

# Mater Dei Tours™

Presents: A 6 day / 5 night pilgrimage to Our Lady of Guadalupe

## Patroness of the Americas

With **Monsignor Delbert Schmelzer**

from the Diocese of Madison, WI

December 8<sup>th</sup> to December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2008, in Mexico!



Mater Dei Tours  
Making Travel Relevant!



**Monsignor  
Delbert  
Schmelzer**

←←←

Enshrined  
Image of  
Our Lady  
→→→



### A Marian Pilgrimage Celebrating 3 Feast Days!

- December 8: Immaculate Conception
- December 9: St. Juan Diego
- December 12: Our Lady of Guadalupe

To Our Lady of Guadalupe  
Patroness of the  
Americas



### 6 day / 5 nights Trip Inclusions:

- Round Trip Air Transportation\* from Chicago's O'Hare to Mexico City via AeroMéxico Airlines.
- Airfare available from other cities - call for price difference
- Round trip airport/hotel/airport transfers in Mexico in private Air Conditioned Motorcoach (for those traveling with group from Chicago - and those arriving before group arrives)
- Accommodations in Puebla and Mexico City.
- 11 Meals: 5 breakfasts, 3 Buffet Lunches and 3 Dinners (most beverages not included).
- Private motorcoach transportation with driver.
- Full touring program including Panoramic, Archeological and Cultural Tours to Historical and Religious places of interest.
- All entrance ticket fees to compliment the itinerary.
- Spiritual Program including Rosaries, Meditations, Holy Mass & Sacrament of the Reconciliation.
- Breakfast service, Lunch, Dinner & Bell Captain gratuities
- Local, Sales & Hospitality Taxes
- **Monsignor Delbert Schmelzer** as Pilgrimage Chaplain/Spiritual Director.
- Official tour guide certified by the Mexican Government.
- Tour Director/coordinator: **Juan Landa**

#### **Does not include:**

- U.S. & Mexico's airport fees, departure fees, transportation taxes, & fuel surcharges (approximately \$175)
- Tour Guide's gratuity (Suggested: \$6 per day, per person)
- Bus Driver (Suggested: \$3 per day, per person)

(See registration page on back for price & terms/conditions)



Mater Dei Tours™ – [www.materdeitours.com](http://www.materdeitours.com) – Toll Free: 1-800-515-2632

# Planned Itinerary

Patroness of the Americas

## Day 1: Monday, December 8<sup>TH</sup>, 2008 (Feast of the Immaculate Conception) - U.S.A. to México City

Meet your Tour Director, at Chicago's O'Hare Airport Terminal #5 by the AeroMexico Airlines Ticket Counter (airfare available from other cities, please call us for price difference - for those departing from other cities, you will meet your Tour Director in Mexico City). Accompanied by your Tour Director, depart Chicago on your non-stop flight to Mexico City via AeroMexico Airlines. Upon arrival meet Guillermo, your official government certified Tour Guide. Airport Skycaps take care of your checked luggage (1 piece per person) and then transfer to your hotel in Puebla in your private motor-coach. **Holy Mass** is celebrated at the beautiful and most famous **Chapel of the Rosary** in a spirit of thanksgiving for a safe arrival. Afterwards, join your fellow pilgrims for a "Welcome to Mexico" **dinner** and orientation at the hotel's restaurant. (M, D)



## Day 2: Tuesday, December 9<sup>TH</sup>, 2008 (Feast of St. Juan Diego) - Cholula: Our Lady of Good Remedy / Church of Tonantzintla // Puebla: Puebla Cathedral / Talavera Market:

After breakfast, depart for **Cholula** where reputedly, the largest pyramid in the world can be found. You may climb the pyramid/hill (if you wish). On top of the pyramid lies the beautiful **Church of Our Lady of Good Remedy**. Cholula has a very rich history of different epochs of México. This is where Hernán Cortes accomplished a controversial but very important victory for the conquest of México. It is also here where the world famous 'Cinco de Mayo' (May 5<sup>th</sup>)

battle occurred, where Mexicans were able to win a great victory that temporarily detained the French imperialism in Mexico. Cholula also claims to have a Chapel for every day of the year! Later, visit the **Church of Tonantzintla** where the most beautiful example of Indo-Christian decoration can be admired. Return to **Puebla**, the fourth largest city in México and a great example of Spanish colonial architecture. The Puebla region is famous for its beautiful Churches and its hand painted 'Talavera' tiles. Visit the unforgettable **Cathedral of Puebla** (2<sup>nd</sup> largest in the country). Then stop at an old Spanish house for a delicious **lunch buffet** and some great music from the University of Puebla students. After lunch, visit a Talavera factory/shop to view some amazing works of art in Talavera ceramics, as well as an opportunity to purchase unique souvenirs. **Mass** in the evening at one of Puebla's historic churches. Dinner on your own in Puebla. (B, L)



## Day 3: Wednesday, December 10<sup>TH</sup> - Mexico City: Holy Family (Blessed Miguel Pro) / Anthropology Museum / Buena Vista Market:

Depart Puebla today and travel through the State of Mexico into the D.F., that is the Distrito Federal (Federal District) where we find Mexico City. If weather cooperates, we should be able to enjoy majestic views of Mexico's 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> highest peaks (including the legendary volcanoes of **Popocatepetl** and **Itzaccihuatl**). Arrive in Mexico City to visit the **Church of the Holy Family**. This Church contains the remains of **Blessed Padre Miguel Pro**, the famous martyr Priest of Mexico whose death (documented in pictures) forced the government to allow the practice of Catholicism back in the open. **Holy Mass** is celebrated here. Then travel to the Forest of Chapultepec for a fascinating tour of the impressive **Museum of Anthropology**, world famous and renowned as the principal source of information about the archeological and cultural composition of México and America. As one of the world's largest of its kind, the museum presents an impressive permanent collection of artifacts and exhibitions that demonstrate the daily life of México's indigenous people. A **buffet lunch** has been prepared for our group at the museum. A shopping stop follows at the **Mercado Buena Vista** with a great variety of original Mexican handicrafts. Afterwards check-in at our hotel in Mexico City. This evening, share your stories with your fellow pilgrims at hotel's roof lounge, admiring the city's sunset (Mexico City orientation meeting). Then join the group for **dinner** at one of the hotel's restaurants. (B, L, D)



*Muchas Gracias x 100! We can't begin to tell you what an awesome pilgrimage this has been! The inspiration, care, knowledge, faith & love shared will always be cherished! We are forever changed!* Susan, Bryan & Mary ... St. Bonifacius, MN

**Day 4: Thursday, December 11<sup>TH</sup> - Guadalupe / Pyramids of Teotihuacán / Tlupetlac - Site of St. Juan Diego's Home (Our Lady's 5<sup>th</sup> Apparition):**

Enjoy a delicious breakfast and prepare for a memorable travel day. On your way out of town, pass by the 'Plaza de las Tres Culturas' (3 Cultures Square). Filled with Pre and Post Columbian history, this square represents the cultures of México. Taking the longest avenue in Mexico, 'Avenida de los Insurgentes' (Insurgents Avenue), depart the Federal District (equivalent to our District of Columbia) to the State of México to visit the most sacred Sanctuary in all of México, the **Sanctuary of Our Lady of Guadalupe**. A video introduction of the Guadalupe story will be shown onboard. Until now our pilgrimage has been an introduction in order to better understand the cultural background that led to the construction of this impressive complex where the Virgin Mary appeared to the humble Native American Juan Diego (now St. Juan Diego). An event that inspired the conversion of millions of Native Americans of that time. Upon arrival our tour guides have prepared for us a brief presentation on the many amazing facts regarding St. Juan Diego's Ayate at one of the Guadalupe gift shops (there will be a restroom break here with a brief shopping time). Afterwards, our group departs the gift shop with a flower arrangement for Our Lady. We proceed to visit the **New Basilica** where the original 'ayate' of St. Juan Diego is specially adorned for the Feast Day and is prominently displayed for all to see. Our group will move closer to the area right underneath the ayate where a moving platform continually moves pilgrims from one side to the other in order to keep safety and guarantee that all pilgrims get to see Our Lady (you will have another opportunity to re-visit this most famous and divine work of art tomorrow). Then visit the famous "bent" Cross of the Altar and the imposing statue of John Paul The Great. After our first visit to "La Villa" (where the Shrine of Our Lady is), we stop at a 'posada' for a delicious **lunch buffet**. After a



restful lunch, we visit the amazing complex of pyramids and temples that make the mysterious **City of Teotihuacán**, one of the best preserved pre-Columbian cities in the Americas. Teotihuacán was the most important city in North America around 500 AD, with a population of approximately 200,000 inhabitants. This visit gives us a better idea of the culture and indigenous customs of St. Juan Diego's ancestors. Before departing the area, witness the different and very important ancient uses of the **Maguay plant** (from the Cactus family) and its relationship to the 'ayate' of St. Juan Diego. We end this memorable day with a visit to **St. Juan Diego's old home** which is the site of the fifth apparition of Our Lady. A church and a well with spring water now stand at the site where Our Lady appeared and cured Juan Diego's uncle. If we are fortunate, we will descend under the Altar to the place where Our Lady appeared and gave us her name of Our Lady of Guadalupe. There will be an opportunity to get spring water to bring home. **Holy Mass** has been requested here. (B, L)

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**Day 5: Friday, December 12<sup>th</sup> (Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe) - Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe:**

After the breakfast buffet, return today for a full day visit to Guadalupe during her glorious Feast Day. Complete the tour of the Guadalupe complex with a guided visit to the remaining chapels, gardens and places of importance (as time allows). Climb the "**Cerrito de Tepeyac**" (Tepeyac Hill) in a Rosary procession until we reach the "**Capilla del Cerrito**" (Chapel of the Little Hill) that commemorates the place of the first apparition. Then visit the **Old Basilica** where Our Lord is perpetually exposed in the Blessed Sacrament. After making our visit to the **Blessed Sacrament**, return to the new Basilica to attend **Holy Mass** for the **Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe** with thousands of pilgrims from all over the world. Remainder of the day is at leisure for personal prayer and confessions at the Shrine. End today's unforgettable pilgrimage with one more visit to the image of Our Lady. Later, join your new family for a **farewell dinner** remembering all the good times spent together as pilgrims. (B, D)

**Day 6: Saturday, December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2008 – Visit to Old Mexico City (Zocalo with its Cathedral and surroundings)**



The last day commences with our last breakfast as the luggage is being loaded into the motor-coach. Afterwards, enjoy a panoramic tour of this legendary city, renowned as the world's largest city. Drive by the monument to Benito Juarez, the Alameda Park and the historic and gorgeous 'Palacio de Bellas Artes' (Palace of Fine Arts) until we arrive at Old Mexico City. Here we visit the **Zócalo**, the second largest square in the world. It is located in the center of the old and once powerful Aztec Capital of **Tenochtitlán**, where ruins of its "Templo Mayor" (major temple) can still be observed. On one side of the square we can admire the "Palacio Nacional" (National Palace), where in addition to being Mexico's current Presidential Offices, was also the place where Hernan Cortes established his first residence and offices. On the opposite side lies the monumental **Cathedral Metropolitana**, built with stones of the old Aztec temples. This massive Church rivals those of Europe. Our farewell **Mass** is celebrated here in a spirit of thanksgiving for a fruitful pilgrimage. After Mass, depart for Benito Juarez International Airport with plenty of time for check in and extra security. As your flight takes off, take one last look at a land filled with history and culture; a land that gained the love and admiration of our late Holy Father; a land where our Lady converted and continues to convert many, many people! (B)

*"¡Dios México! Te quiero mi Guadalupe."*

There is US Immigration and US Customs upon arrival in the U.S.A. Welcome Home!



Mater Dei Tours <sup>TM</sup> – [www.materdeitours.com](http://www.materdeitours.com) – Toll Free: 1-800-515-2632

# General Conditions

Purchaser and/or traveler of this tour (you) acknowledges that Landa Cleary Travel Company, Inc (d.b.a = doing business as Mater Dei Tours and Relevant Journeys) is acting as an independent intermediary (travel agent) between you and suppliers of goods and services, which are not directly supplied by Landa Cleary Travel Co., Inc., such as air transportation, hotel accommodations, ground and sea transportations, tours, tour guides, escorts, etc. and shall not be responsible for actions or omissions on the part of such suppliers, which may result in any loss, damage, delay or injury to you or your travel companions or group members. Landa Cleary Travel Company, Inc. and any religious or private organization contracting it's services shall not be responsible for any injuries, damages or losses caused to any traveler in connection with social or labor unrest, mechanical or construction difficulties, diseases, local laws, climatic conditions, war, terrorist activities or any other actions omissions, or conditions outside their control.

By embarking upon his/her travel, the traveler(s) voluntarily assumes all the risks, and is advised to obtain appropriate insurance coverage against them. Your booking shall constitute a consent to the above and engaging the company, acknowledges these conditions and agrees to hold the company blameless in making the arrangements of his/her behalf, and agrees that restitution or damages, if any are claimed, shall be sought directly from the suppliers.

**Deposits:** A deposit of \$500 per person is required to secure your space to Landa Cleary Travel Company, Inc. **Deposits will be refunded in the event the tour does not meet the minimum quorum necessary to make the trip possible.** If you use a credit card as payment, you agree that if any cancellation penalties are due, Landa Cleary Travel Co., Inc. is authorized to charge the penalties to your credit card above.

**Final Payments:** Full payment must be made no later than **100 days** prior to departure unless otherwise stated. Payments may be made by check, Visa or MasterCard. If payment is not received as scheduled, your reservation may be automatically canceled and your deposit payment becomes forfeit. If you use a credit card as payment, for your convenience, you may opt to have Landa Cleary Travel Co., Inc charge your balance to the same authorized credit card on the registration form by simply calling us with your verbal authorization.

**Tour Membership:** To ensure a positive experience, the Landa Cleary Travel Co., Inc reserves the right to reject any client whose conduct is incompatible with the interest of the group. Landa Cleary Travel Co., Inc is not responsible for lost persons and for the expenses incurred while being lost. Each traveler assumes responsibility for staying with the group.

**Cancellations:** All cancellations must be received in writing to our company prior to tour departure during normal business hours (9:00am to 5:00pm CST, Mondays through Fridays). All Cancellations are subject to the following per person penalties prior to departure:

- 95 days or prior \$300.00
- 94 to 65 days 50% of tour
- 64 to 35 days 75% of tour
- 34 to 0 days No Refunds

No refund can be made for non-refundable airfare.

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LAND PROVIDED BY **KETZALTOURS**

**Travelers with Special Needs:** Passengers who require attention must advise the tour operator at the time of booking. A qualified and physically able companion must accompany travelers who need such assistance and must assume full responsibility for their well being. Coaches are not equipped with wheelchair accessible ramps, therefore all tour members must be able to mount 3 to 5 steps into the coach. **Participants should expect to walk an average of 1 to 5 miles per day.** Walking surfaces may at times be uneven. Landa Cleary Travel Co., Inc. is not responsible for denial of service by any suppliers.

**Young Travelers:** Travelers who are less than 18 years old on the departure date must be accompanied by an adult and must share the adult's accommodations. If a child will be traveling with adults other than the parents or with only one parent, it is highly recommended that a notarized letter be written by the parents or non-traveling parent granting authorization to travel, including the dates of travel. We suggest that you also contact the appropriate consulate and airlines because they may have additional requirements.

**Air Transportation:** We have selected airlines that are most suitable with land arrangements. All fares are subject to government approval and are subject to change without notice. Airfares are guaranteed once they have been paid in full and ticketed. Name changes required after tickets have been issued are subject to cancellation and re-ticketing at a higher fare or subject to change fees. Some airlines do not allow you to earn frequent flier miles for group bookings.

**Airline Seating:** Passengers who require specific seating due to medical conditions need to obtain Doctor's Orders so the airlines have proof of the condition and may accommodate the order. Passengers who desire a specific non-medical related seat are requested to contact the airline directly 30 days prior to departure for preferred seating. Group seating is solely under control of the airline. Group seating is solely under control of the airline.

**Voluntary changes to itinerary:** Independent voluntary changes to an individual passenger's itinerary are usually not permitted by most of our tour suppliers. Some exceptions may be granted in a case-by-case basis. If passenger purchased a land only package, they are free to plan their own itinerary before or after the trip (read Land Only bookings for restrictions). All change requests must be made prior to 45 days before departure.

**Not Included:** All items of a personal nature (room service, beverages, telephone charges, laundry, etc) and meals not specified on the tour itinerary are not included and must be paid by the passenger.

**Accommodations and Itinerary:** Land arrangements are provided as described in the tour program. The tour company reserves the right to change or substitute (1) hotels for accommodations in similar categories (2) or features of the itinerary in order to accommodate changes in the schedule.

**Meals:** Meals are provided as specified in the tour program. If you require special meals due to dietary restrictions, we must receive written details of your requirements at the time of booking.

**Passports:** Obtaining a passport is the sole responsibility of the passenger. Passports must be current and valid beyond the dates of travel. **Your airline ticket name must match your passport name or you may be denied boarding the airplane.** Passengers who are denied boarding due to discrepancies between ticket and passport names or because of expired passports accept full responsibility and are subject to the cancellation terms of the tour. Some countries such as Israel require that your passport be valid 6 months beyond your travel dates.

**Smoking:** Smoking is not allowed on the motorcoach but frequent stops are made throughout the day.

**Tips:** Gratuities for baggage, hotel and restaurants detailed in the itinerary are included. **Gratuities for Tour Guides, Local Guides and Motorcoach Drivers are not included – please see your final documents for recommendations on tipping.**

**Total Group Cancellation:** If it becomes necessary to cancel an entire tour prior to departure, Landa Cleary Travel Co., Inc. will offer the next available date or will make a full refund of money paid. Landa Cleary Travel Co., Inc. cannot accept responsibility for any additional personal costs or fees relating to such a tour booking or for any cancellation penalties due to non-refundable airfares, unless ticket is purchased as part of our negotiated group booking.

**Land Only Bookings:** Passenger(s) who desire to book their own airfare do at their own risk. Land only passengers are responsible for connecting with the group at the hotel. Passenger(s) accept all responsibility for costs incurred due to misconnections with the group. Landa Cleary Travel Co., Inc. cannot accept responsibility for any additional costs or fees relating to such a tour booking or for any cancellation penalties due to non-refundable airfares, unless ticket is purchased as part of our negotiated group booking.

**Luggage:** Handling of one piece of luggage per person is included in the cost of all tours. Luggage is carried at owner's risk throughout the tour (insurance suggested). Hand baggage and small articles such as coats, umbrellas or cameras are entirely in the care of the passenger. Size and weight limitations for carry-on and checked baggage vary from airline to airline and even according to destination, and are becoming more restrictive. Check your final documents for details of acceptable luggage dimensions and weight allowed on your tour. **All baggage and personal effects are at all times and in all circumstances at the risk of the passenger. Baggage insurance is recommended.**

**Validity:** Rates in this brochure are valid from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2008 to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2008 and are quoted on a per person sharing twin/double room basis. All prices are show in U.S. Dollars and are calculated on currency rates and fares exiting on January 2<sup>nd</sup> 2008. Landa Cleary Travel Co., Inc. reserves the right to alter prices at any time prior to departure and without prior notice due to currency exchange rates, taxes or fee increases.

Landa Cleary Travel Co., Inc and all dba's are not responsible for misprints on the brochures as well as in Landacleary.com, Relevantjourneys.com and Materdeitours.com. Every effort is made to ensure brochure accuracy at the time of going to press, however Landa Cleary Travel Co., Inc cannot be held responsible for printing or typographical errors, or errors arising from unforeseen circumstances. In the case of computer or human billing error we reserve the right to re-invoice passengers with correct billing.

**Travel Insurance:** Landa Cleary Travel Company, Inc. has automatically added travel insurance to your reservation in addition to your deposit or balance. You may choose to decline this option by checking the appropriate "decline insurance" box on the registration form. Pre-existing conditions can only be covered if premium payment is made within 15 days of your initial trip deposit. Landa Cleary Travel Company, Inc. uses Travel Guard, AIG insurance exclusively. **Travel Guard AIG Insurance does not cover general strikes in Israel and/or France.** Please see policy insert for details of coverage.



Mater Dei Tours

landa cleary  
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[www.relevantjourneys.com](http://www.relevantjourneys.com)

[www.truecatholicpilgrimages.com](http://www.truecatholicpilgrimages.com)

**For price plus taxes & fees information please see registration sheet.**

- Registration Deadline: **October 1st, while space lasts**
- Balance is due: **November 3rd, 2008**