



Proposed Itinerary for
Our Lady of Victory National Shrine & Basilica

Rev. Msgr. David G. LiPuma, Executive Vice President

Mr. David Kersten, Chief Executive Officer

Footsteps of Venerable Nelson Baker

10-Day Journey Tracing Fr. Baker's Pilgrimage in May 1874

April 30 - May 9, 2024

Lourdes ∞ Paris ∞ Rome ∞ Vatican City

INCLUSIONS:

- **Airlines:** Round-trip economy class airfare on Air France/Delta Air Lines: New York/Paris/Rome/New York.
- **Airlines:** Round-trip economy class airfare on Air France: Paris/Lourdes/Paris.
- U.S. departure tax; Customs user fee; security tax and all airport departure taxes.
- Meeting and assistance upon departure from New York's JFK International Airport.
- **Accommodation:** Eight (8) nights' accommodation in twin rooms with private facilities at hotels.
- **Meals:** Breakfast and dinner daily, **including a farewell dinner with wine and entertainment at a restaurant in Rome.**
- **Coach Transportation:** Deluxe motor-coach transportation upon arrival and throughout the journey.
- **Tour Management:** Full-time tour manager throughout the entire tour, including arrival and departure transfers. Peter's Way Tours local and overseas staff are available 24 hours daily to render assistance whenever needed.
- **Excursions:** All sightseeing conducted by licensed, professional, English-speaking guides as outlined in the itinerary.
- Entrance fees to all sights, as per itinerary included.
- Porter service (one piece of luggage, per person) at hotels throughout.
- **Coordination of daily liturgies as per itinerary.**
- **Tour brochures:** Special promotional brochures printed for your distribution.
- Peter's Way travel documents, travel wallet, luggage tags, name badge, and complimentary copy of MAGNIFICAT prayer book.
- **Liability Insurance:** Three million-dollar Peter's Way Tours Inc. Liability Insurance coverage.

EXCLUSIONS:

- Health, trip cancellation/interruption or baggage insurance. All are strongly recommended. Peter's Way Tours offers a comprehensive policy at additional cost.
- Passport & visa costs, if any.
- **U.S. Passports must be valid for at least six (6) months after return date.**
- Items of a personal nature (hotel extras, laundry, phone calls, etc.).
- Meals not specified in the program.
- Gratuities to the tour manager, local guides, and driver.
- Items not specifically mentioned above.



OLV National Shrine & Basilica

A Father Baker Legacy

We are holding 40 seats via Delta/Air France Alliance from New York JFK International Airport:

Departure City	Arrival City	Airline/Flight	Departure Date/Time	Arrival Date/Time
New York JFK	Paris CDG	Air France #3	April 30 – 5:30 pm	May 1 – 6:45 am
Paris CDG	Pau PUF	Air France #7490	May 1 – 8:10 am	May 1 – 9:40 am
Pau PUF	Paris CDG	Air France #7491	May 3 – 10:20 am	May 3 – 11:50 am
Paris CDG	Rome FCO	Air France #1204	May 5 – 7:00 am	May 5 – 9:00 am
Rome FCO	New York JFK	Delta #183	May 9 – 9:45 am	May 9 – 1:30 pm

Please note: Flight itinerary subject to change without notice.

“ITINERARY”

Day 1, April 30, Tuesday: Depart for France

Today: Depart New York’s JFK International Airport on Air France for our overseas journey to Lourdes via Paris. Complimentary dinner (D), breakfast (B), and beverages will be served in flight.

Day 2, May 1, Wednesday: Welcome to Lourdes!

Morning: Arrive in Paris, proceed through Passport Control, and connect to the short flight to Pau. Arrive at Pau Airport, claim our luggage, and meet our Peter’s Way guide as we exit Customs. Board our private touring bus and we will be on our way to Lourdes for hotel check-in.

The afternoon is free for a visit to the Shrine Domain. Return to the hotel for dinner.

Evening: **This evening, participate in the candlelight procession, recitation of the Rosary, and singing of hymns to honor the Mother of God.**

Overnight at our hotel in Lourdes. (B,D)

Day 3, May 2, Thursday: Full Day in Lourdes

Morning: Breakfast at our hotel. **Celebrate Mass at the Grotto** (to be confirmed). Begin our day of pilgrimage at the **sanctuary of Our Lady of Lourdes**. Known throughout the world, it is here that the Virgin Mary appeared to the uneducated shepherdess, Bernadette Soubirous, as the Immaculate Conception. The grotto is a place of prayer for all the pilgrims who flock here, many on pilgrimages for the sick. Visit the places associated with the life of St. Bernadette in Lourdes, including the **Boly Mill** where she grew up and the *cachot* where her family moved later in her life. The sanctuary offers an atmosphere to deepen one’s relationship with the Virgin Mary.



Afternoon: Independent lunch and free day for private devotions. *Due to the current health situation, it is no longer possible to bathe completely. However, members of the hospitality staff and volunteers are available to welcome you to the baths and accompany you to perform the “Water Gesture.”*

The Blessed Sacrament procession is held daily at 5:00 p.m.

The Chapel of Reconciliation is open daily.

Dinner at the hotel restaurant.

Evening: **Participate in the candlelight procession, recitation of the Rosary, and singing of hymns to honor the Mother of God.**

Overnight at our hotel in Lourdes. (B,D)

Day 4, May 3, Friday: Paris

- Morning:** Breakfast at our hotel. This morning, we'll be transferred to Pau Airport for our continuing flight to Paris. Upon arrival at Paris CDG Airport, collect our luggage and meet our guide who will take us to our private touring coach. We'll make a brief stop for an independent lunch.
- Afternoon:** Then, our guide will bring alive the remarkable sights of the magnificent city of Paris: the Eiffel Tower, Champs Elysées, Arc de Triomphe, Tomb of Napoleon, Place de la Concorde, Opéra, Bastille Square, and the Place des Vosges. End our day with a visit to the Minor Basilica of Our Lady of Victories. Built in Paris by Louis XIII, the Shrine of Our Lady of Victories is one of the most famous Marian places in the world, well known for the many graces bestowed by the Virgin Mary on all pilgrims who come to visit her. It was here, in 1875, that Nelson Baker felt a special pull on his heart during Mass. Several other saints have direct associations with Notre-Dame des Victoires, including St. Peter Julian Eymard and St. Thérèse of Lisieux. **Celebrate Mass at the Basilica of Our Lady of Victories.** Continue to our hotel for check-in.
- Evening:** Dinner and overnight at our hotel in Paris. (B,D)



Day 5, May 4, Saturday: Shrines of Paris | Seine River Cruise

- Morning:** Breakfast at our hotel. Begin our day with a visit to the **Shrine of the Miraculous Medal**, located in the heart of Paris at Rue de Bac. **Celebrate Mass in the Chapel of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal.** This chapel is the very place where our Blessed Mother appeared to St. Catherine Labouré between July and December of 1830. Continue to the nearby **Shrine of St. Vincent de Paul**, where his remains are preserved and venerated. Next, we'll continue to the **Ile de la Cité**, in the historic heart of Paris, to see the façade of **Notre Dame Cathedral**, a jewel of gothic art. Visit **Sainte-Chapelle**, a real hidden treasure. Discover the lower part of the chapel with its open design and bright colors, and the upper part flooded with light from its dazzling stained-glass windows. The chapel is an architectural feat with nothing comparable in the world. The relics of the Crown of Thorns were originally housed here prior to their transfer to Notre Dame Cathedral. Independent lunch.
- Afternoon:** Visit the **Basilica of the Sacred Heart** in Montmartre, a sanctuary of Eucharistic Adoration and Divine Mercy. In 1870, war broke out and France was invaded. People grew to believe that that the ordeals undergone by France were due to spiritual faults rather than merely political ones. This led to the construction of a basilica dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus in atonement, which became a symbol of hope and spiritual renewal. Continuous adoration of the Eucharist is the vocation of the basilica.
- Evening:** **Dinner at a restaurant in Paris.** After dinner, enjoy a **cruise on the Seine River**. See history spanning 1,000 years while passing bridges and the main illuminated monuments of Paris. Overnight at our hotel in Paris. (B,D)



Day 6, May 5, Sunday: Paris | Rome

- Morning:** Boxed breakfast from our hotel. Very early morning, we will be transferred to Paris Charles de Gaulle Airport for our continuing flight to Rome. Upon arrival at Leonardo Da Vinci Airport, claim our luggage, and meet a Peter's Way tour manager. Board our private touring bus and we'll be on our way to Rome in time for the **noon Angelus and Papal Blessing in St. Peter's Square**. Independent lunch.
- Afternoon:** Free afternoon to enjoy Rome on your own. Check-in at our hotel and return to St. Peter's Basilica. **Celebrate 5:00 p.m. Mass at the Altar of the Chair of St. Peter.**
- Evening:** Dinner and overnight at our hotel in Rome. (B,D)

Day 7, May 6, Monday: Vatican Museums | Sistine Chapel | St. Peter's Basilica | Scavi Tour

- Morning:** Early morning, walk to St. Peter's Basilica to **celebrate Mass at the Tomb of St. Peter** (*subject to confirmation*) or **one of the Grotto Chapels**. Return to hotel for breakfast. After breakfast, begin our morning of sightseeing with a visit to one of the great art collections in the world, the Vatican Museums. Walk through the Sistine Chapel and contemplate the frescoes of numerous Renaissance masters and the inspired ceiling of Michelangelo. End our morning tour in St. Peter's Basilica. Take in the awesome architecture and the statuary including Michelangelo's magnificent "Pieta." Pray at the tomb of Saint John Paul II in St. Sebastian's Chapel. *Time permitting, you may wish to go to the Vatican Crypt to see and pray near the tomb of St. Peter.* Independent lunch.
- Afternoon:** Free afternoon to enjoy Rome on your own. **Scavi Tour** (*subject to confirmation*): The Scavi, or Vatican Necropolis, is the underground excavation under St. Peter's Basilica. In 1939, Pope Pius XII ordered an excavation beneath the grotto of St. Peter's Basilica where many popes are buried. Among the tombs of pagans and early Christians, far beneath the high altar of St. Peter's, excavators found a shrine amid the rubble. Most scholars concur that the small column is part of a second-century A.D. shrine built by Rome's small Christian community on the site where St. Peter was buried. **All tours of the Scavi are subject to confirmation by the Vatican Office. Tours are one hour in length and limited to 12-15 people.*
- Evening:** **Dinner at La Vittoria Restaurant.** Overnight at our hotel in Rome. (B,D)



Day 8, May 7, Tuesday: Tour of Imperial and Historic Rome

Morning: Breakfast at our hotel

Begin our day with Mass at the Magnificent Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Walls. After Mass, continue to the ancient Roman Forum. See the Arch of Titus and the Arch of Constantine and proceed to the outside of the Colosseum for a fascinating explanation of its history. We will also see the grandiose white marble monument of King Victor Emmanuel II, often called the "Wedding Cake." See the Trajan Column and the Market (the ancient Roman equivalent of a department store). Independent lunch.



Afternoon: Enjoy a walking tour of historic Rome. As we visit churches and walk through squares with ornate grand fountains, we will understand why Rome is known as the birthplace of the Baroque style. Begin at the Spanish Steps and Piazza di Spagna, one of the most exclusive and fashionable shopping areas in the world. Continue to the Trevi Fountain, nestled in the historic center of Rome, then on to the Pantheon, the best-preserved building from ancient Rome, completed in the reign of Hadrian. Its magnificent dome is a lasting testimony to the genius of Roman architects and, as the building stands virtually intact, it offers a unique opportunity for the modern visitor to step back in time. Next, we will visit the lively Piazza Navona, with time to visit the Church of St Agnes in Agony, browse through the artists' stalls, and try one of Rome's most famous products, a tartufo at the Gelateria Tre Scalini. Visit the nearby Church of San Luigi dei Francesi to see *The Calling of St. Matthew*, painted by Baroque master Caravaggio.



Evening: **Dinner at Abruzzi Restaurant.**
Overnight at our hotel in Rome.

(B,D)

Day 9, May 8, Wednesday: Papal Audience | Pilgrim Churches of Rome

Morning: After an early breakfast, **enter the heart of Christendom for the Wednesday General Audience. Pope Francis will greet all pilgrims, deliver his message, pray the Pater Noster, and bless religious articles.** Independent lunch.

Afternoon: In the afternoon we will visit the **Basilica of St. Mary Major**, one of the four major basilicas built by Pope Sixtus III (432-440 A.D.). View the impressive interior with its remarkable mosaics depicting scenes from the Old Testament. Pray near the relics of Jesus' manger from Bethlehem beneath the high altar, which also contains a relic of St. Matthew the Evangelist. View the icon *Salus Populi Romani* (Protectress of the Roman People), believed to have been painted by St. Luke. The mosaics above the entablature are among the most ancient Christian mosaics in Rome. **Celebrate Mass at the Basilica of St. Mary Major.** Continue our tour with a visit to the **Cathedral of St. John Lateran**, the first Christian church to be consecrated. It was founded by the Emperor Constantine in the 4th century and was home to popes for many years prior to the present Vatican residence. From there we'll go to the **Holy Stairs (Scala Sancta)**. These are said to be the steps on which Christ walked on His way to Pilate's palace. You can go up on your knees as thousands of pilgrims have done, reverently recalling the sufferings of Christ. Then, we'll visit the **Basilica of the Holy Cross in Jerusalem**, which houses fragments of the True Cross brought to Rome by St. Helena, mother of Constantine.



Evening: **Our farewell dinner this evening will be at Cecilia Metella restaurant in Rome.** Experience an atmosphere of hospitality and taste wonderful Mediterranean cuisine in a Roman setting with wine and music.
Overnight at our hotel in Rome.

(B,D)

Day 10, May 9, Thursday: Return from Rome

Morning: After an early breakfast, we will be transferred to Rome's Leonardo Da Vinci Airport for our return flight home. Arrive on the same day.

(B)