A Spiritual Journey to Italy

Under the Spiritual Direction of Rev. Stephen Porter, STL
Group Coordinators: Maureen Villena & Linda Sanchez

10 Days: February 10 to 19, 2009

$2870 Special Cash Discount Price / $2999 Standard Base Price
From Ontario (ONT), plus airport taxes and tips.

Travel Arrangements by: Catholic Travel Centre
An Invitation to Join Us

“Ci vuole una vita!” so now we are on the 3rd trip to Rome, and at the end we shall have notched up about 30 days in Rome — not quite a “lifetime,” but still impressive. Come and join us for a wonderful time in Rome, Assisi and Siena, or come back with us and have more good times there. Our pilgrimage includes daily Mass at churches and shrines of major interest, night walking tours of Rome, as well as the guided tours of all important places (pagan and religious) with some of Italy’s best professional guides, some excellent Italian food and wine, fellowship with one another, and of course (for all good Americans) time for shopping! There is plenty of walking, but there are always plenty of bars for a quick cappuccino and sandwich to keep the energy levels up. See the itinerary in the brochure for details, and plan to be with us in 2009!

Blessings,

Fr. Steve

Our Daily Itinerary

TUE, FEB 10, DAY 1: DEPART USA: We depart en route to Rome with complimentary meals and beverages served aloft.

WED, FEB 11, DAY 2: ARRIVE ROME: SANTA MARIA SOPRA MINERVA & WALKING TOUR: We arrive in Rome early this morning and are met by our Catholic Travel Centre escort. We board our motorcoach and transfer to the city of Rome. We celebrate the opening Mass of our journey at the Church of Santa Maria Sopra Minerva. We then enjoy a walking tour, starting at the Trevi Fountain, where we toss our traditional three coins. From here we continue to the Piazza Trinita dei Monti at the top of the Spanish Steps, affording a romantic panoramic view of the city of Rome. Our tour continues across the city to the Pantheon and we finish our walk at the Piazza Navona. Lunch is on our own. We then check in at our hotel and take some time in the afternoon to rest. Dinner will be served at our hotel. (D)

THU, FEB 12, DAY 3: ROME: VATICAN MUSEUMS & ST. PETER’S BASILICA: Early this morning we celebrate Mass in the Vatican Grottos located beneath St. Peter’s Basilica. We will also pay a visit to the Tomb of John Paul II. We will then enjoy a tour of the Vatican Museums, an incredible collection of art accumulated by the popes, and the Sistine Chapel, featuring Michelangelo’s masterworks.

Later, we visit the Basilica of St. Peter with our local guide. We will see Michelangelo’s famous statue of the Blessed Mother holding her crucified Son. We know it as The Pieta. We take some time for lunch on our own.

This afternoon, we have a guided visit and tour of the Scavi, the underground excavations beneath St. Peter’s Basilica (these tickets are always subject to final confirmation 48 hours before the proposed visit). The remainder of the day is at leisure. Dinner is at our accommodations tonight. (B, D)

FRI, FEB 13, DAY 4: ROME: SAN CLEMENTE & ANCIENT ROME: This morning we start with a guided visit of the Basilica of San Clemente. The Basilica is named after Clement, the fourth pope, who was martyred by being tied to an anchor and drowned. Some of the frescoes in the church tell the story of his life. Here we celebrate Mass.

After lunch on our own, we visit some of the sites of Ancient Rome. We drive by the Forum and enter the Coliseum. Its real name was the Flavian Amphitheatre, after the emperors who built it in the first century after Christ. Coliseum refers to the ‘colossal’ statue of Nero that at one time stood at the entrance. Next we visit one of the oldest and most significant basilicas in the city, the Church of St. Peter in Chains. It is the most famous for housing Michelangelo’s statue of Moses. Dinner is on our own tonight. (B)

SAT, FEB 14, DAY 5: ROME: ST. MARY MAJOR & ST. JOHN LATERAN: This morning we celebrate Mass at the Basilica of St. Mary Major, the largest church in Rome dedicated to the Blessed Mother.

After Mass and a visit of the Basilica, we continue to the Basilica of St. John Lateran. It is here that St. Francis persuaded Pope Innocent III to give permission to begin the Franciscan Order. The night before, the Pope had seen a man in a dream and the man was supporting the tottering building of St. John Lateran. The next day, when Francis appeared before Pope Innocent,
His Holiness recognized the face from the dream and consented to Francis’ request. We will visit the Papal Museum of Antiquities.

Next we visit the “Scala Santa” (Holy Steps). The staircase was part of the praetorium or palace of Pilate in Jerusalem, hence the steps were sanctified by the footsteps of Jesus during his Passion. St. Helena, mother of the Emperor Constantine, brought them to Rome around 326 AD. The rest of the day is at leisure and dinner is on our own tonight. (B)

**SUN, FEB 15, DAY 6: ROME / ASSISI:** This morning we transfer to the Venerabile Collegio Inglese where we celebrate our Mass. Then we transfer to the Vatican City for a noon Angelus prayer. We take some time for lunch on our own.

Later this afternoon we continue on to Assisi, clinging to the side of Mount Subasio. This town was home to Sts. Francis and Clare. Dinner is at our hotel. (B, D)

**MON, FEB 16, DAY 7: ASSISI: VISIT OF THE TOWN:** Today we visit Assisi, a “quiet medieval town, imbued with the mystical spirit of one of the most fascinating characters of history.” We begin with Mass at the Tomb Altar in the Basilica of St. Francis, followed by a guided tour. We continue with a walking tour of the city, visiting the major sites associated with St. Francis, including the Church of San Rufino, with the baptismal font of the Saint; the Chiesa Nuova, built over the home of Francis’ family and the Church of St. Clare, where St. Clare lies in repose. Here we see the original ‘San Damiano’ crucifix that spoke to Francis, urging him to “rebuild My Church.” Francis interpreted the dream literally and went to work on repairing the building at San Damiano. Only later did he understand the deeper meaning of the dream. We will take some time on our own to have lunch and walk around the town. Dinner will be served at our hotel. (B, D)

**TUE, FEB 17, DAY 8: ASSISI / SIENA: CITY VISIT:** This morning we visit the Basilica of St. Mary of the Angels where we celebrate Mass. Here we view the Porziuncola, the tiny church inside the Basilica. Nearby is the place that Francis surrendered to ‘Sister Death.’

Then we depart for Siena. Upon arrival we enjoy a walking tour of the city and we view the Eucharistic Miracle. We also visit the Oratorio di San Bernardino, patron of the Diocese of San Bernardino (subject to final confirmation.) The rest of the afternoon is on our own. Dinner will be served at our hotel. (B, D)

**WED, FEB 18, DAY 9: SIENA / ROME:** This morning we visit San Domenico—“which contains the only authentic portrait of Catherine in the chapel where she received the Dominican habit and where several of her miracles occurred.” Following Mass at St. Catherine’s House, we continue with a walking tour to the Duomo and a visit to the Museum. Lunch is on our own. Mid afternoon we transfer to Rome where our farewell dinner is at a local restaurant. Our hotel tonight will be close to the airport. (B, D)

**THU, FEB 19, DAY 10: RETURN USA:** This morning we transfer to the Rome airport to board our return flight to the USA. (B)

**Note:** While no changes are anticipated, there may be unforeseen occasions when certain alterations become necessary to this itinerary, either due to changes in airline schedules or for other reasons. All Masses are subject to local church schedules and substitution with alternate Mass sites if churches mentioned are not available.
Making any payments (cash, credit card or otherwise) towards any tour constitutes your unconditional acceptance of all the terms and conditions stated in this brochure. Catholic Travel Centre shall be referred to as CTC within this document.

DOCUMENTS: A valid, government-issued passport is required for all tours. Passports must be valid for six months beyond the tour’s return date. Registration and Deposits: A deposit of $400 per person is required upon registration along with a signed copy of the registration form. Registrations cannot be taken by telephone, fax, or email. Registrations are processed in the order received by CTC. Balance of payment is due 90 days prior to departure. Late payment is subject to $50 late fee. Late registrations (fewer than 90 days) must be accompanied by full payment by cash or check only (including the optional passenger travel protection program, if applicable), plus a $50 late fee and are subject to availability. CTC reserves the right to cancel reservations that are not paid in full 75 days prior to departure and to charge cancellation fees/penalties indicated below. A $25 fee will be charged on all checks returned by our bank.

Changes in Pricing: Please note that after initial invoicing, any requests for change in form of payment (cash discount vs. standard base) or in package (air inclusive vs. “land only”) are subject to a $50 per person change processing fee.

Individual Cancellation Fees & Refunds: All cancellations must be received by CTC in writing via certified mail or facsimile. CTC will process your refund, minus a cancellation fee according to the following schedule:
1. $300 if cancelled 199 days prior to the tour’s departure date;
2. $300 if cancelled 149 to 90 days prior to the tour’s departure date;
3. $400 plus any non-refundable amounts paid to and/or penalties assessed by airlines, hotels, or other suppliers of travel services (up to the total cost of the tour) if cancelled 89 to 8 days prior to the tour’s departure date;
4. No refunds for cancellations received within 7 days of departure date.

Change in Travel: Changes in any part of the itinerary, for any reason or whenever it deems it necessary for the comfort, convenience or safety of the tour participants. In the event of any alteration to the itinerary, CTC will make every effort to arrange a replacement as close as possible to the original trip. In the event of a change in form of payment (cash discount vs. standard base) or in package (air inclusive vs. “land only”) is subject to a $50 per person change processing fee.

Passenger Travel Protection Program: This program is offered by Berkely Care, Ltd., and is strongly recommended. A $25 fee will be charged on all checks returned by our bank.

Tour Operation & Cancellation: While no changes are anticipated, CTC reserves the right to cancel all or part of the tour or to make any alterations to the itinerary, for any reason or whenever it deems it necessary for the comfort, convenience or safety of the tour participants. In the event of any alteration to the itinerary, CTC will make every effort to arrange a replacement as close as possible to the original trip. In the event of a change in form of payment (cash discount vs. standard base) or in package (air inclusive vs. “land only”) is subject to a $50 per person change processing fee.

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Travel Arrangements:

Catholic Travel Centre is a registered Seller of Travel in the State of California: CST 2072378-40. “Registering a Travel Agency with the California Department of Consumer Affairs” Section 78750.24(f). Catholic Travel Centre subscribes to the California Travel Consumer Restitution Fund. Non-residents of California are not eligible to make claims to this fund.

Terms and Conditions

DEVIATIONS: Deviations from the group flight itinerary are not possible. If you wish to make your own airline arrangements and purchase the “land only” version of the tour package, please contact your group coordinator for the “land only” pricing.

Air Traveling, Frequent Flyer Miles: CTC cannot accommodate any individual requests. CTC advises that you contact the airline for frequent flyer miles and special meal requests two weeks prior to departure.

Baggage: Baggage is at risk at all times. We strongly suggest that you bring only one piece of checked luggage and one carry-on. Portage is included at hotels only for one piece of luggage; the passenger is responsible at all times for carrying own luggage. No portage at airports.

Accommodations and Meals: Based on double/twin accommodations with private bathroom facilities (limited number of single rooms available). No reduction for triple rooms. Triple room consists of twin/double room plus a rollaway bed, and confirmation is based on availability. If no roommate is available for you or your roommate cancels prior to departure, a single supplement surcharge will apply. Meals are menu of the day as shown in the itinerary (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner).

Sightseeing: By private motor coach with English-speaking guide/escort. Entrance fees included per final itinerary.

Prices: Pricing is based on exchange rates, fares applicable at the time of quota-

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Registration Form ~ Catholic Travel Centre
A Spiritual Journey to Italy
Under the Spiritual Direction of Rev. Stephen Porter, STL
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February 10 to 19, 2009
Tour Number: 09-020-0210

Enclosed please find my $400 per person deposit for the above referenced trip. By submitting this payment, I acknowledge that I have read, understood, and agree to the “Terms and Conditions” in the accompanying brochure. I agree to submit full payment 90 days prior to departure.

Please print in BLOCK LETTERS your complete Last Name, First Name and Middle Name) as they appear on your PASSPORT.

Last Name ___________________________ First and Middle Name ___________________________

Street Address __________________________________________ Apt __________________________

City __________________________ State _______ ZIP __________

Home TEL: __________________ Ofc TEL: __________________

Email: __________________________________________________ Date of Birth: _______/_______/_______ Gender: M / F

Do you or will you hold an American Passport at the time of travel? __________ If not, what nationality? _________________

Signature ___________________________________________ Date ______________________

Rooming Information (Please select one)

____ I wish to room with ___________________________ (enter name) ___________________________ (relation if any)

____ Please try to find a roommate for me. I understand if per chance you cannot find a roommate for me, I will be
obliged to pay the single room supplement. Age: _______; Smoking: ___ Yes ___ No. (See terms and conditions.)

____ I wish a single room at a supplement of $595. Subject to availability and confirmation.

↓ PLEASE SELECT ONE OF THE TWO FORMS OF PAYMENT BELOW ↓

Cash Discount Price

____ I wish to pay the cash discount price using my personal or cashiers check as my form of payment: $2870 from
Ontario (ONT) plus airport taxes, security fees & current fuel surcharges of $350 and tips of $85. (Please return this
form with $400 deposit payable to Catholic Travel Centre. You will receive an invoice including the optional Travel
Protection Plan fee of $219. The invoice will show your balance due and due date.)

Standard Base Price

____ I wish to pay the standard base price using my credit card as my form of payment: $2999 from Ontario (ONT)
plus airport taxes, security fees & current fuel surcharges of $350 and tips of $85. You will receive an invoice including
the optional Travel Protection Plan fee of $219. The invoice will show your balance due and due date.

Credit Card Payment Authorization

I authorize Catholic Travel Centre to charge the standard base price amount, plus other fees outlined above to my
credit card listed below ($400 will be charged now; balance of payment will be charged to your card per the invoice
due date.)

Credit Card Type: _____ VISA _____ MASTERCARD
Card Number ___________________________ Exp. Date ___________________________
Name as it appears on credit card __________________________________________
Signature ___________________________________ DATE ______________________

Address where you receive your credit card statement if different from above:
Address _________________________________________________________________
City __________________________ State _______ ZIP __________

Make Check Payable to: Catholic Travel Centre
Mail to: 4444 Riverside Drive, Suite 301, Burbank, CA 91505
Note: Further information on travel protection program will be sent within two weeks of receipt of your registration and deposit.