



Amazing Catholic Journeys
...we create the experience that will transform you!

A Jubilee Pilgrimage to Italy with Shroud of Turin



Italy



SEPT. 06-18 (13 DAYS)

WITH REV. FR. JOSELITO HITOSIS
SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR

HIGHLIGHTS: Milan, Turin, Padua, Venice, Florence, Sienna, Assisi, Loreto, Lanciano, Padre Pio Sanctuary, Mont' San Angelo, Montecassino, Rome (Holy Doors)

**For Registration
& More Info :**

Amazing Catholic Journeys

Contact: Xenia Maye | Cell: 813-731-7682

Email: AmazingCatholicJourneys@yahoo.com

Website: www.goAmazingTours.com

DAY 1 (Sept. 6) Sat- DEPART USA TO MILAN

Day 2 (Sept. 7) Sun - MILAN / TURIN

Today we arrive in Milan and are met by our Tour director who will remain with us until the end of our tour. We depart the airport and arrive for a visit to Milan's beautiful Cathedral, or "Duomo", where Saint Ambrose baptized Saint Augustine. Then we see the world's famous painting of "The Last Supper" by Da Vinci in Milan's church of Santa Maria delle Grazie. Get a brief introduction of the Italian masterpiece of the Renaissance. Then we drive to Turin for dinner & overnight.

Day 3 (Sept. 8) Mon – TURIN / PADUA (NOTE: PENDING CONFIRMATION FOR SHROUD EXPOSITION)

After breakfast we will have a city tour of Turin. We will continue to the Sanctuary of Maria Ausiliatrice, The Basilica of Our Lady Help of Christians, completed in 1868. We will celebrate Mass here. This church in Turin was originally part of a home for poor boys founded by Saint John Bosco, which now contains his remains with the relics of other saints. In 2015, we celebrate the 200th anniversary of the birth of Saint John Bosco, who had a vision of the Virgin Mary and revealed the site of the martyrdom of the Turinese saints Solutor, Adventor and Octavius. The Basilica dell'Ausiliatrice was built on the site of their death and the church also houses the relics of these saints. We will have some free time before heading to hotel for dinner and our second night in Turin.

If there is a public exhibition (pending announcement), one of the highlights of our pilgrimage tour will be the visit to the Holy Shroud, one of the world's most precious and famous relics which is exposed to public very rarely. Feel privileged & blessed to have opportunity to see it and pray before it! The Shroud of Turin is only on display every 10 years or so and there has been many recorded healing miracles and conversion. There have been only a few expositions of the shroud in the 20th century. The Shroud, a piece of herringbone twilled linen cloth measuring 14.5 feet by 3.9 feet, is believed by many Roman Catholics to be the cloth in which Christ's body was wrapped after his crucifixion. It bears the faint imprint of a man and the apparent signs of wound marks that correspond to those Christ sustained during his crucifixion.

We will continue with our journey to Padua. We check in to our hotel for our first night in the city of Il Santo, St. Anthony!

Day 4 (Sept. 9) Tues – PADUA / VENICE / PADUA

Today, you will have early breakfast and then board your bus to depart to the magical city of Venice. Upon arrival to the Venice Tronchetto Terminal, follows a short boat taxi ride to the city and we start with the Holy Mass in the Cathedral of St. Mark. After Mass, enjoy a tour of the "city paved with water!" Your guided walking tour includes a visit to St. Mark's Square, the largest square in the city and the site of many government buildings; guided inside tour of the Golden Basilica of San Marco, known for the great mosaics that depict the Old and New Testament of the Bible; Tour will also include the visit to the relics of St. Mark (additional fee). We will see the Bridge of Sigh, a bridge that will bring eternal love to those who drift below it. You will also have the guided inside tour of the Doges' Palace (Duke's Palace), which served as the seat of the Government for the Republic of Venice for centuries. After lunch, we will enjoy a gondola ride along the water. In the afternoon you have some free time to explore Venice on your own, before we visit a famous murano glass factory; You can by Rialto Bridge with hundreds of souvenir shops, restaurants. Don't forget to enjoy a cappuccino and gelato at one of the cafes in St. Mark's Square, a must do for any visit to Venice. We then depart for Padua, the home of Saint Anthony, where he centered his preaching mission. We arrive at our hotel for dinner and overnight in Padua.

Day 5 (Sept. 10) Wed - PADUA / FLORENCE

This morning we visit and celebrate Mass at Saint Anthony's Basilica. We will have a guided tour of the Basilica and will have the opportunity to visit the Tomb of St. Anthony and to see several of his relics (tongue, etc). St. Anthony is popularly known as the "Patron Saint of Lost Things and Causes". You will begin a sightseeing tour of the city, including a view of one of the oldest Universities in Italy, the University of Padua, pass by Pratto Della Valle, and see the Basilica of Santa Giustina, which is nearby, she is the "Patron Saint of Padua."

Following Mass, we depart Padua for the Tuscany region of Italy and the center of the Renaissance. Upon our arrival, we enjoy a guided tour of Florence's main sights, including the inside of the Duomo/Cathedral with its magnificent Dome by Brunelleschi, Giotto's elegant belfry and the Baptistery with Ghiberti's Gate to Paradise. We also visit the Basilica di Santa Croce (Church of Holy Cross), where we will see the tombs of several famous people, including Michelangelo, Galileo & Machiavelli. Continue to walk by Piazza Signorina, Palazzo Vecchio, Uffizi, Ponte Vecchio, and Republic Square to the Santa Maria del Fiore. You will notice that Florence is the land for art lovers. Some of the most world-renowned artists are from Florence such as Dante, Leonardo da Vinci, Michelangelo, Raphael, Botticelli, Donatello, and many others. Next, we enter and visit L'Accademia, the well-known art gallery. At this gallery, you will have the opportunity to view the work from artists such as Botticelli, Ghirlandaio, Pontormo, and the ever famous sculpture by Michelangelo, David. This afternoon you will have time to explore Florence on your own. Return to the hotel for dinner and overnight.

DAY 6 (Sept. 11) Thurs – FLORENCE / SIENA / ASSISI

After breakfast, we will have a scenic drive to the Tuscan city of Siena, the quiet hometown of St. Catherine, second only to Florence in its contribution to the Renaissance. Here we will visit and celebrate Mass at the Basilica of San Domenico, and then view the incorrupt head of St. Catherine (Her body is preserved in Rome in the Basilica St. Maria Sopra Minerva). We will visit the Church of the Crucifix to see the Cross that Saint Catherine received the stigmata. We enjoy a guided tour of the historic center of Siena, including a visit to Siena's magnificent and spectacular dark-green and white striped Gothic Cathedral. We will walk through the well preserved city of Siena, birthplace of Saints Catherine (Virgin and Doctor of the Church and one of the two patron Saints of Italy, with St. Francis of Assisi) and St. Bernardine (known as the "Apostle of Italy" for his efforts to revive the Catholic faith in the 15th century). Siena is also one of Italy's loveliest medieval cities. Here we will stroll the Piazza Del Campo (the city center), one of Italy's finest squares and visit the Basilica of St. Francis, containing the miraculous consecrated hosts that remained intact since 1730. We will also visit the Cathedral of Santa Maria Assunta (Assumption of Our Lady).

following free time for lunch in Piazza del Campo, we continue on to Assisi, the birthplace of the gentlest of saints, Saint Francis. We arrive at our hotel in Assisi for dinner and overnight.

DAY 7 (Sept. 12) Fri – ASSISI: ST. FRANCIS / ST. CLARE /ST. CARLO ACCUTIS

Today is a very special day, as we will spend a full day touring the home of the Saint Francis, the Saint of Nature and Servant to the Poor and Saint Claire. Following breakfast, we will celebrate Mass at the Basilica of St. Francis. After Mass, we will be exploring and learning about St. Francis and his life. Our guided tour will start from church of Santa Chiara to see the Cross from which Jesus spoke to St Francis, asking him to rebuild His church. You may kneel before the crucifix and pray his prayer. Also visit the tomb of St. Francis. Explore the quaint hilltop birthplace of St Francis that still retains something of the atmosphere of the early 1200s, the period when St Francis began his ministry. Contained within the huge 13th-century Basilica is many of the saint's possessions and a series of frescoes depicting his life. Next we will learn more about St. Claire the founder of Poor Claire's and see her relics/incorrupt body in St. Claire's Basilica. The foundress of the Order of Poor Claire's followed the teachings of St. Francis by living a life of poverty and humility.

Next you will visit the Santuario Della Spogliazione where the newly canonized Saint Carlo Acutis' tomb is, the first millennial to be declared Saint. Continue tour by walking through this picturesque town, where St. Francis and St. Clare both followed God's call to rebuild his church. Enjoy some free time - for additional prayer, shop and lunch.

After lunch, board the bus, which will take you outside of the walls of Assisi, to the Chapel, "Porziuncola" one of three restored churches by young Francis that nowadays is embraced by Basilica of St. Mary of the Angels. It was in St. Mary of the Angels Basilica where St Francis spent most of his life. We will visit the rose bush, and the cave where the saint retired for prayer. This Basilica is made up of two structures, both of which you will visit. The first structure is the "Porziuncola" and the second is the "Capella del Transito" which is the place where St. Francis died. After the guided tour, return to our hotel in Assisi for dinner & overnight.

DAY 8 (Sept. 13) Sat– ASSISI / LANCIANO / LORETO / SAN GIOVANNI

After breakfast, you we depart Assisi and drive to Lancia, for private Mass at the Church of St. Longinus, the site of the greatest Eucharistic Miracle in the world, which occurred in the eighth century. At the time of the miracle, there was a Basilian monk, who struggled with the belief in the Real Presence in the Eucharist. During the time of Mass, the monk, with doubt in his voice, said the words of consecration and the bread and wine transformed into physical flesh and blood.

Depart for the Marian Shrine of Loreto. Loreto is a beautiful little town where the church dedicated to Saint Mary was built already in 14th century. Legend says that the House of the Holy Family was miraculously transferred from Nazareth, while probably some parts of it were brought here by the crusaders. "The Angel of the lord declared unto Mary, and She conceived of the Holy Spirit" - words that in Loreto in the House of the Holy Family touches us even deeper. On the ruins of the house one can see the actual place of the event. This is also the house in which Mary first prayed the Magnificat, in which Jesus grew to manhood, and in which the Holy Family lived, before it was transported several times by angels, to its current location.

Continue on to San Giovanni Rotondo, where St. Pio of Pietrelcina (St. Padre Pio), a Capuchin friar, priest and mystic known for his devotion to God, care for the sick and supernatural gifts and has lived for many decades and where thousands of people have flocked in order to be closer to this great saint and to Our Lord. Celebrate Mass at the Church of Our Lady of Grace. Dinner and overnight in San Giovanni Rotondo.

DAY 9 (Sept. 14) Sun – SAN GIOVANNI / MONTE SANT' ANGELO

After breakfast, we will walk to the Sanctuary of Padre Pio and celebrate Mass at the Tomb of Padre Pio. After Mass we will have the opportunity to view and pray before the incorrupt body of Padre Pio. Then we have a guided tour of the sanctuary, hear more of the life of the saint, watch some documentary and then visit the museum with many personal belongings of Padre Pio. See the old church, Church of Our Lady of Grace and the altar where he said masses and the crucifix from which he received the stigmata in 1918. We will see the confessional where Padre Pio spent innumerable hours with a multitude of pilgrims, directing them on their journey toward God. We will then have an opportunity to touch and be prayed over the First-Class relic of Padre Pio, his stained glove. Our guide will make arrangements to schedule this during our visit.

We then depart San Giovanni and drive along the breathtaking view of the Gargano Peninsula to visit the Grotto of Monte Sant' Angelo, where St. Michael Archangel had been appearing from 5th to 17th century. Also here, six different popes, St Francis and at least four other saints have knelt in prayer at this grotto, seeking the protection of St Michael. It is the oldest shrine in Western Europe dedicated to the Archangel Michael and has been an important pilgrimage site since the early Middle Ages. Visit St. Michael Basilica and town where we will spend some free time on our own. This shrine and little town surrounding it on the top of Mount Gargano shows us little bit more of the life local population have in this part of south-east Italy. Return for dinner and overnight in San Giovanni Rotondo. After dinner you have the Option to attend the weekly candlelight procession at the Sanctuary of St. Pio after dinner, at 9:00 pm. (*Candlelight Procession - Between May and October).

DAY 10 (Sept. 15) Mon – SAN GIOVANNI / MONTE CASSINO / ROME (Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Walls) /HOLY DOOR PASSAGE

This morning, we depart San Giovanni, you will board the bus and enjoy the scenic route to the Abbey of Monte Cassino, the principal monastery of the Benedictine Order, founded by St. Benedict around 530 A.D. We will celebrate Mass here and enjoy a guided tour of the Monte Cassino Abbey.

Continue our drive to Rome. Upon arrival in Rome, we will visit the first of the four major basilicas of Rome, the wonderful Basilica of Saint Paul's Outside the Walls, where the Apostle is buried. Here we pass through one of Rome's Holy Doors and enjoy the guided tour, some free time for prayer and exploration of the beautiful basilica's grounds. Then we will have a guided walking tour: Piazza Navona, tour of the Piazza di Spagna, the Spanish Steps and the world famous Trevi Fountain.

DAY 11 (Sept. 16) Tues –ROME (Holy Doors): Santa Maria Maggiore / St. John Lateran Basilica / Holy Stairs / Santa Croce

Today, we will next visit another of Rome's major basilicas, Santa Maria Maggiore, the most important church in the world devoted to Our Lady. Here we pass through the Holy Doors and celebrate Mass where Mass has been celebrated every day since the 5th century. After Mass, we enjoy a guided tour of this wonderful Basilica, and spend some personal time for prayers. Then we visit (guided tour) the Basilica of Saint John Lateran, the Pope's cathedral church where relics of both Peter and Paul remain under the main altar. Pass through the Holy Door again. Here we will see its impressive statues of each of the Apostles. From here we cross the street to visit the church of the Scala Santa. Here we see the Holy Staircase of 28 marble steps (now covered in wood) which is believed to be a staircase from Pilate's palace in Jerusalem where Jesus was condemned to death and brought to Rome by Saint Helen in the 4th century. We may climb the steps on our knees in memory of Christ's Passion. Finally, we visit Santa Croce in Gerusalemme (Church of the Holy Cross). This large church not far from San Giovanni in Lateran and Santa Maria Maggiore houses a number of relics from the Passion of Christ. These include the Titulus Crucis, the inscribed sign which hung over Christ during his crucifixion; two thorns from Jesus's crown of thorns; and three pieces of the True Cross. Here you'll also find the doubting finger of St. Thomas. Later we embark on a day's worth of sightseeing beginning with a drive to Capitoline Hill, where we will enjoy a view of the ancient Roman Forum and see Constantine's Arch, the Arch of Titus, the Circus Maximus and ancient Roman Aqueducts. Finally, we will have a panoramic motorcoach city tour and stop at the famous Colosseum for a photo opportunity. Return to hotel for dinner and a restful night in Rome.

Day 12 (Sept. 17) Wed– ROME: Papal Audience / St. Peter's Basilica (Holy Door)/ Vatican Museum:

Today we have an early breakfast to be on time for the general audience with Pope Francis at the St. Peter's Square. (Papal Audience is scheduled to take place every Wednesday, pending the schedule of Pope Francis). Following the Papal audience, we will proceed to the Vatican Museums for a guided tour, where we will see art masterpieces of Michelangelo, Bernini, Tapestry Gallery, and Raphael Rooms. We will walk through Geographical maps Gallery, Sistine Chapel with the magnificent fresco of The Last Judgment and many more halls and rooms filled with Christian art, history and inheritance of all civilization. After the museum tour, we will have a guided tour of the heart of the Vatican State, St. Peter's Basilica, where St. Peter was martyred. Here, you'll have the opportunity to view Michelangelo's Pieta sculpture, pray at the tombs of Pope Benedict XVI and St. John Paul II. Spend some time for prayers and meditations. Tonight, we will have our farewell dinner in a nice Italian restaurant. Return to our hotel for our last night.

Day 13 (Sept. 18) Thurs– HOMEBOUND

After breakfast, we depart for Rome International Airport for our return flights to USA. Arrivederci Italia!
We bid farewell to our new friends, and to a Pilgrimage which will be in our hearts and memories for a long time to come.

PRICE : \$3,680 (Land Only)

Based on DBL Occupancy, 30 minimum pax.
Sample Air Fares (as of 1/20/2025)- Including checked-in luggage:
Fares not guaranteed until ticketed
From TPA/MCO : \$1300
From JFK/EWR: \$985
From LAS: \$1335

PACKAGE INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING:

- o Accommodation in double/twin rooms; Single room available with supplement fee
- o Handpicked First class hotels
- o Price may increase to \$3,850/pp if less than 30 minimum pilgrims
- o English speaking Tour Escort for the entire tour and English speaking, expert Local guides
- o Breakfast and dinner daily, ¼ wine & water included.
- o Deluxe air-conditioned tourist bus, preferably with WIFI & toilet
- o Entrance fees to Vatican museums, Holy Shroud Exhibition (if displayed), Last Supper, etc. as per itinerary
- o General audience with His Holiness Pope Francis – providing His Holiness is in the Vatican
- o Farewell dinner in a nice restaurant, 3 course meal, drinks & water included
- o Daily Holy Mass arrangements
- o Audio Whispers/pp
- o Travelling Priest/Chaplain
- o Free Portage of one-piece luggage/person in/out hotels
- o R/W ferry to Venice Island

NOT INCLUDED:

- o International Flights (we will provide assistance in the purchase of flights)
- o ETIAS Visa, Schengen Visa
- o Daily lunch meals (\$15-\$20 per meal), souvenirs, personal expenses
- o Tips for local guides, tour escort, drivers & hotel staff (\$12/day~ \$144/pp)
- o Travel insurance – strongly recommended
- o Mass Offertory Donations; (\$2-\$5/Mass); goes to the Church not to the priest
- o Love Offering for the Priest

REGISTRATION & FULL PAYMENT DEADLINE: May 15, 2025

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TO REGISTER, BOOK ONLINE & FOR DETAILED ITINERARY:

Please visit: <https://www.goAmazingTours.com>

For Questions Call: Xenia Maye | Cell: 813-731-7682

Email: amazingCatholicJourneys@yahoo.com

Our Pilgrimage Route Map

