

# Year of Mercy Pilgrimage with Msgr. Kubacki

## Sicily, Sorrento & Rome!

### October 17 - 28, 2016

**Day 1 Monday October 17:** Depart from Detroit Airport for your overnight flight to Italy with transfer to Catania Sicily

**Day 2 Tuesday October 18 – Rome/Catania** Upon arrival in Catania airport you will be met by your Italian tour escort and transferred to your hotel in Catania. Time at your leisure to freshen-up. Dinner and overnight.

**Day 3 Wednesday October 19 - Catania/Mount Etna/Catania**

After breakfast enjoy a guided tour of Catania. You will enjoy a special baroque atmosphere strolling at your own pace through its elegant buildings, squares and splendid churches. You will see archaeological sites showing you the layers below the baroque town, dating back to the Roman period, the University Palace with its lovely courtyard decorated with Etna pebble mosaic, The Cathedral (fortress church) (Mass), two of the “Seven Doors” protecting S. Agatha’s treasure and the famous “candelora” (weighing around 2.500 pounds-1 ton,200kg), in full silver sculptured by hands and carried on people’s shoulders all around the town during the patron saint’s celebration week. In the afternoon enjoy an excursion to Etna, the highest mountain in Sicily and the highest volcano in Europe. The territory surrounding of the volcano constitutes the “Park of Etna”, one of the largest protected areas in Italy.

**Day 4 Thursday October 20 – Catania/Siracusa/Noto/Catania**

After breakfast depart for spectacular Siracusa. Guided tour of the Archeological Park: the Roman Amphitheatre, the Greek Theatre. Our visit will include the Basilica of Our Lady of Tears, where an image of Mary miraculously wept in 1953, and we have requested Mass at the Catacombs of St. John. It was here that St. Paul met with the small Christian Community for three days and celebrated mass with them. Next we proceed to Noto (UNESCO World Heritage Site), to discover the beautiful baroque in Sicily. Return to Catania for dinner and overnight.

**Day 5 Friday October 21 – Catania/Monreale/Palermo**

Early departure for Palermo. Stop en route to Monreale, situated on a slope of Mount Caputo about three hundred meters above sea level, and offers lovely views of the surrounding valley. We will see the magnificent Cathedral of Monreale and its mosaics, bronze work, marble and stone. It has the largest concentration of Norman, Arab and Byzantine art in one place. Attached to the cathedral, the Benedictine cloister courtyard consists of 228 columns, some inlaid with Byzantine-style mosaics. Later, we will continue to Palermo, a city full of character: Quattro Canti, a splendid example of Spanish Baroque architecture, the Palace of the Normans and its superb Palatine Chapel. Dinner and overnight.

**Day 6 Saturday October 22 – Palermo/Naples/Sorrento**

After breakfast board your flight to Naples. Upon arrival in Naples airport you will be transferred to your hotel in Sorrento. Dinner and overnight.

**Day 7 Sunday October 23 - Sorrento/Pompeii/Amalfi/Sorrento**

After breakfast depart for Pompeii. Upon arrival visit one of the most important and interesting archaeological museums in the world. This famous ancient city was buried by the ashes of Mt. Vesuvius in AD 79. Visit the famous Shrine of Our Lady of the Rosary and learn about the life of the Blessed Bartolo Longo, who built the shrine and dedicated his life to serving orphans and preparing them for careers. Lunch on your own. Mass at the Shrine of Our Lady of Pompeii. Continue to Amalfi coast, one of the most beautiful roads in the world. Each winding turn reveals a dazzling and unforgettable view of the coastline and sea. With villas perched on the rocky coastline that seem to hang from the heavens. Stop in Amalfi and visit the Amalfi Cathedral, devoted to St. Andrew. Return to Sorrento. Dinner and Overnight.

**Day 8 Monday October 24 - Sorrento/Montecassino/Rome**

After breakfast depart for Rome. Stop at Montecassino for a visit to this spectacular Benedictine abbey on the top of a mountain. This monastery was founded and built by St. Benedict (patron saint of Europe) around 529 on the remains of a Roman fortification. Mass at Montecassino Abbey. Proceed to Rome. Dinner and overnight.

**Day 9 Tuesday October 25 – Rome**

Mass at St. Peter’s Basilica. After Mass tour of the vast collections in the Vatican Museums including a visit to the Sistine Chapel where you will see Michelangelo’s famous frescoed ceiling and “Last Judgment”. In the afternoon enjoy a Christian Rome tour we will see many important cultural and monumental sights around Rome. Stop for a visit at three major Basilicas: St Mary Major, one of the oldest shrines dedicated to the Blessed Virgin, a shrine that contains a relic from the manger of the infant Jesus. Dinner and overnight.

**Day 10 Wednesday October 26 – Rome**

Attend the weekly Papal Audience this morning. After the Audience, explore Ancient Rome with a tour that includes a visit inside the Coliseum, Capitol Hill, the Vittorio Emmanuel Monument, the Roman Forum, Circus Maximus, the Pantheon Church and San Clemente Basilica. Dinner and overnight.

**Day 11 Thursday October 27 – Rome**

Full day at your leisure. Dinner and overnight.

**Day 12 Friday October 28 - Rome/USA** Transfer to Rome Fiumicino airport.

**NOTE:** While no changes are anticipated, there may be occasions when certain alterations become necessary to this itinerary due to changes beyond our control. All Masses are subject to final confirmation.



#### Price Cash/Check:

**\$ 4,399.00** per person, *discounted for Cash/Check payment*, based on 25 participants, & double occupancy.

**If paying with credit card full price of: \$4,574.00 per person.**

#### Included

- Air: Detroit to Rome / Rome to Detroit.
- Air: Rome to Catania & Palermo to Naples
- 10 Nights in 4 star hotels
- 10 Breakfasts and Dinners
- English speaking tour escort/guide throughout
- Private motor coach throughout
- Transfers from international airport
- Entrance fees as noted in itinerary
- Private Mass arrangements
- Taxes and fuel surcharge - (*subject to increase 30 days prior to departure*)

#### Not Included

- Optional Travel insurance: (*strongly recommended*)
- Lunches & beverages w/meals
- All tips to tour escort’s, guides and drivers
- Transportation to/from Detroit Metro Airport
- Items of personal nature
- Any items not specifically mentioned
- **Limited Single rooms add: \$ 675.00**

#### CONTACT

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