



Amazing Catholic Journeys

...we create the experience that will transform you!

THE BEST SHRINES & SAINTS OF ITALY

Come and join Fr. Vijay on this Special Jubilee Year coinciding with the 800th anniversary of the death of St. Francis of Assisi. A Plenary Indulgence will be granted to Catholics who participate in a pilgrimage to Assisi and similar Franciscan churches named after him. Don't miss out on this extraordinary grace of Plenary Indulgence!



**AUGUST 31-SEPT. 09, 2026 (10 DAYS)
WITH REV. FR. VIJAY POLAMARASETTY
(SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR)**

**\$4,895/pp includes airfare from Tampa & land cost
Based on DBL occupancy & 25 min. pilgrims**

HIGHLIGHTS: Rome: (Papal Audience, History, Art & Faith), Basilicas in Rome: St. Peter's, St. John de Laterano, St. Mary Maggiore, St. Paul Outside the Walls, Santa Croce in Gerusalemme, Holy Stairs, Vatican Museums & Sistine Chapel, Monte Cassino (St. Benedict's & St. Scholastica's relics), San Giovanni (Padre Pio's incorrupt body), Sanctuary of St. Michael's Cave, Lanciano (the Greatest Eucharistic Miracle), Loreto (Holy Family's House), Assisi (St. Francis, St. Clare, St. Acutis' relics), Sienna (Cathedral, St Catherine's relics), and many more!

For Registration & More Info,
visit: www.goAmazingTours.com
-\$1,500 Deposit upon Registration;
-Register online; Registration ends 5/ 30/26
-Full Payment on July 15, 2026

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Call the following:
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DAILY PILGRIMAGE ITINERARY : Aug. 31 - Sept. 09, 2026

Day 1, AUG. 31, 2026, USA - ITALY, ROME

Depart US for overnight intercontinental flight to Italy-Rome.

Day 2, SEPT. 01, 2026 - ARRIVAL IN ROME,

Upon arrival to Rome-FCO airport you will meet with your tour escort and proceed to the hotel for check-in. Later in the afternoon, enjoy a panoramic drive of the city then about 2.5 hours walking tour to the famous historical sites in Rome. Wear good walking shoes! We will make our way to the Trevi Fountain, Piazza Novona, Fontana dei Quattro Fiumi "Fountain of the Four Rivers; Spanish steps, etc...At 5pm, we will have our first private Mass then return to our hotel for dinner and overnight.

Day 3, SEPT. 02, 2026 - PAPAL AUDIENCE - ST. PETER'S BASILICA -VATICAN MUSEUM/SISTINE CHAPEL

Today we have an early breakfast to be on time for the general audience with Pope Leo 14th at the St. Peter's Square every Wednesday. Following the audience, we will proceed to the Vatican Museums for a guided tour, where we will see 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. We will celebrate Mass here in one of the chapels. 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 on prayers and meditation. Return to our hotel for our last night's stay.

Day 4, SEPT. 03, 2026 - CHRISTIAN TOUR: THE MAJOR BASILICAS OF ROME

Today we will visit the three major basilicas of Rome. We will visit one of Rome's major basilicas, Santa Maria Maggiore, the most important church in the world devoted to Our Lady. Here we 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. Here we will see its impressive statues of each of the Apostles. From here we cross the street to visit the Santa Scala/ Holy 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. We will also visit Santa Croce in Gerusalemme (Church of the Holy Cross). This large church not far from San Giovanni in Laterano 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 visit the famous Colosseum. Return to hotel for dinner and a restful night in Rome.

Day 5, SEPT. 04, 2026 - ROME - MONTE CASSINO - SAN GIOVANNI

This morning, we depart Rome, 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. Enjoy a guided tour of the Monte Cassino Abbey and pay homage to the relics of St. Benedict and St. Scholastica, who are buried side by side. 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 6, SEPT. 05, 2026 - SAN GIOVANNI ROTONDO – MONTE SAN'T ANGELO - SAN GIOVANNI ROTONDO

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 documentaries and then visit the museum with many personal belongings and relics 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 get an opportunity to touch and be prayed over with the First-Class relic of Padre Pio, his blood-stained glove. Our guide will make arrangements to schedule this during our visit. After lunch, 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 the town surrounding it on the top of Mount Gargano showing us little bit more of the life of the local population in this of south-east of Italy.

Return to the hotel 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).

(Note: Make sure you get the stone relic, which was believed to have been blessed by St. Michael, which assumedly can provide protection; Purchase this from the nearby souvenir shop in the cave.)

Day 7, SEPT. 06, 2026 : SAN GIOVANNI ROTONDO - LANCIANO - LORETO - ASSISI

After breakfast, you leave for Assisi. On the way we stop in Lanciano, for private Mass at the Church of St. Longinus, the site of the greatest Eucharistic Miracle in the world, that 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 of Christ 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. After lunch, depart for the Marian Shrine of Loreto. Loreto is a beautiful little town where the church dedicated to Saint Mary was built already in the 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 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 touch 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, it was transported several times by angels, to its current location. Later drive to Assisi for our hotel check-in, dinner and 2 nights stay in your hotel.

Day 8, SEPT. 07, 2026 : ASSISI (ST. FRANCIS, ST. CLARE, & ST. CARLO ACUTIS)

Today is a very special day, as we will spend a full day touring the home of 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 his prayer. Also visit the tomb of St. Francis. Explore the quaint hilltop birthplace of St Francis that still retain the atmosphere of the early 1200s, the period when St Francis began his ministry. Contained within the huge 13th-century Basilica are 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 St. 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 prayers, shopping 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 hotel for dinner and overnight.

Day 8, SEPT. 08, 2026 : ASSISI - SIENNA - ROME

After breakfast, we are leaving Assisi to Siena. We will have a guided tour 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 were stolen and later found incorrupt. It remained intact since 1730. Hosts are still preserved and displayed for veneration. We will continue on to view the incorrupt head and thumb of St. Catherine at the Basilica of St. Dominic (Her body is preserved in Rome in the Basilica St. Maria Sopra Minerva). We also visit the spectacular Gothic Cathedral of Santa Maria Assunta (Assumption of Our Lady), otherwise called the Sienna Cathedral. This is one of the most stunning Gothic Cathedrals in Italy. The Chapel of St. John the Baptist inside the Cathedral houses the arm of St. Catherine. This church is rich in Biblical mosaics and marble floor scenes. We will celebrate Mass here in Sienna. After Mass, we drive to Rome for our hotel check-in. Today is our last night, and we will have our Farewell dinner in a nice restaurant with wine and drinks included. After dinner, return to the hotel for the night.

Day 9, SEPT. 09, 2026 - ROME TO FCO AIRPORT: Farewell & Return Flights home

After breakfast, we depart for Rome International Airport for our return flights home. 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!

\$4,895 PER PERSON TOUR PRICE INCLUDES:

- Accommodation in hand-picked 4*/Superior class hotels, Pricing based on DBL occupancy; 25 minimum
- Int'l Roundtrip Economy Flights from Tampa to Rome ; Any deviations on routes, dates & upgrade will be subject to fare increase;
- Price may increase if less than 25 pilgrims
- English speaking & expert tour guides
- Breakfast Buffet and Dinner daily
- Modern air-conditioned tourist bus
- Entrance fees to all the sites as per itinerary
- Daily Private Mass arrangements at Holy Sites as per itinerary
- Gratuities for Tour Escort, Local guides, Hotel Dining Staff, Bus Driver (Total \$186)
- Papal Audience in Rome
- Free Porterage of one piece luggage in/out hotels; Airport portorage not included
- Travelling Priest/Chaplain
- Whisper sets (must be returned after the tour)
- Farewell Dinner in a restaurant with wine/drinks included

NOT INCLUDED:

- Any Domestic flights, airport, taxes; Add-On Fares from other Gateways, other than Tampa
- Travel insurance – strongly recommended
- Schengen Visa where applicable
- The new ETIAS Visa (European Travel Information & Authorization System)-mandated by Europe in late 2026; apply online
- Single room supplement (additional fee)
- Lunch Daily & Beverages/Drinks not mentioned
- Souvenirs and personal expense
- Donation/Offering for Daily Mass ; (€2-5/day or Total of €20-50) - Your donation goes to their Church.

OPTIONAL: We partner with Global Allianz Travel Insurance (highly encouraged) providing you coverage for both pre-existing conditions and those that may arise during your trip, including medical and dental emergencies, loss of luggage, trip delay, and so much more. Please call Amazing Catholic Journeys/Xenia Maye for details at 813-731-7682 for more info.

Our Pilgrimage Map

