

Proclamation of The Year of Faith in Italy

An 11 day Catholic Pilgrimage to Italy

From October 4th to the 14th, 2012

With Fr. John Putzer

from the Diocese of Madison, Wisconsin,
commemorating the 150th anniversary of the
Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary Parish
in Sun Prairie, Wisconsin.

From October 4th to the 14th, 2012



Sponsored by the
Diocese of Madison

11-Day Trip Inclusions:

- ★ Fr. John Putzer, from the Diocese of Madison, Wisconsin, as Spiritual Director and Chaplain for the Pilgrimage.
 - ★ Roundtrip Air transportation from **Chicago** to Italy (per itinerary). Airfare available from other cities. Please call for price difference.
 - ★ Private Motor-coach in Italy with driver complementing driven itinerary (however, some selected tours will require walking).
 - ★ Airport Transfers in Italy (for those flying with the group).
 - ★ Accommodations at fantastic properties in great locations.
 - ★ 16 Meals (9 Breakfasts & 5 Dinners & 2 Lunches).
 - ★ Expert local guides on our Vatican Tour, Imperial Rome, Christian Rome and Assisi tours.
 - ★ Admissions to all featured and selected visits of the touring program.
 - ★ Tour program features (for detailed inclusions read the daily itinerary):
 - * Visit the Eucharistic Miracle of Lanciano
 - * Visit to Loreto (Mary's Nazareth Home)
 - * Assisi (Home of St. Francis and St. Clare)
 - * Imperial Rome (Coliseum and Forum)
 - * Christian Rome: Catacombs of St. Callixtus, Holy Steps, Holy Cross of Jerusalem (relics of the Holy Cross), St. John Lateran, St. Mary Major and St. Paul Outside the Walls (Tomb of St. Paul).
 - * Vatican City including Vatican Museum, Sistine Chapel and St. Peter's.
 - * A leisure walk of Old Rome (Piazza Navona, Pantheon, Trevi Fountain & more)
 - ★ **Papal General Audience***
- NOTE:** * ALL PAPAL ACTIVITIES ARE PENDING ON THE HOLY FATHER'S SCHEDULE..
- ★ Tour Director: **Juan Landa**, from Mater Dei Tours.
 - ★ Italian Tour Escort/Translator accompanies group while in Italy.
 - ★ Full documentation packet with luggage tags & re-usable wallet.
 - ★ Spiritual program including daily Mass, Rosaries, Divine Mercy Chaplet, Meditations, Sacrament of Reconciliation.
 - ★ Hotel sales tax, Italian hospitality taxes & service charges.

Does not include:

- ◆ Tour Guides' and Motor-coach Chauffeur's gratuities
(See registration for price, terms & conditions)

NOTE: Although a motor-coach is provided for some of the tours, it is important to point out that all Italian tours require a considerable amount of **walking**.



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- Motor-Coach Travel

Mater Dei Tours
Making Travel Relevant



Fr. John Putzer
Diocese of
Madison, WI



▲ **Michelangelo's Pieta**
St. Peter's Basilica



Fontana di Trevi
Trevi Fountain ▶



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Day 1: Thursday, October 4th, 2012: US departure

Depart the U.S. for Rome, Italy (with 1 connection), and enjoy dinner, drinks and video entertainment onboard as you fly to the European continent. Airfare included from Chicago, IL. (Airfare is available from other cities for an additional price. Please call for more information.) Meet Fr. John Putzer (Chaplain) at Chicago O'Hare. Meet Juan Landa (Tour Director) at your connection city. (M)

Day 2: Friday, October 5th: Arrive in Italy and travel to Assisi.

Arrive in Fiumicino Airport, collect your luggage and enjoy a relaxing drive to the peaceful Umbria region, to the land of St. Francis and St. Clare. Arrive in lower Assisi to pray at the 'Porziuncula' (the first Franciscan house), the Transit Chapel (where St. Francis died), and the thorn-less rose garden, all inside the stunning St. Mary of the Angels Basilica. After this visit travel to upper Assisi, enter its medieval walls to check in at our hotel. Mass will be celebrated here in thanksgiving for a safe journey. Enjoy a welcome dinner in Assisi with your fellow pilgrims. Leisure time after dinner. (M, D)



Day 5: Monday, October 8th: Lanciano, Crossing of the Apennine Mountain Range and Rome.

Travel south this morning with beautiful views of the Adriatic Sea (on your left side) until we reach the small picturesque town of Lanciano. Lanciano is home to the oldest Eucharistic Miracle in Church history. Witness this amazing Miracle where the Consecrated Host transformed into human heart tissue! Mass to be celebrated here. After our visit to Lanciano, enjoy majestic views as we cross the massive Apennine Mountain Range which runs from the north to the south of Italy. Arrive this early evening at the Capital of Italy and ancient home of the greatest empire in western civilization, Roma. Enjoy a "Welcome to Roma" dinner tonight. (B, D)

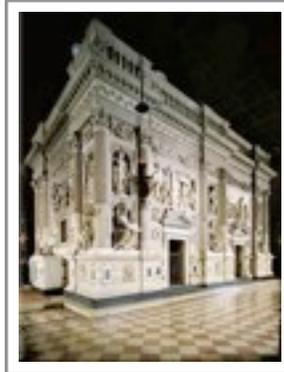


Day 3: Saturday: October 6th: Assisi, all day.

Enjoy a walking tour of Assisi including the Lower and Upper Basilicas of St. Francis filled with world famous Giotto frescoes that depict the lives of Jesus and St. Francis, as well as other saints. Visit the tombs of St. Francis and his disciples. Visit other important sights such as the place of St. Francis' birth, his home, also the Basilica di Santa Chiara where the remains of St. Clare can be found in its crypt. You will also be



able to pray before the famous Cross of San Damiano in this Basilica (the Cross that spoke to St. Francis). Holy Mass to be celebrated here or at St. Francis Basilica. After the tour, experience a beautiful musical about St. Claire "Chiara de Dio". Remainder of the day at leisure. Dinner at our hotel. (B, D)



Day 4: Sunday, October 7th: Loreto and Adriatic Coast.

Start the day with an unforgettable visit to a little piece of the Holy Land at the Marian Shrine of Loreto! See the beautiful Madonna of Loreto and visit the Holy House of Nazareth, where Mary received the Annunciation. Only 3 walls are present because the fourth wall is actually a grotto in Nazareth. Archeological studies have scientifically matched these two places. A pious tradition tells us that the Holy House was transported to Loreto by Angels in order to protect it from invading infidels. This Shrine has been frequented by many Popes and Saints. Holy Mass has been requested at the Holy House. There will be an opportunity for Confessions* here (*This Sacrament is a prerequisite to obtain the plenary indulgence offered by the Church for this Pilgrimage). After our visit to Loreto, head towards the Adriatic coast of Italy and arrive in Civitanova near the sea. Check-in at our hotel and join your fellow pilgrims for dinner (B, D)

Day 6: Tuesday, October 9th: Vatican (Vatican Museum, Sistine Chapel & St. Peter's).

Start the day with Mass at St. Peter's Basilica. Afterwards, tour the impressive Museo Vaticano (Vatican Museum) with a fascinating collection of historical artifacts and precious objects of art, including the magnificent Cappella Sistina (Sistine Chapel) with the famous Michelangelo frescoes featuring the Last Judgment. Then tour the largest Church in the world, the Basilica di San Pietro (St. Peter's Basilica). There will be a chance to pay respects to Blessed John Paul the Great at his tomb and visit the Crypt of St. Peter - under the main Altar of St. Peter's Basilica, where the remains of the first Pope lay, surrounded by the tombs of many Popes. After the tours, join your group for a delicious lunch near St. Peter's. Time for shopping on your own follows. (Remember to bring all religious items to the papal Audience tomorrow for a Papal Blessing) (B,L)



Mater Dei's Inspiring Italy - Catholic Pilgrimage

Meals' Legend:
 M = Airplane Meals B = Breakfast
 L = Lunch D = Dinner

Day 7: Wednesday, October 10th: Papal Audience: Join

pilgrims from all over the world for a once in a lifetime experience, a general **Audience with Pope Benedict XVI** at the Vatican (pending the Holy Father's schedule). After the Pope's message, the Holy Father will impart his blessing on you and your family (bring your personal religious articles – rosaries, etc... - as they will be blessed too). After the audience, enjoy **lunch** with your fellow pilgrims. Afterwards, enjoy a leisure afternoon on your own or you may want to join us on an informal relaxed walk through the old streets of Rome to stroll by famous and classic places like **Castel Sant'Angelo, Bridge of the Holy Angels, Piazza Navona, The Pantheon, Trevi Fountain and Spanish Steps**. Depending on church hours, visit **St. Augustine** (housing the remains of St. Monica), **Santa Maria Sopra Minerva** (housing the remains of St. Catherine of Siena), **St. Ignatius Church**, housing the remains of St. Robert Bellarmine and St. Aloysius. **Mass** will be celebrated at one of these churches. Depending on time, the walk might also include a brief visit to the **Pontifical University of Santa Croce** if time allows. Evening at leisure. (B, L)



Day 8: Thursday, October 11th: Proclamation of the Year of Faith.

After breakfast, prepare to travel to the assigned location where the the Holy Father **Pope Benedict XVI**, is scheduled to proclaim the beginning of the "Year of Faith". Experience this beautiful event as well as any other activity planned by the Vatican to celebrate the important commencement of this historic year in the history of the Church. Remainder of the day at leisure in Rome. (B)

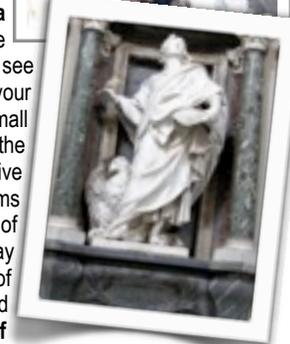
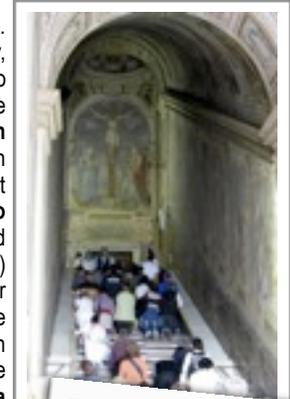


Day 9: Friday, October 12th: Imperial Rome: Start the day with a relaxing coach heading south to the Capital of Italy and ancient home of the greatest empire in western civilization, **Rome**. Upon arrival, travel to the past to witness the splendor of **Imperial Rome!** The tour includes a visit inside the famous **Flavian Amphitheater (Coliseum)** built in 72 AD, flanked on one side by the **Arch of Constantine** which commemorates his victory just outside of Rome. An event Constantine attributed to a Heavenly vision which prophesied his victory if he would have his army fight under a Christian symbol as their standard on all their shields and banners. The Coliseum is surrounded by the massive **Roman Forum**. Divided into several sectors constructed by each different emperor. Then from the coach, enjoy a panoramic sightseeing tour including the first "shopping mall", the massive **Circus Maximus**, the **Vittorio Emanuel II** monument ("wedding cake building" – housing the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier), **Piazza Venezia** with the old Venice embassy (used by Mussolini for his famous speeches), the **Capitoline Hill, Caracala Baths** and more! Leisure evening in Rome. (B)



Day 10: Saturday, October 13th: Christian Rome.

Embark on an unforgettable excursion of the treasures of our faith. First, travel south down the **'Via Apia'** (Apian Way) for a powerful journey experiencing how our early brothers and sisters survived and persevered in preserving our Lord's Church. Tour through an amazing complex of underground tunnels with an unending number of crypts, mausoleum tombs and chapels that fill every passageway that comprise the **Catacombs of St. Callixtus**. One of the highlights of this visit will be the place where the body of St. Cecilia was found. A very realistic statue that marks this place portrays the way her body laid, giving a final and resounding testimony to the Blessed Trinity at the time of her death. Then visit the **Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Walls**, one of the 4 Patriarchal Basilicas of the Church. Although mostly rebuilt in the 19th century, this Basilica conserves the shape of the original St. Peter's Basilica. In addition to having portraits of every Pope, St. Paul Outside the Walls is most famous for housing the remains of **St. Paul**. After this visit, travel to **St. Mary Major** (another one of the 4 Patriarchal Basilicas) where you can see relics of the **Manger from Bethlehem**. Commissioned in the year 360AD approximately, **Santa Maria** is the first Basilica to be dedicated to the Virgin Mary (Our Lady of the Snows). The famous icon of **Mary, Health of the Roman People**, believed to be painted by St. Luke, can be found in the beautiful **Cappella Paolina** built by Paul V. Then visit **San Giovanni Laterano** (St. John Lateran), the Cathedral of Rome (and another one of the Church's four major Basilicas) originally dedicated to Christ Our Savior, and later to St. John the Baptist and to St. John the Evangelist. Adjoining is the Lateran Palace which was the official residence of the Popes before the Avignon captivity. Afterwards, visit the **'Scala Sancta'** (**Holy Stairs**) where you may climb the same steps Our Lord climbed on the way to see Pontius Pilate. The climb may only be done on your knees. Approximately on every 5 steps, a small circled glass window allows the pilgrim to see the real marble steps below the wooden protective cover. It has been said that at one point pilgrims could still see the marble with drops of the blood of Christ through these small windows. End our day at **'Santa Croce in Gerusalemme'** (Holy Cross of Jerusalem), where incredible relics can be found (fragments of the **Holy Cross, one Nail, part of the inscription INRI, two thorns from the Crown of Thorns, fragments of the pillar of the scourging and of the rock of the Holy Sepulcher**). We owe these beautiful relics, including the Holy Stairs, to St. Helena, the mother of Rome's first Christian Emperor, Constantine. **Mass** requested at the catacombs. Tonight, enjoy a **Festive Farewell Dinner** (with your new pilgrim family). (B, D)



Day 11: Sunday, October 14th: Arrivederci Roma!

Transfer to the airport this morning for our flight to the U.S.A. As our airplane takes off, we take one last look at the beautiful land that now holds a special place in our hearts, and say **Arrivederci Italia!**

Upon arrival in the USA, clear US Immigrations and Customs.

Photo Credits:
 Stephen Pontus
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Welcome Home!

General Terms & Conditions

General Terms & 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 its 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.

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 between 1 and 3 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.

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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.

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 motor-coach 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 Motor-coach 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 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 for the travel period stated on the brochure, 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 March 9th, 2012. 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, fees or fuel surcharges increases.

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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.

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

Registration deadline:

June 29th, 2012*

* "First come first serve" basis.

Space may be sold out prior to deadline.

Don't wait! Register NOW!

Balance due: July 20th, 2012



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