

St. Thomas More Catholic Church hosts A Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

*Under the Spiritual Direction of Rev. Michael Ratajczak
15 Days: November 1-15, 2011*

\$3599 roundtrip from Los Angeles, CA. All Airport Taxes included!



Tabgha



Sea of Galilee



Church of All Nations

Travel Arrangements by: Holy Land Travel Center

Dear Friends,

In recent years, there has been a return of pilgrims to the Holy Land. Many people are once again considering sharing in the joy and blessing of visiting the land where God's plan for the salvation of the world unfolded.

This will be my sixth pilgrimage to the Holy Land. For me, Israel/Palestine is a place to which I want to return over and over again, because each time that I visit, my faith is deepened and I am more connected to the Scriptures and more centered in the celebration of the Eucharist. When you walk where Jesus walked, you are never again the same.

The pilgrimage described in this brochure offers you a unique opportunity to deepen your relationship with the Lord Jesus and to become stronger in your faith. It is a well-planned pilgrimage, and it will be prayerful and educational.

The land of Israel/Palestine is the Fifth Gospel. To better understand the four Gospels, one must walk the fifth. I hope that you will consider joining me in November!

Rev. Michael Ratajczak
Pastor, St. Thomas More Catholic Church
Oceanside, California

Day by Day Itinerary

NOVEMBER 1 DAY 1 – DEPART USA: Our Pilgrimage begins today as we depart on our flight to Israel. Meals and drinks served aloft.

NOVEMBER 2 DAY 2 – ARRIVE TEL-AVIV / BETHLEHEM: Upon arrival in Tel Aviv we are welcomed by our Representative then drive to the Judean Hill Country for dinner and overnight.

Overnight: Bethlehem (D)

NOVEMBER 3 DAY 3 – BETHLEHEM: This morning we visit the Church of the Nativity, situated above the traditional Grotto of Jesus birth. After touring the Manger, Grotto of St. Jerome, the Church of St. Catherine, we will visit the Milk Grotto. Later we head to the Shepherds' Field.

Overnight: Bethlehem (B, D)

NOVEMBER 4 DAY 4- JERUSALEM: Visit the gentle lush countryside of Ein Karem, the village where John the Baptist was born. Here we will visit the Church of the Visitation and the Church of St. John.

Overnight: Bethlehem (B, D)

NOVEMBER 5 DAY 5 – JERUSALEM / TIBERIAS: This morning, we leave Jerusalem and head to Tiberias. Drive along the Mediterranean coast to Caesarea, home of ancient Roman Procurators and the capitol city of the Roman Province of Palestine. Here, St. Peter preached and St. Paul was imprisoned for two years. Continue to the sparkling port city of Haifa. Ascend Mt. Carmel, home of the prophets Elijah and Elisha, for Mass. Stop at the Jordan River to renew our Baptismal Vows before continuing to Tiberias, our home for the next three nights.

Overnight: Nazareth/Tiberias (B, D)

NOVEMBER 6 DAY 6 – TIBERIAS: Following breakfast, drive to Nazareth, home of the Holy Family. Visit Joseph's Workshop and the Grotto of the Annunciation. Following Mass and lunch in Nazareth, continue to Cana of Galilee, where our Lord performed the first miracle – changing water into wine at the wedding feast. Here we will invite couples to renew their wedding vows.

Overnight: Nazareth/Tiberias (B, D)

NOVEMBER 7 DAY 7 – TIBERIAS: Start the day at Tabgha, the site of the miracle of the loaves and fishes. Celebrate Mass on the shore of the Sea of Galilee where Jesus called his disciples and appeared after His Resurrection. Visit Capernaum, home of our Lord during His ministry, recall His many miracles and see the Synagogue where He taught. Then drive up to the Mt. of the Beatitudes for Mass and lunch near the site of the Sermon on the Mount. Conclude this day with a scenic boat ride on the Sea of Galilee.

Overnight: Nazareth/Tiberias (B, D)

NOVEMBER 8 DAY 8 – TIBERIAS / JERUSALEM: This morning we depart Tiberias and travel to the summit of Mt. Tabor for Mass at the site of the Transfiguration of Jesus and enjoy a sweeping view of the beautiful Jezreel Valley. After driving south through the Jordan Valley, we will go up to Jerusalem for check-in at our hotel.

Overnight: Bethlehem (B, D)

NOVEMBER 9 DAY 9 – JERUSALEM: Begin the first day in Jerusalem with a visit to a large scale model of the city at the time of Jesus. Continue to the area of the ancient Jewish temple. Explore excavations of the temple environs, see the steps where Jesus preached and the evidence of the destruction of the Temple as Jesus foretold. See the Western Wall – the most sacred place in the world for Jews. Proceed to Mt. Zion where we will stand in the Upper Room, celebrating Mass very near where Jesus ate the Last supper with His disciples. Then we will visit the Dormition Abbey where we remember Mary “falling asleep” before her Assumption.

Overnight: Bethlehem (B, D)

NOVEMBER 10 DAY 10 – JERUSALEM: This morning drive to the top of the Mt. of Olives where we will visit the Church of Pater Noster where Jesus taught His disciples the Lord's Prayer. We also visit the Chapel of the Ascension commemorating the Ascension of Our Lord into Heaven. Walk the Palm Sunday road to the Chapel of Dominus Flevit, where we will have Mass with a spectacular view of Jerusalem. Continue to the Garden of Gethsemane and the Tomb of Mary. In the afternoon, we visit the Church of St. Peter in Gallicantu at the place where Peter denied Jesus while He was awaiting trial before Sanhedrin. Return that evening to the Church of All Nations on the Garden of Gethsemane for a Holy Hour at the place where Jesus suffered the agony in the garden and was betrayed by Judas.

Overnight: Bethlehem (B, D)

NOVEMBER 11 DAY 11 – JERUSALEM: Today we will walk through the narrow cobble stone streets of the Old City, beginning with Mass at the Church of St. Anne, the birthplace of Mary, and viewing the Pool of Bethesda, where Jesus healed the infirm. Then follow Jesus on the Way of the Cross to the Church of the Holy Sepulcher to visit Calvary, where Christ was crucified, the Stone of Anointing, and the empty Tomb of Our Savior which witnesses to our Easter faith in the Resurrection.

Overnight: Bethlehem (B, D)

NOVEMBER 12 DAY 12 – JERUSALEM: Drive to Bethany where Our Lord would stay in the home of His friends, Mary, Martha, and Lazarus during His visits to Jerusalem. This morning we will celebrate Mass near the place where Jesus restored Lazarus to life. After Mass, we will drive to Jericho, the oldest known city in the world. Take the tram up to the Mount of Temptation for lunch and a visit. Continue along the shores of the Dead Sea to Qumran to see the caves where the Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered. Then on to Ein Gedi for a swim in the salty, mineral laden and unsinkable waters of the Dead Sea.

Overnight: Bethlehem (B, D)

NOVEMBER 13 DAY 13 – JERUSALEM: This morning we drive to Samaria and stop at Nablus to visit Jacob's well (where Jesus met the Samaritan woman who offered Him a drink of water). Also visit the ancient royal city of Sebastia. Drive back to Bethlehem.

Overnight: Bethlehem (B, D)

NOVEMBER 14 DAY 14 – JERUSALEM: Today we will celebrate an early morning Mass at the Church of the Holy Sepulcher. The remainder of the day is free for personal activities. Late in the afternoon we will remember our Lord's appearance to His disciples on the road to Emmaus, and in the evening, we will enjoy a farewell Middle Eastern Dinner.

Overnight: Bethlehem (B, D)

NOVEMBER 15 DAY 15 –USA: Today we arrive home safely with unforgettable memories knowing that we have walked in the footsteps of Our Lord, Jesus Christ.

AIRLINES: EL AL AIRLINES - NON STOP LAX - TLV

HOTEL ACCOMODATIONS:

Bethlehem - Intercontinental hotel for 3 nights.
Tiberias - Leonardo hotel for 3 nights
Bethlehem - Intercontinental hotel for 6 nights.

YOUR PRICE INCLUDES:

- Round trip airfare Los Angeles - Tel Aviv - Los Angeles
- Airport tax and fuel surcharge
- Price per person in double rooms
- First class 4 and 5 star hotels
- Spiritual Director for tour of religious sites
- Entrance fees according to the itinerary
- Deluxe A/C tourist bus
- Tips and gratuities
- Transportation to/from LAX Airport

REGISTRATION INFORMATION: To make your reservation simply complete the enclosed registration form and submit along with \$400 payment (mailed to the address shown on the bottom of the registration form). You will receive an invoice, and further information by mail, within two weeks after receipt of your deposit.

Please submit your registration form early, as all space is available on a first-come basis. Registrations are processed in the order they are received by Holy Land Travel Center.

Price is based on a minimum of 30 fully paying passengers in the group. **Optional travel protection plan will be added separately on your invoice.** A valid passport is required for USA citizens. No visa is required for USA citizens. Please see 'Registration Form' and Terms & Conditions for more details.

Tour Number: SAN-11-01-15D

Holy Land Travel Center - info@holylndtc.com - Tel. (866) 339-3323 - Fax (505) 212-0919

Terms and Conditions

By making any payments (cash, credit card or otherwise) towards any tour constitutes your unconditional acceptance of all the terms and conditions stated in this brochure. Holy Land Travel Center shall be referred as HLTC within this document.

DOCUMENTS: US citizens require a valid passport. Other nationalities please inquire with the appropriate embassies.

REGISTRATION AND DEPOSIT: Deposit of \$400 per person is required upon registration along with a signed copy of the registration form. Registrations are processed in the order received by HLTC. A second payment of \$1499 is required on or before 8/1/2011. Final payment is due 9/15/2011. Late payments are subject to \$50 late fee. HLTC reserves the right to cancel reservations that are not paid 60 days prior to departure and to apply applicable cancellation/penalties indicated below. No registrations can be made over the telephone.

INDIVIDUAL CANCELLATION FEES & REFUNDS: Upon cancellation of participation of tour by you, the registrant, for any reason, and only after HLTC receives your signed cancellation, HLTC will then refund your payment for services not received by you, minus applicable cancellation fees per person, according to the following schedule:

- 1) Minimum cancellation fee is \$100 from time of registration up to 120 days prior to the tour's departure date.
- 2) From 119 to 60 days prior to departure day, the cancellation fee is \$200 plus any non-refundable amounts paid to and/or penalties assessed by airlines.
- 3) From 59 days to 8 days prior to departure day, cancellation fee is \$300 plus any non-refundable amounts paid to and/or penalties assessed by airlines, hotels, or other suppliers of travel services (up to the total cost of the tour;
- 4) From 7 days prior to departure day onward, no refund is possible.

PASSENGER TRAVEL PROTECTION PROGRAM (HIGHLY RECOMMENDED): Passenger Travel protection program is administered by Travel Guard. This program is available through HLTC and is strongly recommended. Holy Land Travel center, is not responsible for damage, loss, or theft of luggage and/or personal belongings, or for personal injury, accident and/or illness. For protection, it is important that you have adequate insurance to cover these possibilities. Medical coverage during your stay in the Holy Land is included in your tour price. Travel Protection plan cannot be purchased after full payment has been made. All Protection Plan fees are non-refundable. (\$139)

MEDICAL CONDITION: We endeavor to provide the highest level of service to all our passengers. Participants who require special assistance must be accompanied by a qualified helper who assumes total responsibility for the participants' well being. The HLTC is not responsible for any medical conditions that occur prior, during or after the tour.

LAND TRANSPORTATION AND TRANSFERS: By private deluxe motor coach.

ACCOMMODATIONS: Tour prices are per person, based on two persons sharing double or twin-bedded rooms with private bathroom with tub or shower. Single rooms subject to availability and an additional cost of \$660.

MEALS: Breakfast and dinner daily. All other beverages are extra.

TIPPING: The price of the tour includes tips and gratuities.

AIRLINE TICKETS AND ITINERARY LENGTH: Air transportation to/from your destination will be economy class aboard carriers utilizing **non-refundable, non-amenable tickets** for groups flying together for the entire itinerary. Preliminary international flight schedules are available 60 days prior to departure and may change before they are finalized. Therefore, if you book the domestic flight on your own, you will be responsible for changing your domestic flights and incurring any change fees that would be generated by this adjustment. We are not responsible for changes and delays in airline schedules and do not reimburse passengers for expenses resulting from same. Travelers making their own flight arrangements should not purchase non-refundable, non-changeable tickets. We cannot guarantee the most direct routing to your final destination. If flight schedules change, we reserve the right to lengthen or shorten the itinerary accordingly, and if changes or flight schedules necessitate extra overnights, you will be charged at normal hotel rates. Land Only packages do not include airport-hotel transfers.

BAGGAGE: The passenger is allowed to bring one (1) checked bag, which may have a maximum weight of 50 lbs., and maximum combined dimensions of 62 inches. Also, one (1) "carry-on" with maximum dimensions of 8"x12"x20" is permitted. Luggage is the passenger's responsibility and that of the airlines. For lost luggage, the passenger is responsible for notifying the airline directly. Check with your carrier regarding carry-on luggage rules and regulations.

PRICES: All prices are based on exchange rates and fares applicable at time of quotation and based on minimum number of paying passengers stated in the brochure, and are therefore subject to change if fares change (including fuel surcharges increase), if group does not reach minimum or if exchange rates fluctuate. Minimum number of paying passengers is 30.

NOT INCLUDED: Passport and Visas, meals not mentioned, beverages with meals, extra beyond standard menu, excess baggage, telephone calls, fuel surcharges increase.

LIABILITY DISCLAIMER: HLTC hereby expressly disclaims any liability for any personal injury, property damage, Loss of baggage, accident, delay or irregularity, any claim for special or consequential damages or any other loss which may be occasioned by the acts and/or omissions, whether negligent, intentional, wrongful or otherwise, of any air carrier, hotel/motel or other lodging operator, railroad operator, bus operator, public transportation, sea carrier, local sightseeing company, tour operator, tour leader or spiritual director, any employees thereof, or any other entity or individual not under the direct supervision and control of HLTC when engaged in conveying the passenger or in carrying out the arrangements of the tour, or otherwise in connection therewith. HLTC likewise expressly disclaims any responsibility for losses or expenses incurred, or inconvenience caused, due to delay or changes in schedules, defaults, over booking of hotels or airlines, sickness, weather, strikes, quarantines, acts of terrorism, constructions, war, force majeure or other such events which are beyond HLTC's control. HLTC likewise hereby expressly disclaims any liability for statements, actions or inactions of any intermediary agents such as group administrators, spiritual directors or tour leaders, travel agents or any other intermediary involved with the selling, promotion or operation of its tours. Group administrators, spiritual leaders and tour leaders likewise hereby expressly disclaim any liability for the acts and/or omissions of any of the above entities and/or individuals not directly under their supervision or control. Please be advised that the liability of carriers as well as providers of hotel and lodging accommodations is limited by law and you may thus wish to consider purchasing additional insurance to protect yourself against any losses or injuries suffered as a result of their acts and/or omissions. In all instances, HLTC's liability shall be limited to the amounts paid by you for participation in the tour, and subject to the provisions and cancellation fees as set forth in the 'Brochure Terms and Conditions'. In the event that the tour leader and/or spiritual director named in a brochure or itinerary does not travel with the group, and a substitute is not named to replace such person(s), then HLTC reserves the right to make substitutions of its choosing for such person(s) in the operation of the tour.

Note: While no changes are anticipated, there may be unforeseen occasions when certain alterations become necessary, either due to changes to the airline schedule or any other reason. All Masses are subject to local church schedules and substitution with alternate Mass sites if churches mentioned are not available. Holy Land Travel Center reserves the right to change the itinerary due to such unforeseen circumstances or emergencies.

HOLY LAND TRAVEL CENTER

6600 Glenturret Way NE * Albuquerque, NM 87113 Tel. (866) 339-3323 * Fax. (505) 212-0919 * Email: info@holylandtc.com

HOLY LAND TRAVEL CENTER

TRAVEL REGISTRATION FORM

Host: St Thomas More

Tour #: SAN-11-01-15D

Passenger Information:

Last Name _____ First Name _____
(As it appears on your passport) (As it appears on your passport)

Street: _____ Apt: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: (____) _____ Cell Phone: (____) _____ Email Address: _____

Birth Date: ____/____/____ (Month/ Day/ Year) Sex: ☐ M ☐ F Age: _____

Citizen of USA _____ Other: _____ Passport Number _____ Expiration Date: ____/____/____

Emergency Contact: _____ Relation: _____ Phone: (____) _____

Your Roommate: _____ ☐ I want a single room (limited availability)

_____ (Please Sign) I acknowledge that airline ticket are non-refundable, non-transferable, and are subject to airline cancellation fees and policies.

Tour Price: Cash/Check discount is \$3599. Regular/Credit Card Price is \$3699. Kindly mail registration form with your deposit to: **Holy Land Travel Center, 6600 GLENTURRET WAY NE, ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87113**

☐ **Credit Card (Regular/Full Price is \$3699):**

Card holder's name (print): _____ Card No: _____

Exp. Date: _____ Security Code on card: _____ Amount: _____

Billing Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Signature Passenger 1 _____