

# A Jubilee Year Pilgrimage to Italy – In the Footsteps of the Saints

Led by Fr Tony Blount, SOLT and Fr. Ogie Rosalinas, SOLT

October 30-November 10, 2016

\$1,850 per person (Ground only) \$2,850 (Ground and airfare from Houston)\*\*

Included in Price:

- Round Trip Airfare from Houston (including taxes/surcharges)\*\*
  - Superior Class Hotel Accommodations (2 pilgrims per room)

Including: 3 nights in Rome, 3 in Assisi, 3 in San Giovanni Rotondo, 1 in Loreto

- Breakfast plus one meal daily
- Chartered motor coach (as per itinerary)
  - Daily Mass
- Guides with spiritual reflections and prayer

(Tips/gratuity and optional travel insurance not included)

\*\*For flights originating in airports other than Houston, contact us



For more information, contact: Bret Thoman, OFS \* St. Francis Pilgrimages \* (404) 418-6683 Email: bthoman@stfrancispilgrimages.com www.stfrancispilgrimages.com Sunday, October 30: Flight Houston-Rome Depart from Houston overnight flight to Rome. Dinner and breakfast served on board.

Monday, October 31: Arrive Rome - SG Rotondo Upon arrival in Rome's Fiumicino airport (FCO) (also called Leonardo da Vinci), we will be greeted by our tour escort who will accompany us for the duration of the pilgrimage. We will head south to San Giovanni Rotondo. Dinner and overnight in hotel in San Giovanni Rotondo.

Tuesday, November 1: San Giovanni Rotondo Today will be a leisurely rest day in San Giovanni Rotondo. Mass of All Saints. Dinner and overnight in hotel in San Giovanni Rotondo.

Wednesday, Nov 2: SG Rotondo-Monte Sant'Angelo Today we will get to know Saint Pio of Pietrelcina (1916-1968) who lived most of his life here in San Giovanni Rotondo. St. Pio was known for many supernatural experiences such as bi-location, reading souls, and bearing the wounds of Christ (the stigmata). A guide will lead us on a tour which will include a museum, his friary, the old

church, and the crucifix from which he received the stigmata in 1918, and the new church recently built in 2004 by world-renowned architect, Renzo Piano. In the afternoon, we will visit nearby Monte Sant'Angelo, an important place of pilgrimage, as it was a site of an apparition of St. Michael the archangel who appeared in a grotto here in the 5th century AD. In the later Middle Ages, it served as a port city for pilgrims and crusaders journeying to the Holy Land from Italy. Dinner and overnight at the hotel in San Giovanni Rotondo.

#### Thurs, Nov 3: SGR-Lanciano-Manoppello-Loreto

After breakfast, we will head north along the Adriatic coast to Lanciano where we will visit one of the most well -known Eucharistic miracles. We will have the opportunity to view up close the twelve-century-old Host and coagulated droplets of blood. Startling the skeptical priest who was celebrating Mass, the bread was transformed into flesh and the wine into blood before his eyes. Modern scientific studies have determined the flesh to be human heart tissue, and the blood to be human of AB type. After lunch on our own, we will then travel to Manoppello where another church preserves what some believe to be the veil of Veronica. The veil, slightly transparent, shows the face of a peaceful man with long hair, beard, open eyes and the mouth slightly open. Its origin and composition remain mysterious. According to tradition, an anonymous pilgrim arrived here in 1508 with the cloth wrapped in a package. The pilgrim gave the package to a local doctor, Dr. Giacomo Antonio Leonelli, who, in turn, gave it to the friars where it remains today. Dinner and overnight in Loreto.

#### Friday, November 4: Loreto-Assisi

After breakfast, we will visit the great Marian shrine of Loreto. According to tradition, this is the birth-home of Our Lady in addition to the site of the Annunciation. Brought here from Nazareth in 1284 by crusaders returning from the Holy Land (carried by angels, according to tradition), countless popes, saints and blesseds have made a pilgrimage to this famed shrine where countless graces and miracles have taken place. Next, we continue through the Apennine Mountains to Assisi. Along the way, we will visit a Poor Clare monastery where the nuns will share with us the story of St. Camilla Battista, a 15th century Poor Clare nun, canonized in 2010 whose remains are conserved there. Check-in and dinner at the hotel in Assisi

#### Saturday November 5: Assisi

This morning we will have Mass and a guided visit of the world renowned Sacro Convento Basilica, where St. Francis's body is entombed. The church is adorned with beautiful frescoes painted by masters of the high middle Ages like Giotto, Cimabue, Martini, and Lorenzetti. In the afternoon we will take a walking tour through the Franciscan sites in medieval Assisi including the birth place of Francis, the home of the first follower of Francis, the first cathedral of Assisi and the Basilica and tomb of St. Clare housing the crucifix from which Jesus spoke to St Francis, asking him to rebuild his church. Free time in Assisi before dinner and overnight at the hotel in Assisi.

### Sunday, November 6: Assisi

This morning, we will visit St. Mary of the Angels to visit the Basilica containing the Portiuncula - one of the most important Franciscan sanctuaries in Assisi. Since the 13<sup>th</sup> century, the Portiuncula grants a plenary indulgence to anyone who visits it. Afternoon will be free. Dinner and overnight at hotel in Assisi.

### Monday, November 7: Assisi - Rome

After breakfast we will head south to the eternal city of Rome to begin our celebration of the Jubilee year. After check-in and lunch on our own, we will visit the papal basilica of St. Peter's where we will walk through the Holy Door open only during Jubilee Years. We will then have a guided tour of the Basilica and St. Peter's Square. Dinner and overnight in the hotel in Rome.

#### Tuesday, November 8: Rome

Wake up in the Eternal City and after breakfast, we will begin a walking tour through the ancient part of Rome visiting the well-known monuments of Castel Sant'Angelo, Piazza Navona, and the Pantheon. We will also visit the mother-house of the Jesuits -- the Gesù -- where the founder of the order, St. Ignatius of Loyola is buried, in addition to Servant of God, Pedro Arrupe. After lunch on your own, we will continue our pilgrimage with a guided visit to Rome's Cathedral, the Basilica of St. John Lateran. Time permitting, we will visit the Holy Stairs upon which Jesus was judged by Pilate. We will also visit the basilica of St. Paul's Outside the Walls. Return to hotel for dinner and overnight in Rome.

## Wednesday, November 9: Rome

This morning, we will hear the Holy Father give his weekly papal Audience. Take the afternoon free to explore Rome as you wish. Dinner and overnight in the hotel in Rome.

#### Thursday, November 10: Rome - USA

Today, we head back to the Rome Airport for our return flight home.

\*The itinerary is subject to change due to factors beyond our control. However, the focus on the spiritual nature of the trip will always be the overall objective and will not change.

PILGRIMAGE REGISTRATION FORM
Jubilee Pilgrimage to Italy—In the Footsteps of the Saints
With Fr. Rogel Rosalinas, SOLT and Fr. Anthony Blount, SOLT October 30-November 10, 2016
\$2,850 per person ( <i>Ground and A ir from Houston</i> )
\$1,850 per person (Ground Only)
Please return with a deposit of \$500 per person to reserve your place (\$200 is non-refundable but transferable). Make checks payable to <b>St. Francis Pilgrimages</b> . Include a copy of passport photo/signature page. Return completed form to:
St. Francis Pilgrimages
PO Box 143
Senoia, Georgia 30276
Name exactly as it appears on passport (Last, First/Middle):
Passport expiration date:
N.B.: Your passport must be valid for 90 days after the return date; if you are not a US citizen, you may need a travel visa in order to enter Italy.
Name you go by, what you wish for your name badge:
Date of Birth: Place of Birth:
E-mail address:
Mailing Address:
City:State:Zip:
Home tel: ( ) 2nd number: ( )
Emergency contact (name, telephone number):
My roommate will be:
Your flight itinerary (if not flying from Houston):
What do you expect from the pilgrimage?
Will you celebrate a special event (i.e. birthday or anniversary) during the pilgrimage?
Do you have special needs or concerns?
Do you have any health conditions? Or do you take medications for serious illness? If so, please list and describe:
If you have any health conditions, please see the Terms and Conditions on the next page of this form.
Upon receipt of your registration form, you will be mailed a detailed welcome letter explaining what to do and expect next.
I have read and understand terms and conditions on reverse and on website.
Signature (s) Date:

# **TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

**Nature of Pilgrimage and Accommodations**: St. Francis Pilgrimages, LLC or ganizes religious travel itineraries in the pilgrimage tradition, rather than typical tours. As such, there is time set aside for private prayer and spiritual teaching. Accommodations are based on double occupancy and utilize Three-star hotels or religious hotels of good quality. All rooms have private bath. Given the religious nature of the pilgrimage, and that groups often overnight in religious hotels, participants are asked to adhere to the expectations as such.

**Price**: The promoted pilgrimage price is per person and includes round-trip airfare (from Houston) ground transportation as per itinerary in chartered coach, lodging (at double-occupancy), daily continental breakfast, and daily dinner. The price does not include one meal per day (estimate 15/day), tips (estimate 10/day), contributions to church collection plates during Masses, recommended travel insurance, personal expenses, or anything not expressly stated on the itinerary. The price is based on a Euro-Dollar Exchange rate of 1.15; if the currency fluctuates more than 5%, the price may be adjusted.

**Payment Information**: A deposit of \$500 is required to secure a reservation (\$200 is non-refundable, but transferrable to another pilgrimage). Payments are due as follows: \$1,250 is due 100 days prior to departure; the final amount is due 70 days prior to departure. Payment can be made by personal check, money order, or through Paypal for an additional fee. Trip prices and costs are listed in US dollars (usd).

**Cancellations**: If you cancel between 100 days and 70 days prior to departure, all payments will be refunded except your full deposit amount (which is transferrable). If you cancel between 70 and 30 days of departure, \$500 is non-refundable (in addition to the non-refundable deposit amount). If you cancel within 30 days of departure, we will attempt to recover what has been paid to suppliers, but cannot guarantee any reimbursements. Once issued, airline tickets are usually non-refundable, and refunds would be determined by the specific airline. If a pilgrimage is cancelled by St. Francis Pilgrimages (due to insufficient registrations or other unforeseen events) all payments will be refunded. However, if a participant cancels individually before St. Francis Pilgrimages officially cancels, refunds for that person will be based on the above criteria. *Trip insurance is strongly recommended*.

**Health**: Participants often comment that the pilgrimage is strenuous, as it involves a lot of walking and stair climbing. If a participant has any health conditions (including psychological/mental), we require full disclosure to St. Francis Pilgrimages, LLC. Any participant who has serious health conditions, must inform his/her doctor of their intention to participate in the pilgrimage and submit a letter from his/her medical doctor stating that he/she is capable of fully participating in the pilgrimage without assistance. If such health conditions require extra assistance, a participant must be accompanied by such an assistant. St. Francis Pilgrimages, LLC and suppliers contracted for services reserve the right to refuse to accept any person whose behavior or health conditions are deemed likely to affect the smooth operations of the tour, or adversely affect the enjoyment or safety of other passengers. St. Francis Pilgrimages, LLC, its agents, and suppliers shall be under no liability to any such person for refund, compensation, repatriation or any other matters arising thereof.

**Consumer Disclosure Notice**: St. Francis Pilgrimages, LLC cannot accept responsibility for actions and/or service of independent contractors involved, i.e. air carrier, bus company, taxi, hotel, etc. St. Francis Pilgrimages, LLC reserves the right to cancel a pilgrimage if there are insufficient participants registered, in which case a refund of monies paid St. Francis Pilgrimages, LLC will be granted to participants. St. Francis Pilgrimages, LLC may change the itinerary if circumstances warrant it. St. Francis Pilgrimages, LLC cannot be held liable or financially responsible for illness, injury, or death incurred at any point during the trip. If travel is interrupted or the trip is forced to cancel due to labor strike, inclement weather, riot, war, national disaster, terrorism, or any other incident outside of the control of St. Francis Pilgrimages, St. Francis Pilgrimages cannot be held liable or financially responsible. *We strongly recommend trip insurance.* 

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