fees. Daily Mass.

Protection Plan during the trip.

#### THE TOUR PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE

Expenses for passports or any additional documents that may be required. Personal Articles Laundry, wines, liquors, mineral water, tea, coffee and other beverages, food that is not on the menus of your included meal package, and any additional luggage. Any sightseeing, other services, or personal items that are not specifically mentioned as being included in the itinerary. Tips for Guides and Drivers

Lunch

Cancellation Protection Plan not included and is highly recommended at time of registration.

#### **BOOKING CONDITIONS**

A non-refundable deposit of \$300.00 per person is required at time of booking. No reservation will be processed without a deposit. Final payment is due 90 days prior to your departure date. Registrations received late within 60 days of departure will require Payment In Full. No deposits will be accepted at this time. We do not accept payments by credit card for deposits.

WE ACCEPT CASH, CHECKS, MONEY ORDERS AND MAJOR CREDIT CARDS. THERE IS AN EXTRA 3% CHARGE FOR CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS ON THE BALANCE.

#### **CANCELLATION AND REFUND POLICY**

NO REFUNDS – UNLESS YOU PURCHASED A TRIP CANCELLATION PLAN.

YOUR CANCELLATION NOTICE SHOULD BE IN WRITING, AND SUBMITTED TO OUR OFFICE.

NATIVITY PILGRIMAGE IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR REFUNDING MONEY FOR ANY REASON.

#### PROTECT YOUR TRIP:

WE HIGHLY RECOMMEND YOU PURCHASE ADDITIONAL TRIP CANCELLATION PROTECTION PLAN- GROUP DELUXE.

A FORM IS AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE WITH MORE INFORMATIO ABOUT THE PLAN AND THE COST.

#### RESPONSIBILITY

Nativity Pilgrimage, Inc. and their agents assume no liability or responsibility in regards to travel in any form for any injuries or loss of property, accidents, delays, changes in schedule or itinerary, incidental damages or any irregular circumstances. This would include but not limited to default or omission by any third party providing services or facilities related to and/or included in the tour or any part thereof.

The IATA carriers, steamship firms and other transportation companies, whose services are featured in these tours, are not to be held responsible or accountable for any act, omission or event during the time the passengers are not on board their respective conveyance. The passage contract in use by these companies, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the companies and the purchaser of these tours and/or passengers and Nativity Pilgrimage, Inc. does not assume any liability or responsibility in connection therewith. They are not responsible for any losses or additional expenses due to delay or changes in air or other services, sickness, weather, strike, war, guarantees, or other causes. All such losses or expenses shall be borne by the passenger as tour rates provide for arrangements only for the time stated. The right is reserved to substitute hotels of similar quality to those specified in the itinerary.

The right is reserved to cancel any tour prior to departure, in which later case a full refund will constitute full settlement to the passenger.

No refund will be made for any used portion of the tour unless arrangements are made prior to departure from the United States.

PRICES AND ITINERARIES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE.

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