

# ASSISI, MEDJUGORJE & ROME

## with Fr. David Kidd, JonMarc and Teresa Grodi

### July 17 – 29, 2022

Day 1: July 17: Depart USA for overnight flight to Rome

Day 2: July 18: Transfer to Assisi - Arrive in Rome where you will be met by your tour escort and awaiting motor coach after clearing customs and retrieving your luggage. Transfer to Assisi and check in at your Hotel. Welcome dinner and overnight in Assisi.



Day 3: July 19: Assisi - After breakfast, enjoy a guided tour of Assisi. We will visit the breathtaking Basilica of St Francis with its singular frescos and have the opportunity to pray at the grave of St. Francis, the Church of Santa Chiara, which houses her incorrupt body, and the Basilica of St Mary of the Angels, a towering basilica built over the poor chapel of St. Francis, the Portiuncula. Late afternoon and evening free to explore the many winding streets filled with shops and cafes. Dinner tonight at your hotel.

Day 4: July 20: Assisi - This day is yours to explore the home of St. Francis and St. Clare! Suggestions include the mountainside Hermitage Careri, St. Clare's San Damiano convent, San Rufino, and Rocca Maggiore. Dinner tonight at your hotel. (Depending on flight schedules/availability the group may travel via overnight Ferry to/from Croatia).

Day 5: July 21: Assisi / FCO - Split - After breakfast, transfer to Rome airport (FCO). Upon arrival in Split, Croatia, private bus transfer to Medjugorje, Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Day 6, 7, 8, July 22, 23, 24: Medjugorje - World-renown place of Marian devotion, the small town of Medjugorje is a place where Catholics from all over the world seek to renew and deepen their faith. The most beautiful feature of Medjugorje is its simplicity, and its peace. The activity of the town revolves around the Sacraments of the Church, including daily Mass, Confession, blessing of the sick, as well as daily opportunities to participate in Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, devotions of the rosary and Stations of the Cross. The local guide will accompany your group throughout your stay in the village. We will be staying with the visionary Mirjana in Hotel Soldo.

#### *Some activities that may accompany you in your spiritual journey these next few days include:*

Attend Daily Mass: Each morning, at 10:00A.M, your group will assemble at St. James Church for Mass (English Speaking). At the end of each Mass, regardless of language, there is a blessing of the religious articles that you have with you. On Feast Days, and Sundays: English Mass is at Noon.

Climb Apparition Hill: This mountainous hill is where the alleged visionaries first encountered Our Lady. Also, at the base of this hill is a Blue Cross, where it is said Our Lady appeared to the children while they hid from the communist police in the early days of the alleged apparitions. When climbing, your group is invited to recite the Rosary, pausing five times for each decade of the Rosary. At the top of the hill, you will witness the exact location of the first alleged apparition of Our Lady to the visionaries, and enjoy private time in prayer.

Climb Mt. Krizevac (Cross Mountain): In 1933, the villagers built a 30' high cross atop a mountain to commemorate Jesus' passion and death on the cross. Your group will have the opportunity to climb this mountain, and venerate that very cross. When climbing, your group is invited to pray the Stations of the Cross (to meditate on Jesus' suffering Road to Calvary), pausing fifteen times for each Station.

Apparitions: Each evening at 5PM or 6PM daylight savings time, your group will join the villagers and fellow pilgrims of Medjugorje in saying the Rosary as all anxiously await the alleged arrival of Our Lady to the visionaries. Following the apparition, at 6:40P.M (5:40 P.M. during Daylight Savings Time), feel free to stay at St. James Church and attend the Croatian Mass. Following the Croatian Mass, there is a Blessing of the Sick.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: Our Lady has always called us to be close to her Son. For this, you will have the opportunity to adore the Blessed Sacrament at the outside altar of St. James Church. Adoration is held on Tuesdays and Saturdays; Veneration of the Cross is held on Fridays inside the church. Additionally, there is an Adoration Chapel on the grounds of St. James Church. Adoration is held here in the afternoon hours.

Visit to the Community of Cenacolo: You will have the opportunity to visit the community of Cenacolo, founded by the Sisters of Charity, for young men and women who have taken a wrong path and are on the road to recovery. You will be able to listen to their inspirational words about their journeys back to Jesus Christ.

Prayer at the Statue of the Risen Christ: Located on the grounds of St. James Church, is the bronze statue of the Risen Christ. Many pilgrims sit and pray on the benches surrounding this peaceful statue. This statue miraculously seeps droplets of water at all times of the day, out of Christ's right knee.

Day 9: July 25: Medjugorje / FCO - Pick up at the hotel, transfer to Split. Flight to Rome. Upon arrival, dinner and overnight at the hotel. (Depending on flight schedules/availability the group may travel via overnight Ferry to/from Croatia on evening of 24 July).

Day 10: July 26: Rome - We begin the day with Mass at St. Peter's Basilica, followed by time to explore this amazing and beautiful Catholic basilica. In the afternoon, we visit ancient Rome, including the Capitoline Hill, the Roman Forum, the Palatine Hill, Circus Maximus, Colosseum, Arches of Titus and Constantine, to learn about the Roman context within which the Catholic Church was born and saw its early expansion.

#### **Pilgrimage limited to 35 participants.**

**Total Cost Land Only: \$ 3,299.00, per person, *Cash/Check payment, double occupancy.***

#### **Included**

- Overnight accommodations
  - Breakfasts / Dinner daily
  - English speaking tour escort/guide throughout
  - Private motor coach throughout
  - Transfers from international airport
  - Entrance fees as noted in itinerary
  - Private Mass arrangements
  - Tips for guide, driver, porters, wait staff and Mass donations
  - Taxes and fuel surcharge
- (subject to increase 30 days prior to departure)**

#### **Not Included**

- Airfare to/from Detroit to Rome Air or overnight Ferry to/from Italy / Split  
**(To be added once routes and rates are published).**
- Optional Travel insurance:  
**(strongly recommended)**
- Lunches & beverages w/meals
- Any/all Covid-19 test(s) that may be required by airlines, departing /arriving country and transfer country.
- Transportation to/from Domestic Airport
- Any items not specifically mentioned
- **Limited Single rooms at additional cost. Call for availability.**

## - Continued from front page -

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Day 11: July 27: Rome - Pending the Holy Father's schedule, we begin the day with a Papal Audience. In the afternoon, we will explore the Catacombs of San Sebastian, the Appian Way, and the Quo Vadis Chapel.

Day 12: July 28: Rome - Today we explore the most important Roman Basilicae. In the morning we will visit St. John Lateran and climb the Scala Sancta. After lunch, we will visit and celebrate mass at Santa Maria Maggiore, and St. Paul Outside the Walls.

Day 13: July 29: FCO / USA - After breakfast, transfer to the airport.

**NOTES:** While no changes are anticipated, there may be occasions when sequence and days of visits may change and certain alterations become necessary due to changes beyond our control, including, but not limited to any/all covid requirements/restrictions implemented by airlines, countries/towns we visit, sights, museums, hotels, restaurants etc.

If group needs to travel via overnight Ferry to and from Croatia the itinerary and overnights will be adjusted to accommodate the Ferry schedule.

All Mass locations and times are subject to final confirmation.

**You should be in good physical shape.** Our pilgrimages consist of a lot of walking, and much of it on uneven ground. You will be on your feet most of the day and need to be able to keep pace with the group. Please consider this before signing up.

**You need to be able to carry your own luggage.**

You are responsible for your luggage and getting it from the plane to the bus and the bus to your hotel room.

In today's uncertain times all prices are subject to change prior to departure due to major currency fluctuations, changes in fuel prices and/or unforeseen economic circumstances beyond our control

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To register for this pilgrimage please read, complete and sign the registration form and the Covid-19 release form and return with your deposit.