



13 Day Holy Land Pilgrimage

Walk in the Footsteps of Jesus

With Fr. Daniel Roa and Rev. Alan Acevedo

December 28, 2026 – January 9, 2027

Journey through Galilee, Bethlehem and Jerusalem, visiting the sacred places associated with the life, ministry, Passion and Resurrection of Jesus. The program combines guided visits, scheduled Masses and time for personal prayer during the Christmas season.

DAY 01 • MONDAY DECEMBER 28

Depart the United States

Depart the United States for Tel Aviv's Ben Gurion International Airport. Begin the pilgrimage with international travel and time in transit. Follow the airline itinerary for check-in, connections and departure times.

DAY 02 • TUESDAY DECEMBER 29

Travel onward to the Holy Land

Continue the international journey. Lufthansa flight LH 682 is scheduled to arrive at Ben Gurion Airport at 12:35 a.m. on Wednesday, December 30. This arrival falls after midnight, at the beginning of Day 3.

After arrival formalities, meet the tour guide and transfer to the Mount of Beatitudes accommodation in the Tiberias and Sea of Galilee area. Meal service on arrival is subject to the late-night transfer schedule.

Overnight: Mount of Beatitudes, Galilee area

DAY 03 • WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 30

Sea of Galilee and the ministry of Jesus

Enjoy a late breakfast following the overnight arrival. At 11:00 a.m., begin the day's sightseeing with a boat ride across the Sea of Galilee. Continue to Capernaum to visit the ancient synagogue and the traditional site of St. Peter's house.

Visit Tabgha, associated with the multiplication of the loaves and fishes, and St. Peter's Church by the lake. Celebrate Mass at the Mount of Beatitudes, followed by dinner and overnight.

Mass: 2:00 p.m. at the Mount of Beatitudes

Overnight: Mount of Beatitudes, Galilee area

Galilee and Bethlehem

DAY 04 • THURSDAY DECEMBER 31

Mount Carmel and the shores of Galilee

After breakfast, travel to Mount Carmel for Mass and a visit that explores the mountain's biblical significance. Enjoy the views and time to reflect on the places connected with the pilgrimage.

Continue to Nof Ginosar to see the ancient fishing boat commonly called the "Jesus Boat." Proceed to Magdala to visit the archaeological site and church, exploring another important location on the shores of the Sea of Galilee. Return to the accommodation for dinner and overnight.

Mass: 9:00 a.m. at Mount Carmel

Overnight: Mount of Beatitudes, Galilee area

DAY 05 • FRIDAY JANUARY 1

Cana Nazareth and Mount Tabor

After breakfast, drive to Cana of Galilee, which commemorates Jesus' first miracle of turning water into wine. Celebrate Mass with renewal of marriage vows.

Continue to Nazareth to visit the Basilica of the Annunciation, Mary's Well, St. Joseph's Church and the Old Synagogue. The visits offer an opportunity to reflect on the Annunciation and the Holy Family's life in Nazareth.

Travel onward to Mount Tabor and visit the Church of the Transfiguration. After the visits, continue to Bethlehem for dinner and overnight.

Mass: 11:00 a.m. at Cana, with renewal of marriage vows

Overnight: St. Elias Hotel, Bethlehem

DAY 06 • SATURDAY JANUARY 2

The birthplace of Jesus

After breakfast, begin with a visit to Herodion. Continue to Shepherds' Field, where the pilgrimage recalls the announcement of Christ's birth to the shepherds.

Visit the Milk Grotto, then proceed to the Church of the Nativity. Allow time to experience the sacred setting of Bethlehem and join the group for Mass at St. Jerome. Return to the hotel for dinner and overnight.

Mass: St. Jerome; time to be confirmed

Overnight: St. Elias Hotel, Bethlehem

Jerusalem and the Judean Desert

DAY 07 • SUNDAY JANUARY 3

Mount of Olives and Mount Zion

After breakfast, drive to the Mount of Olives for a panoramic view of Jerusalem. Visit the Chapel of the Ascension and Pater Noster Church, then continue to Dominus Flevit, the Garden of Gethsemane and the Church of All Nations.

The route invites reflection on Jesus' prayer and Passion. Later, travel to Mount Zion to visit Dormition Abbey, David's Tomb, the Cenacle or Upper Room, and St. Peter in Gallicantu. Return to Bethlehem for overnight.

Mass: 11:00 a.m. at Dominus Flevit or the Garden of Gethsemane; venue to be confirmed

Overnight: St. Elias Hotel, Bethlehem

DAY 08 • MONDAY JANUARY 4

The Old City and the Holy Sepulchre

After breakfast, enter Jerusalem's Old City. Visit St. Anne's Church and the Pool of Bethesda, followed by the Chapel of the Flagellation. Continue along the Via Dolorosa toward the Church of the Holy Sepulchre.

Celebrate Mass at the Holy Sepulchre and reflect on the Passion and Resurrection of Jesus. Continue through the Old City to the Western Wall before returning to Bethlehem for overnight.

Mass: 11:00 a.m. at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre

Overnight: St. Elias Hotel, Bethlehem

DAY 09 • TUESDAY JANUARY 5

Bethany Jericho Qumran and the Dead Sea

After breakfast, visit Bethany and the traditional site of the Tomb of Lazarus. Continue to Jericho to see Tell es-Sultan, the Mount of Temptation and the traditional site of the sycamore tree associated with Zacchaeus.

Visit Qumran, connected with the discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls, then continue to the Dead Sea. There may be an opportunity to enter the water, subject to conditions and the day's schedule. Return to Bethlehem for overnight.

Mass: 9:00 a.m. at Bethany

Overnight: St. Elias Hotel, Bethlehem

Christmas in Bethlehem and the Journey Home

DAY 10 • WEDNESDAY JANUARY 6

Bethlehem during Orthodox Christmas

After breakfast, experience Bethlehem during the Orthodox Christmas season. Explore Manger Square and the Old City, with visits to the Church of the Nativity and the Milk Grotto.

Enjoy the seasonal decorations and local atmosphere. Music, celebrations and Christmas market activities depend on the local schedule and access. Dinner and overnight in Bethlehem.

Mass: Shepherds' Field; time to be confirmed

Overnight: St. Elias Hotel, Bethlehem

DAY 11 • THURSDAY JANUARY 7

Ein Karem Abu Ghosh and Latrun

After breakfast, drive to Ein Karem, traditionally associated with the birthplace of St. John the Baptist. Visit the Church of the Visitation, the Church of St. John the Baptist and Mary's Spring.

In the afternoon, continue to the historic Benedictine monastery at Abu Ghosh and the Cistercian monastery at Latrun, subject to opening times and accessibility. Return to Bethlehem for a farewell dinner and a cultural performance by a Dabkeh group.

Mass: 9:00 or 10:00 a.m. at the Church of the Visitation; time to be confirmed

Overnight: St. Elias Hotel, Bethlehem

DAY 12 • FRIDAY JANUARY 8

Free day in Bethlehem

After breakfast, enjoy a free day for personal activities, shopping, relaxation or optional visits. Revisit places of personal significance as circumstances allow. Dinner and overnight in Bethlehem.

Overnight: St. Elias Hotel, Bethlehem

DAY 13 • SATURDAY JANUARY 9

Departure from the Holy Land

Departure day. Follow the final flight and transfer instructions provided for the group. Return flight and airport transfer times will be confirmed.

Pilgrimage Contacts

Guide: Hanna Khoury | +972 54 751 9534

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Itinerary and Mass schedules are subject to adjustment based on the guide's recommendations, site access and unforeseen circumstances. Final flight, hotel and service details will be provided by the organizer.