

Join Us for a Ten-Day Pilgrimage To

# The Holy Land

March 9-18 2015

Under the Spiritual Leadership of  
Father Darryl and Cynthia Pigeon with Bishop K.L. Ackerman, SSC



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*'Dear 'Friends in Christ,*

*'Would you like to walk in the steps of Jesus? 'Would you like to see the places where he lived - Where 'He bought our salvation for us? 'We invite you to join us for a 10-day 'Pilgrimage to the Holy Land. 'We promise you that when we return, Holy 'Week and 'Easter will take on a new meaning. 'Be a witness with us of 'His mighty works.*

## The Itinerary

### 1<sup>st</sup> DAY - THE BEGINNING OF OUR PILGRIMAGE

Leave J. F. Kennedy International Airport by jet service. Dinner and Breakfast on board.

### 2<sup>nd</sup> DAY — INTO THE LAND OF THE BIBLE

We will spend just a few hours at the airport in Europe and then on to Tel Aviv! Upon arrival in the afternoon, local time, we will be met by our tour guide and bus driver, and then on to Joppa to see the wonders of the Mediterranean Sea, and the site of Saint Peter's vision at the House of Simon the Tanner. Then we will proceed to our hotel for supper, relaxation, and an optional "night on the town."

### 3<sup>rd</sup> DAY — ALL THE PAST YEARS WITH HISTORY

We will proceed after breakfast to visit the Roman Theatre, the ruins of the Crusaders' City and the water aqueduct. Proceed along the Mediterranean Sea and parallel to Mt. Carmel. Visit Mt. Carmel which is renowned for the conquest of Polytheism and Paganism. The Prophet Elijah confronted the priests of Baal and confounded them at Al Muharakah. We will proceed by Haifa, the industrial city and great sea port. Then on to Nazareth, tracing the early life of the Holy Family. Visit the Church of the Annunciation, visit the Synagogue where Jesus spoke, eat -lunch, and spend a little time in the shops of Nazareth. Then on to Cana of Galilee where the first miracle occurred — the transformation of water into wine. Renew wedding vows. Descending 636 feet below sea level, we arrive at the lovely city of Tiberias for dinner and overnight and enjoy the Hot Springs of Tiberias.

### 4<sup>th</sup> DAY — GALILEE

Drive to the top of the Mount of Beatitudes overlooking the sea and the surrounding area. Celebrate the Eucharist, and then walk down the hill and proceed to Tabgha to *see* the Church of the Primacy of Peter and also the site of the Multiplication of the Loaves and Fishes. Proceed to Capernaum and visit the ruins of the city where Jesus began His public ministry and the site of the synagogue where He taught. Board a boat in Capernaum and see the beauties of the Sea of Galilee. Lunch in Tiberias where you will enjoy St. Peter's Fish fresh from the Sea of Galilee. After lunch follow the Eastern side of the Sea of Galilee to the Golan Heights, former Syrian stronghold overlooking the Upper Galilee, and proceed to Mt. Tabor, the site of the Transfiguration of our Lord. Return to Tiberias, and after supper, enjoy an optional "night on the town."

### 5<sup>th</sup> DAY — FROM GALILEE TO THE HOLY CITY

Celebrate Mass as the sun rises on the Sea of Galilee and proceed after breakfast to Jericho through the Jordan Valley. We stop at the Jordan River to renew our Baptismal vows, and then on to Bet She'an to visit one of the finest archaeological tells in Israel, featuring no less than 18 strata of civilization going back to 3,000 B.C. Then on to Jericho for lunch. After lunch drive through the Wilderness of Judea by the old Roman Road at Wadi Kelt stopping off at St. George's Monastery. Then on to Jerusalem for dinner and overnight with an optional evening walk through the Old City *after* dinner.

### 6<sup>th</sup> DAY — BETHLEHEM AND ITS ENVIRONS

We begin our day by driving to the City of David, Bethlehem, and visiting the city which has touched the heart of every Christian since the birth of Jesus 2,000 years ago. Visit the Church of the Nativity and proceed to the Shepherds' Field where we celebrate Mass. We visit some shops on our way back to Jerusalem for lunch, and then on to visit Samuel's Tomb and witness one of the finest views in the Holy Land. We then proceed to Emmaus and see the old Road while we commemorate the post-Resurrection appearance of Jesus. After dinner we have another opportunity to visit the Old City.



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## 7<sup>th</sup> DAY --THE MOUNTAINS OF JERUSALEM AND THE OLD CITY

The Mt. of Olives is located on the eastern side of the city across the Kidron Valley. The summit offers a magnificent view of the Old City, the striking panorama of the Judean hills as far as the Dead Sea. It is the mount from which Jesus ascended into Heaven, and offers an outstanding view of the city and the site of Solomon's Temple. At the foot of the hill is the Garden of Gethsemane and the Church of the Agony where Jesus prayed and was betrayed by Judas. We follow the Palm Sunday route to the House of Caiaphas, and on to the site on Mt. Zion where Jesus ate with His Disciples the Last Supper. The Tomb of the Monument of David is also a traditional holy site we visit, along with the Church of the Dormition. After lunch we tour Jerusalem, the spiritual capital of the world. Jerusalem, standing amid the Judean hills, has been chosen by God to be the bulwark of monotheism. We visit the Western Wall (the holiest Jewish site in the world), proceed to the Temple area to visit two gorgeous and revered mosques: the Mosque of El-Aksa and the Dome of the Rock where Abraham prepared to sacrifice his son, Isaac. Then on to the Crusader's Church of St. Anne, and the Pool of Bethesda, where we will have a Liturgy for Healing. We then return to our hotel for dinner and overnight.



Then we proceed to the Qumran Caves where the Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered. We then return to Jerusalem passing Bedouin villages on our way to lunch. After lunch we take a last look at the Old City as we walk through the Jewish Quarter for a tour of various archaeological sites. If possible, we also "walk the walls" of Jerusalem. Before supper, we reflect on our Pilgrimage, bless the various holy items which we purchased and celebrate our concluding Eucharist.

## 8<sup>th</sup> DAY — JERUSALEM, THE HOLY CITY

We walk through the Via Dolorosa to walk the Way of the Cross to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. Here we visit Golgotha and the Holy Tomb where our Lord was crucified, died on the Cross, was buried, and resurrected. We celebrate Mass at the Anglican Chapel of St. Abraham at Holy Sepulchre, and then walk through the Old Bazaars to Jaffa Gate where we will board the bus, and go to lunch. After lunch we proceed to the Model of the Second Temple in new Jerusalem, then to EM Kareim to the birth place of John the Baptist and the site of the Visitation where the Blessed Virgin Mary visited her cousin, St. Elizabeth. We conclude our afternoon by briefly viewing "Gordon's Calvary," the Garden Tomb, where we can view a tomb typical of the type used in the time of Jesus. Then on to the hotel for dinner and overnight.

## 10<sup>th</sup> DAY — JERUSALEM/TELAVIV/JFK-NEW YORK

We leave Jerusalem very early in the morning and fly to JFK International Airport and then home.

## 9<sup>th</sup> DAY — THE WILDERNESS OF JUDEA: BETHANY/ QUMRAN/DEAD SEA/ MASADA

After breakfast we visit the church in Bethany built over the site of the house of Mary and Martha, see Lazarus' Tomb, and pray in thanksgiving for eternal life. Then drive via the Good Samaritan Inn and proceed to visit Masada, a Herodian Fortress built on top of a camel-hump-shaped rock dominating the Dead Sea, and the Judean desert. Also the site where in 73 A.D. 900 Zealots defied Rome and its might and preferred to die honorably rather than surrender to the Roman yoke. Here we visit the Roman camps and the Northern and Western Palaces. We then drive along the coastal road of the Dead Sea to Ein Gedi. Here we stop for a wade or swim in the Dead Sea.

**NOTE:** *Itinerary subject to variance contingent upon religious holidays, the weather and other factors. All sites indicated will be visited – but not necessarily in sequence shown above.*

*Tour conditions and airfares are subject to Governmental, IATA, ATC and airline regulation requirements in effect at the date and during the tour. Prices quoted herein are based on airfares and currency exchange rates in effect at the time of printing.*

**PARTICIPATING AIR CARRIERS:** *The services of any IATA and / or ATC air carrier may be used for the air portion of these tours.*

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# TOUR CONDITIONS

## INCLUDED IN THE TOUR PRICE

**TRANSPORTATION:** Jet economy class air transportation based on super-saver non-refundable airfare. A minimum of ten (10) adult passengers must travel together on entire air itinerary from the USA gateway and return, and the complete land arrangements must be prepaid prior to departure date.

**HOTELS:** Superior first-class hotels throughout. On the basis of two persons sharing a twin-bedded room with private bath or shower. Single rooms subject to availability and at an additional cost of \$700. (Tour participants without room-mates will have to pay single supplement.)

**MEALS:** Three meals daily.

**SIGHTSEEING:** As outlined in the itinerary, by private motorcoaches. The services of local, qualified English-speaking guides. Entrance fees to sites specified.

**TRANSFERS:** By private motorcoach, roundtrip between airports and hotels of persons and luggage. (Total luggage limit 44 pounds (20 kgs) per person, including any carry-on luggage, such as flight bag, cosmetic case, or briefcase.)

**SERVICE CHARGES AND TAXES:** Those normally levied by hotels and restaurants are included.

## NOT INCLUDED

Passport costs, and health documentation costs (when required); food and beverages (including coffee and tea) not usually included with regular table d'hôte meals; optional sightseeing tours and excursions; accident and baggage insurance; transporting and handling excess luggage; personal tips to guides, drivers, and others rendering special services; items of a purely personal nature such as laundry, telephone and cable expenses, room service orders, etc. All airport and departure taxes and tips to guides and drivers are not included.

## FOR YOUR PROTECTION

**INSURANCE:** Acting only as agents for suppliers, Economy Travel and Tours is not responsible for damage, loss, or theft of luggage and/or personal belongings, or for personal injury, accident and/or illness. For your own protection, it is important that you have adequate insurance to cover these possibilities. Additional information and application forms for all types of coverage will be supplied to you prior to departure.

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

**HEALTH REQUIREMENTS:** Required or suggested immunizations are subject to change (weekly) by U.S. and foreign health authorities. Check with your Health Department for their weekly report of changes prior to departure.

**PASSPORT:** A valid passport is required and must be obtained in person by each tour member. Complete instructions and application forms for passports or renewals will be forwarded upon request.

**DEPOSITS AND PAYMENTS:** A deposit of \$500 per person is required at the time of registration. The balance is due no later than sixty (60) days prior to departure date of tour.

**CANCELLATIONS AND REFUNDS:** If a passenger cancels his/her tour membership up to 120 days prior to departure, there will be a cancellation fee of \$150 to cover penalties imposed by airlines, administrative and communications costs. For cancellations made 119 to 75 days prior to departure date, there shall be a penalty of \$325. For cancellations within 74 days of departure date a cancellation fee of 45% of the tour price will be charged. If cancellation is effected by passenger within 36 days of departure date, 100% of tour cost will be forfeited. All cancellation requests become effective when received in writing by Economy Travel and Tours, Inc.

**DEADLINE:** All tour participants must be signed and fully paid sixty (60) days prior to departure to allow sufficient time for securing visas and other necessary documents.

**NOTE:** Economy Travel and Tours reserves the right to cancel, withdraw, or change the tour in part or whole, at any time. In the event of a change, deemed necessary by Economy Travel and Tours, the sole and exclusive obligation of Economy Travel and Tours is to refund monies recovered. Because of changes in air fare and land rates, the price of this tour is subject to change.

## RESPONSIBILITY

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