

# *Following the Way of Jesus*

**A HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE FOR ST PAUL'S PARISH AND FRIENDS**



**JANUARY 15-26, 2020**

Led jointly by The Rev. Sara Fischer & The Rt. Rev. Barry Beisner

**Lightline Pilgrimages NA, LLC.**

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*"And Jesus said to them: 'Follow me.'"*

*Much of Jesus' ministry consisted in equipping a community of followers to be his hands and feet in the world. As we walk where Jesus walked and experience the land that formed him and his first disciples, we, too, are more deeply formed as his disciples. The Holy Land is a complex place today, and our presence and witness is a source of hope for the people for whom Israel/Palestine is home.*

*It has been said that tourists visit a holy space and ask questions, while a pilgrim allows the sacred place to ask the questions. As pilgrims, our days will be marked by prayer and reflection. We will sing together, pray together, share Eucharist, and listen to the experiences of the heirs of our Christian heritage in Jewish-and-Muslim-majority Israel/Palestine. This small minority of Christians represent a new temple in the Holy Land, a spiritual house for God built of "Living Stones" where Christians from all over the world can join in Jesus' work of reconciliation and peacemaking. We hope that you will return home, as each of us has in previous pilgrimages, with a new perspective on the Holy Land and on your own place in the community of Jesus-followers that stretches across continents and centuries.*

*Sarah & +Barry*

*Deposits must be received by **September 30th**, full payment by November 23rd.*

## TO SECURE YOUR PLACES ON THIS PILGRIMAGE

### **COST \$4625 (SINGLE ROOM SUPPLEMENT \$735)**

*Space on the tour is limited, and early booking is strongly advised. To reserve a place, please complete and send the enclosed booking form together with a **deposit of \$500** per person.*

*Bookings with initial deposit payment should be received by **Monday, September 30th**. Bookings received after that date may be subject to surcharge, depending on flight availability. Final balance due by **Saturday, November 23rd**.*



# Itinerary

## **DAY 1: WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15**

We meet at Seattle Airport for our flights to London, changing planes in DFW. There should be sufficient time on the layover in Dallas to purchase lunch; dinner will be served on the flight to London.

## **DAY 2: THURSDAY, JANUARY 16**

Changing planes in London Heathrow, we fly on to Tel Aviv, landing mid afternoon. When we have passed through Israeli immigration and Customs and make our way to our pilgrim hotel by the shore of the Sea of Galilee.



## **DAY 3: FRIDAY, JANUARY 17**

Today we will devote ourselves to the events of Jesus' ministry of healing and teaching around the home he chose in Capernaum, on the Sea of Galilee. We will visit Capernaum itself, as well as sites associated with the Beatitudes, the commissioning of Peter and the feeding of the Five Thousand. We will go out in a boat on the lake, and we will visit the newly-excavated First Century synagogue in Magdala, the home town of 'the apostle to the apostles', Mary Magdalene.

## **DAY 4: SATURDAY, JANUARY 18**

Our morning begins with a visit to the town in which the Good News began – Nazareth, where Mary met the archangel Gabriel. We will celebrate the Eucharist in the Episcopal parish, and see its work 'made flesh' at the remarkable High School run by the Diocese of Jerusalem. After a break for lunch, we will stop at Cana in Galilee, where Jesus performed his first 'sign', before closing our day at Mount Tabor, believed by many to be the site of the Transfiguration. Return to our lakeside hotel in good time to freshen up before dinner. Overnight stay by the Sea of Galilee.





#### **DAY 5: SUNDAY, JANUARY 19**

After joining the local community for Sunday worship in Tiberias, we drive south down the Jordan Valley to come to the Baptism site at the River Jordan, where we will renew our Baptismal Covenant. After a break for lunch, we make our way up to Bethany, where we remember Jesus' friendship with Martha, Mary and Lazarus, before heading into Bethlehem, where we will spend the next two nights.

#### **DAY 6: MONDAY, JANUARY 20**

Today will be devoted to discovering how the gift of abundant life promised in the Incarnation is lived out in Bethlehem. We will visit the Church of the Nativity and the Shepherds' Fields, as well as two heart-warming examples of Christian mission in action. At the St Vincent Crèche we will see love in action at the only Christian orphanage in the West Bank, and at Bethlehem University we will see hope in action in the nurture and training of many capable and committed local students.

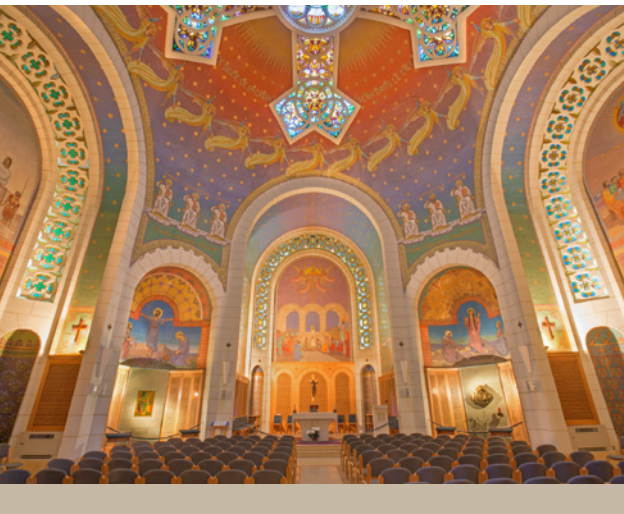


#### **DAY 7: TUESDAY, JANUARY 21**

Leaving Bethlehem, we first journey south to Hebron, where we will see very clearly the hideous complexities of the Occupation, and its impact on the center of this divided city. We will have the chance to visit both parts of the divided Tombs of the Patriarchs – mosque and synagogue – before heading towards Jerusalem. After a break for lunch, we will visit the Mount of Olives and retrace the traditional Palm Sunday route from Bethphage down to the garden of Gethsemane and the Kidron Valley, stopping at the churches of Pater Noster and Dominus Flevit as we descend the Mount. Finally we will visit the Israel Museum, to see a vast scale model of Jerusalem as it was at the time of Jesus, and to learn about the Dead Sea Scrolls in the world-famous exhibit known as the Shrine of the Book, after which we check in to our Jerusalem hotel, where we will spend the final five nights of our pilgrimage.





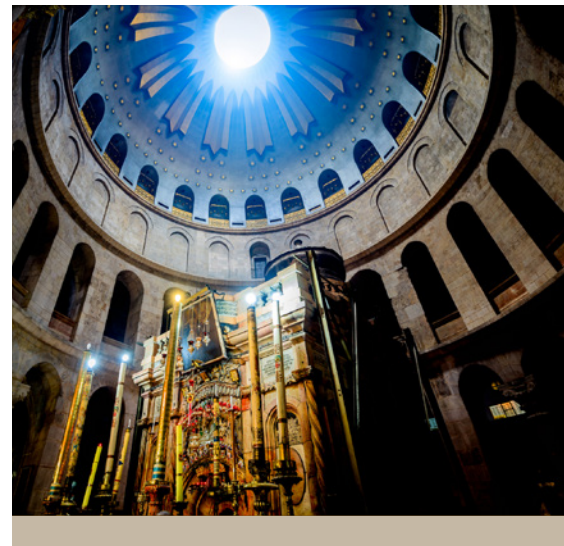


#### **DAY 8: WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22**

Our morning begins on Mount Zion, where we will visit the Dormition Abbey and the Upper Room, before coming to the church of St Peter in Gallicantu, where it is believed that Jesus was held captive overnight by the Jewish High Priest, while Peter denied three times that he knew him. After lunch we will visit the Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial, and return to our hotel for a chance to freshen up before dinner.

#### **DAY 9: THURSDAY, JANUARY 23**

This morning we will have an early breakfast, to allow us the chance to ascend the Temple Mount and get a close look at the Dome of the Rock and the Al Aqsa Mosque. As we leave the Mount we will find ourselves at the start of the Via Dolorosa – the Way of the Cross – that takes us through the narrow and winding streets of the souk to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, where we will have the chance to remember the death, and the resurrection, of Jesus Christ. In the afternoon, we will meet members of some of the Settler communities south of Jerusalem, to learn a little about their outlook and their understanding of the political situation of these lands.



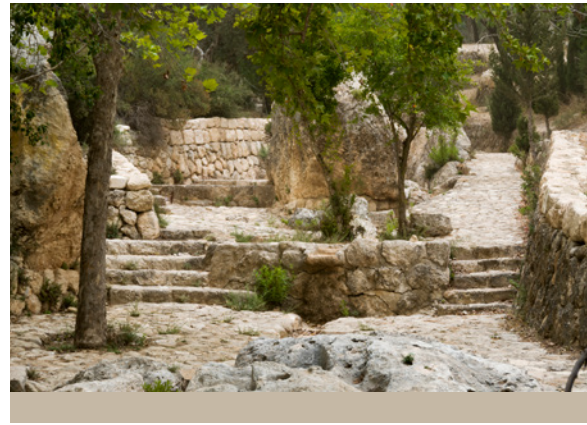
#### **DAY 10: FRIDAY, JANUARY 24**

We will spend this day close to the Dead Sea, starting by visiting the hill-top fortress of Masada, famously besieged by the Roman army around 40 years after the death of Jesus. Josephus records how 960 people committed suicide here, rather than be taken alive by the Romans. After exploring the site for the morning, we will head to Qumran. After lunch, we will see the place where the Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered at the hands of a young Bedouin boy in 1947. Finally, we will have a chance to bathe in the unique mineral-laden waters of the Dead Sea, before returning to Jerusalem for dinner.



### **DAY 11: SATURDAY, JANUARY 25**

On this, our final full day in the Holy Land, we will visit one of the sites associated with biblical Emmaus, the village of Abu Ghosh, where we will pray together as pilgrims one last time. From here, like the two disciples who encountered the risen Christ, we will return to Jerusalem, to enjoy free time for the rest of the day. *Lunch is not included today.*



### **DAY 12: SUNDAY, JANUARY 26**

We make an early start for Tel Aviv airport for our flight to London, where we change planes and fly back non-stop to Seattle, ready to tell those we encounter what we have learned as we journeyed in the land of the Holy One.



*Please note this complex touring program may be subject to minor local amendments.*



# Following the Way of Jesus

## A HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE FOR ST PAUL'S PARISH AND FRIENDS

PILGRIMAGE INCLUSIVE TOUR COST - \$4625 (SINGLE ROOM SUPPLEMENT \$735)

### + Scheduled flights from Seattle to Tel Aviv on American Airlines & British Airways

<b>DEPARTURE</b>	January 15	AA1667	Seattle Tacoma/Dallas Ft. Worth	7.30 am	1.34 pm
		AA020	Dallas Ft. Worth/Heathrow London	3.25 pm	6.20 am (Jan 16)
	January 16	BA165	Heathrow London/Ben Gurion Intl.	8.05 am	2.50 pm
<b>RETURN</b>	January 26	BA162	Ben Gurion Intl./Heathrow London	6.15 am	9.40 am
		BA049	Heathrow London/ Seattle Tacoma	2.30 pm	4.25 pm

*(Please note the above flights and times are subject to change.)*

### + All airport departure & passenger taxes (US & Israel).

### + En Suite accommodation at Christian pilgrim hotels & guest houses

Galilee - Pilgerhaus (*Benedictine guest house by the Sea of Galilee*)

Bethlehem - Sunrise Hotel (*located a very short walk from Manger Square*)

Jerusalem - Gloria Hotel (*Situated within the Old City, by Jaffa Gate*)

### + Full board throughout (breakfast, lunch & dinner daily).

### + All entrance fees and local government taxes.

### + State licensed English speaking guides throughout the tour.

### + All touring in modern air-conditioned tour buses.

*Absolutely no hidden costs. The only items NOT included in the tour price are:*

Single Room supplement \$735, Travel Insurance (*we suggest [travelexinsurance.com](http://travelexinsurance.com)*)

Any items of a personal nature.

### HEALTH & FITNESS:

This pilgrimage involves a considerable amount of walking, although it is not a hiking expedition. Pilgrims will need to be able to get on and off a bus frequently, and, in the course of a day, walk one or two miles at a gentle pace, sometimes on uneven or hilly ground. Much of the terrain is not suited to walkers or strollers, or to people who depend on wheelchairs for mobility. By signing up for this pilgrimage, you are agreeing that you have noted this advice, and that you are fit enough to undertake the trip.



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