

A 12 Days Pilgrimage to Rome and Northern Italy

with Fr. Bernard D'Sa

Sacred Heart, St. Bernard, & St. Joseph Catholic Churches

04/13/2026 - 04/24/2026

Day 1

Departure: From your local USA international airport. This evening we begin our journey to Europe. Meals will be served during our overnight flight.

Day 2

Welcome to Italy. Upon arrival, we are greeted by our English-speaking guide, who will meet us at the airport to assist with luggage and boarding our bus. Our panoramic tour of Milan includes views of the Sforzesco Castle and La Scala Opera House. We visit the Galleria Vittorio Emanuele and celebrate Mass at the Basilica of Saint Ambrose (TBC). After Mass, check into our hotel in Milan for dinner and overnight. (D)

Day 3

After breakfast, we will take a 90-minute drive to Turin. Our first stop in Turin is the Basilica of Maria Ausiliatrice, where the tombs of Saint John Bosco, Saint Mary Mazzarello, and Saint Dominic Savio are located. Our next stop is to see the famous Shroud of Turin. Although the Shroud is rarely on display, only by a special decree of the Holy Father, we will see the replica at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist, where the actual Shroud is kept in special climate-controlled conditions. Should the Shroud be on exhibit during our pilgrimage, we will see the actual Shroud. We visit the tomb of the new young saint Pier Giorgio Frassati, whose body was found incorrupt when transferred to this cathedral in 1981. Mass will be celebrated. Return to Milan for dinner and overnight (B,D)

Day 4

This morning we check out and drive towards east for approx 2,5 hours. Will board a motor launch and travel through the canals to the islands of Venice. Upon arrival we celebrate Mass and have time for lunch. In the afternoon, our walking tour will include a visit to one of the glass factories for which the city is so famous, St. Mark's Basilica and Square, and views of the Doge's Palace, (outside) the Bridge of Sighs and Rialto Bridge. Enjoy some time at leisure for an optional gondola ride arranged by our tour manager, before embarking the motor boat and continue to the hotel for check in, dinner and overnight stay in Mestre. (B, D)

Day 5

This morning we will celebrate early morning Mass at St Anthony's Basilica in Padova, before proceeding our journey to Tuscany. (4 hrs drive) No visit to Italy could be complete without experiencing the breath-taking view of its most famous landmark . . . but the Leaning Tower of Pisa is just one of a quartet of spectacular buildings on Pisa's 'Field of Miracles,' which also includes the Cathedral, Baptistry and Cemetery. Continue to the SPA village of Montecatini Terme, where we will spend the next two nights dinner and overnight. (B, D)

Day 6

Today we will drive to Florence (1,5 hrs drive) and experience its heritage as we begin our morning walking tour. We will visit the Accademia, where we will see Michelangelo's famous David; the Duomo and Giotto's Tower; the Baptistry's Gates of Paradise; the open-air gallery of Signoria Square; and Santa Croce Church where Michelangelo is buried. The remainder of the day is ours to relax, or better yet - to become better acquainted A Proposal for a 12 Days Pilgrimage to Rome & Northern Italy with this lively city where the artistic heritage of the Renaissance is part of everyday life. Return to our hotel in Montecatini, dinner and overnight (B, D)

Day 7

We check out after breakfast and drive through the rolling hills of Tuscany to visit San Gimignano, the most remarkable of the medieval, Tuscan hill towns, where time seems to have stood still since the Middle Ages. We will have some free time in this town. After lunch, continue to Siena. where we stroll through narrow Gothic streets lined with palaces and patrician mansions. We'll visit the magnificent Cathedral, as well as the birthplace of St. Catherine of Siena. In the afternoon, we celebrate Mass before continuing to Assisi and its spectacular location in the heart of Umbria. Overnight in Assisi. (B, D)

Day 8

This morning we will explore this hilltop, walled town, which is a monument to the all-embracing spirituality inspired by St. Francis. We will tour the Basilica of St. Clare, the Piazza del Comune, and the Basilica of St. Francis (where Mass will be requested at the tomb of St. Francis), after which there will be some free time to absorb the unique atmosphere of this special place. Our tour includes also the Santuario Della Spogliazione where Saint Carlo Acutis' tomb is placed. Carlo is the first millennial to be declared saint, who loved the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist -Break for lunch. This afternoon we will visit a winery and enjoy a wine tasting. Return to the hotel for dinner and overnight (BD)



Day 9

Breakfast and check out. We will depart Assisi to pause in the valley below the town and visit the Basilica of Santa Maria degli Angeli with its Porziuncola - the chapel given by the Benedictines to St. Francis and his followers, which became the cradle of the Franciscan Order. Celebrate Mass. We then continued to Rome, where upon arrival we explore the enduring legacy of the Roman Empire by coach and on foot - we will see the Baths of Caracalla, the Circus Maximus, Palatine and Capitoline Hills, the Roman Forum and the Colosseum. Continue to the hotel for dinner and overnight. (B, D)



Day 11

This morning is dedicated to the Vatican State - we will visit its Museums, the Sistine Chapel, and St. Peter's Basilica and Square. Break for lunch. The afternoon walking tour starts at the Trevi Fountain and continue to see the Pantheon (outside). We reach St. Augustin church to celebrate Mass, before time at leisure for shopping. Enjoy time at leisure for shopping, before farewell dinner at a local restaurant (B Farewell dinner)



Day 10

This morning we will participate in the Papal Audience, which will be requested for our entire group. Break for lunch. In the early afternoon, our Christian Rome tour starts with a visit to the Basilica of St. John in Lateran, the Mother Church of Rome, which houses a table on which the Apostle Peter many times has celebrated the Eucharist during his stay in Rome. Then we will visit the Basilica of St. Mary Major, which is one of the oldest and most important shrines in the world dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary, and Holy Stairs. Mass will be celebrated at St. Mary Major. Return to the hotel for dinner and overnight. (B, D)



Day 12

Rome / USA: This morning we say 'Arrivederci' to Italy and to our tour manager as we transfer to Rome Airport to begin our journey home. We arrive in the US in the early evening. Welcome Home!

**If you are satisfied with the services of your local team and would like to tip, we recommend \$7.00 per day per person to the Tour Guide, \$5.00 per day per person to the Bus Driver, and \$3.00 per day per person to the Hotel Team.*

Mass/Service will be celebrated daily if possible

\$5,475 per person

on double occupancy basis

**\$975 extra per single room*

**\$499 extra per triple room*

-This Price Does Include:

- Round trip airfare, including all airline taxes
- Meet and assist upon arrival and departure at Rome airport
- Accommodation in 4-star hotels on H/B basis
- Transportation in a Modern Coach for all the tour days with Wi-Fi
- Excellent English and/or Spanish speaking tour guide
- Entrance fees to all sights, as mentioned in itinerary
- European adapter/transformer
- Portage at hotels
- Trip brochure, itinerary, and name tag
- Daily Mass/Service (if requested)

-This Price Does NOT Include:

- Health, cancellation, or baggage insurance
- Items of personal use (laundry, phone calls, and charger)
- Meals not mentioned in the program
- Items not mentioned above on the itinerary
- Lunch on road, beverages (alcohol), gratuities for hotel, guide, or driver
- Transportation to and from US airport
- Passport/Visa costs (if any)
- Trip cancellation protection
- Travel insurance
- Professional pictures taken

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