

## 11 Day Pilgrimage to Spain & Portugal



**Spiritual Director**

**Most Reverend Frank J. Caggiano**

**Bishop of Bridgeport**

**September 9<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

### **YOUR TOUR INCLUDES:**

- Roundtrip Air from Newark
- Deluxe Motorcoach
- English Speaking Guide
- 4 & 5 Star First Class Hotels
- Sightseeing as per itinerary
- Breakfast & Dinner Daily
- Daily Mass and Rosary

### **Highlights:**

- Mass at the Basilica of Our Lady of Pilar
- Panorama of Madrid
- Mass at the Convent of St. Teresa of Avila
- Mass at the Basilica of Santiago de Compostela

- Tour of Santiago de Compostela
- Visit the Basilica of St. Lucy in Viana do Castelo
- Visit the Shrine of Bom Jesus
- Visit Aljustrel Home of the children of Fatima
- Visit Valinhos where Our Lady appeared to the Children in August and where the Angel appeared to the Children in 1916
- Visit the Basilica of Our Lady of the Rosary of Fatima
- Visit the Tombs of Blessed Jacinta and Francesco Marto and Sr. Lucia
- Visit the Monastery of Santa Maria da Vitória at Batalha
- Visit Monastery of Alcobaca
- Tour of Lisbon

**Pilgrimage Price: \$ 3,599.00 per person double or triple**

**\$ 750.00 Single Supplement**

## **ITINERARY**

**Sat, Sept 9<sup>th</sup>: Newark/Madrid** - Depart Newark Airport on your overnight flight to Madrid via Lisbon. Dinner served in flight.



**Sun, Sept 10<sup>th</sup>: Madrid/Zaragoza** - Morning arrival in **Madrid** and transfer to **Zaragoza**. Upon arrival, we have Mass at the Basilica. The *Basilica de Nuestra Señora del Pilar*, better known simply as *Our Lady of El Pilar*, is the heart of Zaragoza. It is an important pilgrimage site, thanks to an ancient pillar said to have been given by the Virgin Mary to Saint James on this very spot.

According to local legend, in 40 AD the apostle Saint James the Greater was praying on the banks of the Ebro River in Zaragoza (then the Roman town of Caesar Augusta) when the Virgin Mary appeared to him. She was still living in Jerusalem at the time; this is her only reported apparition prior to her Assumption.

The Virgin gave James a small statue of herself and a pillar made of jasper, and instructed him to build a church called Our Lady of the Pillar. As instructed, Saint James built a small chapel on the spot, which would make it the first church dedicated to the Virgin Mary.

El Pilar has received many distinguished pilgrims over the centuries, including Saints Teresa of Avila, John of the Cross and Ignatius Loyola, as well as virtually all the kings and queens of Spain. Pope John Paul II visited in 1982. It has also become a tradition for Spanish children to make a pilgrimage to El Pilar at the time of their first communion.

Today, Our Lady of the Pillar is the second-most visited pilgrimage destination in Spain after Santiago de Compostela. Thousands of pilgrims come every year to kiss the small statue given by the Virgin herself, and the El Pilar Festival is one of the most popular in Spain.

**Mon, Sept 11<sup>th</sup>: Zaragoza/Madrid** - Morning departure to **Madrid**. Upon arrival, we have a *Panorama of Madrid*. Remainder of the day is free.

**Tue, Sept 12<sup>th</sup>: Madrid – Avila – Santiago de Compostela** - Morning departure to **Santiago de Compostela**. En route we stop at **Avila** to visit the town of St. Teresa of Avila. We visit her convent and Basilica. The Convent of St. Teresa is one of two main destinations for Catholic pilgrims to Ávila. The 17<sup>th</sup> century convent was built after the canonization of St. Teresa. It is built over the house where she was born. It contains her relics, along with those of her friend St. John of the Cross, in a small museum. After our visit, we continue to Santiago de Compostela. Upon arrival we visit the Basilica. The remains of St. James are enshrined in the Basilica. Whenever the feast of St. James (July 25<sup>th</sup>) falls on a Sunday, a Holy Year is proclaimed. 2010 was a Holy Year in Santiago de Compostello.

**Wed, Sept 13<sup>th</sup>: Tour of the Basilica and Town of Santiago de Compostela** - This morning we have a Tour of the medieval city of Santiago de Compostela and a tour of the Basilica of St. James. Remainder of the day is free for private devotions.

**Thu, Sept 14<sup>th</sup>: Santiago de Compostela/Viana do Costelo/Braga** - Our first stop today is **Viana do Costelo** where we visit the Basilica of St. Lucy. Spread along the north bank of the River Lima estuary the town of Viana do Costelo is famous for its handicrafts and colorful regional costumes. Up above and dominating the city is the Sanctuary of Santa Lucy, with a fantastic view of Viana, the river and the Atlantic Ocean. The Basilica of Santa Lucy, on Mount St. Luzia was inspired by the Sacré Coeur de Montmartre in Paris. From the basilica's location on top of Mount St. Luzia, there are spectacular views of the city and the beach. After our visit, we continue to Braga.

The Santuário Bom Jesus do Monte ("Shrine of Good Jesus of the Mountain") is a hilltop Catholic pilgrimage site.

In 1722 the Archbishop of Braga commissioned the construction of a Sacred Way, so the faithful could walk the Stations of the Cross for penance and contemplation. It was completed in 1811. Although it has no associations with any visions or saints, it has been a popular place of pilgrimage ever since.

Made of dark granite covered in bright white plaster, the Sacred Way is a Baroque double staircase with several switchbacks. The numerous landings and the grounds of the sanctuary are filled with interesting gardens, grottoes, small chapels, sculptures, and allegorical fountains. The first fountain symbolizes the wounds of Christ, the next five the senses, and the final three the virtues.

The Baroque basilica at the top is 400 meters above sea level and provides visitors with a sweeping view of Braga, the beaches of Esposende and Viana do Castelo.

The most interesting time to visit Bom Jesus do Monte is during Holy Week or *Semana Santa* (the week before Easter), when the Baroque stairway is climbed by penitents on their hands and knees. Another important pilgrimage takes place during Whitsun, six weeks after Easter.



**Fri, Sept 15<sup>th</sup>: Braga/Aljustrel/Valinhos/Fatima** - Morning departure to **Fatima**. En route we visit Aljustrel where we visit the homes of the children and perhaps meet some of the relatives. Next to Valinhos where Our Lady appeared to the children in August 1917 and where the Angel appeared to the children in 1916. We also visit the Church where the children received the Sacraments. After our visits, we continue to Fatima to visit of the Chapel of Apparitions, the Chapel of Adoration and the Basilica of Our Lady of the Rosary where we see the Tombs of Blessed Jacinta and Francisco and Sr. Lucia.

**Sat, Sept 16<sup>th</sup>: Fatima/Batalha/Alcobaca/Nazare** - Morning departure to the Monastery of Santa Maria da Vitória at Batalha which was built in answer to a vow made by King John I to the Virgin Mary. Elected by UNESCO as World Heritage, it is a grand monument to the closing phase of Portuguese Gothic whose building began in 1388. Next to the Monastery of Alcobaca in the fertile valley formed by the Alcoa and Baça's Rivers. King Afonso Henriques built the monastery to fulfill a vow he made to the Cistercian Order, when he conquered Santarém from the Moors. Our last stop is Nazare where, on hot days, the ancient local fishing art is brought to life, with the skipper calling the men down to the sea. The

men run down the beach and help push the "candil" - a small fishing boat - down to the sea. In the past this was a daily scene on Nazaré beach. Nowadays the fishermen still mend their nets on the beach, tell fishing yarns and prepare their equipment for bait fishing.

**Sun, Sept 17<sup>th</sup>: Fatima is Celebrating the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Our Lady's Appearance to the Three Children, Lucia, Jacinta and Francisco, from May 1917 to October 1917**

Free day for private devotions



**Mon, Sept 18<sup>th</sup>: Fatima/Lisbon** - Upon arrival in Lisbon we have a panorama of **Lisbon**. We visit the Belem Tower, the Monastery of St. Jeronimo, the birthplace of St. Anthony and the cathedral where he was baptized. We have Mass at the home of St. Anthony. We also visit the room where Jacinta died.

**Tue, Sept 19<sup>th</sup>: Lisbon/USA** - Morning departure to Lisbon airport for your return flight to the USA.

**Reservation Form**

<b>Tour No. PAS0909</b>		
Name (as it appears on your passport):		
Address:		
City:	State:	Zip:
Telephone:	Email address:	
Will your room be a: ( ) single (limited) ( ) double ( ) triple		
Name of Roommate:		
Are you a US citizen? ( ) Yes ( ) No Date of Birth		
Passport No.	Expiration Date	
Contact in the USA	Telephone No.	Relationship

**Please return this form with your check to:**

**LITTLE FLOWER TOURS & TRAVEL, LTD.**

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Staten Island, New York 10314  
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**A \$700.00 DEPOSIT IS DUE AT TIME OF BOOKING  
FINAL PAYMENT IS DUE July 1, 2017**

**TERMS AND CONDITIONS:** Cancellation made by passengers. Of the \$700.00 deposit, \$300.00 is non-refundable in case of cancellation. 70 days to 46 days a \$700.00 penalty is imposed. 45 days to 16 days a \$700.00 penalty PLUS any penalty imposed by the airlines and hotels. 15 days or less may result in loss of entire cost, depending on what we can recover. Once travel has commenced, no refunds for unused portions can be made. **TRAVEL INSURANCE IS AVAILABLE AND ADVISABLE** If you have a pre-existing condition, it is important that you take Travel Insurance within 10 days of booking.

Signature:

Date:

Credit card ( ) MasterCard ( ) Visa ( ) American Express	
Account #:	Expiration date: CVC#
Name (as it appears on your card)	
Billing Address:	
Amount to be charged: \$	
Signature:	Date: