

A Pilgrimage of Faith, a Journey of Blessing in the Holy Land of Israel

Under the Spiritual Direction of:
Father Peter Gelfer

Dates: **November 5 - 17, 2019**

\$5,198.00 from Los Angeles, CA
(Includes: U.S. and Intl. departure taxes and standard gratuities)

Devotion Travel at 310-857-5000
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Dear Pilgrim Traveler:

I invite you to join our group of faith filled travelers on a spiritual journey to the Holy Land. It will be “**A Pilgrimage of Faith, A Journey of Blessing**” as we walk in the footsteps of Jesus. This is a wonderful time of year to be in the Holy Land offering beautiful weather and smaller crowds.

We will be led by an experienced travel guide in Israel, who has provided meaningful trips for Catholic pilgrims. The opportunity to **walk where Jesus walked, is often a very moving and life changing experience.** Being in the scriptural places recorded in the four Gospels will help create what many have called “The Fifth Gospel,” found within the Holy Land itself.

It is my hope to celebrate specially **planned daily Liturgies** at some of the Holy Places we will be visiting. I want to bring a spiritual perspective to this pilgrimage where our local travel guide will lead us to appreciate the archeology, geography and history of the Land where Jesus walked, taught and healed.

I hope you will join me for this memorable and meaningful experience of the actual historical places where Jesus revealed Himself not only to his followers but to all the world. The spaces will fill up very fast. I invite you to pray and think about being a part of this wonderful pilgrimage of faith to the Holy Land.

With heartfelt gratitude and all my hopes,

Fr. Peter

Fr. Peter Gelfer, O.H., M.Div., BCC
A Member of the Hospitaller Order of St. John of God



Day 1: Tuesday, November 5 – Depart Los Angeles

We begin our pilgrimage at Los Angeles International Airport, as we board our flight to Tel Aviv, Israel.

Day 2: Wednesday, November 6 – Arrive in Tel Aviv/ Caesarea/ Mt. Carmel/ Galilee

We arrive in the afternoon at Ben Gurion Tel Aviv Airport. Time permitting, we drive along the via Maris - the Mediterranean coastline north to **Caesarea Maritima** to explore this Roman bridgehead to the East, which became the Christian springboard to the West. This deep-water port was built by Herod the Great. Caesarea was the home of the Roman garrison and Pontius Pilate. We will see the port itself, the remains of the hippodrome, Pilate's palace and the fully restored theater where Herod Agrippa (who executed James, the apostle John's brother). We travel up **Mt. Carmel** to visit the location of Elijah's grotto. The place is marked by a shrine and a monastery. We celebrate Mass at the **Sanctuary of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel** (Stella Maris). In the afternoon, we drive from the Mediterranean to the shore of the Sea of Galilee. Sitting 690 feet below sea level and flanked by mountains, the **Sea of Galilee** area becomes our home for the next five nights. Dinner and overnight at our hotel. (D)

Day 3: Thursday, November 7 – Galilee: Mount of Beatitudes-Tabgha-Capernaum-Galilee

This morning, we visit **Mt. of Beatitudes**, where we have time for prayer and reflect on Jesus' teachings. We then descend to **Tabgha** at the northwestern shore of the lake, an area intense with Christian memories. Here, we visit the **Church of the Multiplication**, commemorating the first feeding of the multitude, and **Church of the Primacy of St. Peter**, where we celebrate Mass in the garden. We travel to **Capernaum** and, with the help of the ruins, remember the miracles Jesus worked here. This afternoon, we stop for lunch (on our own) before returning to our hotel. At sunset, we **set sail on the Sea of Galilee** in a replica first century fishing boat. We remember the story of Jesus walking on the water and of his calming the storm, just two of many miracle stories associated with Galilee. We conclude our day with a visit to the **Jesus Boat Museum** where we will see a 2,000-year-old fishing boat, which once sailed on the Sea of Galilee. Return to our hotel for dinner and overnight. (B, D)

Day 4: Friday, November 8 – Galilee: Sepphoris-Nazareth-Cana

After breakfast, we drive to **Sepphoris**, which was once an important city in the Temple and post-Temple period, to see the famous mosaic of the “Mona Lisa of the Galilee.” Also, here is a Byzantine Era Synagogue with a mosaic of the Zodiac signs. We continue to **Nazareth**, a historic city of Lower Galilee and Jesus' boyhood home. Mary, Joseph and Jesus lived in Nazareth for over twenty years. Our first visit is at the **Church of Mary's Well**, with a short teaching in the church's courtyard about women “going to the well in the evening,” and walk over to the **Church of the Annunciation**. Here, we celebrate Mass. Our next visit is to **Cana of Galilee** where Jesus performed his first miracle. Here, we have the opportunity for couples to renew their marriage vows. On our return to Galilee, we will have the opportunity to walk to the edge of the **Arbel Cliff**, overlooking the northern part of the Sea of Galilee, including the main sites of Jesus' mission, before returning to our hotel for dinner and overnight. (B, D)



Day 5: Saturday, November 9 – Galilee: Tel Dan-Caesarea Philippi-Bethsaida-Yardenit

This morning, we begin our day with Mass at our hotel. Today, we head north to the Upper Galilee to reach **Dan Nature Reserve**. We stroll along the Dan River, one of the headwaters of the Jordan River, reaching the site of ancient Dan with the remains of its altar for the golden calf, built by King Jeroboam in the tenth century B.C., when the kingdoms of Israel and Judah split. We drive to **Caesarea Philippi** (Baniyas), a source of the Jordan at the foot of Mt. Hermon and where Jesus asked his disciples, “Who do you say I am?” Our next stop is **Bethsaida**, visiting the biblical site (the third most mentioned in the Gospels) where Jesus healed the blind man (Mark 8:22). We end our day at the **Jordan River** and will have the opportunity to step into that special river. Dinner and overnight at our hotel. (B, D)

Day 6: Sunday, November 10 – Galilee: Magdala Project

Today, we spend a leisurely day visiting **Magdala**. This is a 1st century authentic Galilean village and the home town of **Mary Magdalene**. We tour the **ancient synagogue** that Jesus most certainly would have visited as well as **Duc In Altum** (Luke 5:4 “put out into the water”), the new Conference Center dedicated to the Women of the Bible. We celebrate Mass in the **Boat Chapel**, overlooking the Sea of Galilee. Dinner and overnight at our hotel. (B, D)

Day 7: Monday, November 11 – Galilee/ Mt. Tabor/ Bethlehem/ Ein Karem/ Jerusalem

This morning, we depart Galilee and drive to **Mount Tabor** located in Lower Galilee, at the eastern end of the Jezreel Valley. We take taxis

to the top of the mountain where the elevation provides an utterly commanding view of all of Galilee. It was here that Jesus revealed the wonderful power of presence in communion with saints of the past (Moses and Elijah). We visit the site of the **Transfiguration** and celebrate Mass. This afternoon, we drive to **Bethlehem**, David's birthplace, Jesus' birthplace and the home of Ruth and Boaz. We drive to a hilltop for a view of Bethlehem. We visit **Solomon's Pools**, Jerusalem's main source of water for almost 2,000 years. Passing the Monastery of Hortus Conclusus ("the sealed garden") in Artas. Next, is the "**Church of Mary's Seat**" (the Kathisma), where tradition says Mary rested on her way to Bethlehem to give birth to Jesus. A remarkable site that brings together the **women of the Old and New Testaments**. We enter Bethlehem to visit the **Church of the Nativity**, which marks the traditional location where Jesus was born. Next, we walk to the **Church of St. Catherine** to visit **Jerome's Grotto**. We head to **Shepherds' Field**, where the shepherds "watching their flocks by night" are told of Jesus' birth. We experience the contrast between shepherds and kings by visiting the archaeological site of **King Herod's Summer palace**. We drive to the picturesque village of **Ein Karem** to visit the **Church of the Visitation**, named after Mary's visit to the summer house of the parents of John the Baptist, and **St. John's Church**. We continue to **Jerusalem** with a stop atop **Mt. Scopus** to behold majestic Jerusalem, where we will spend the next five nights. Dinner and overnight in Jerusalem. (B, D)

Day 8: Tuesday, November 12 – Jerusalem: Bethany-Kidron Valley-Mt. Zion-Old City-Yad Vashem-Israel Museum/ 911 Living Memorial

This morning, we travel to the small village of **Bethany**. Home of Martha, Mary (John 12: 1-8) and Lazarus (John 11: 1-44) and a place of refuge for Jesus. We celebrate Mass at the **Franciscan Church of St. Lazarus**. We drive through the **Kidron Valley** and head towards **Mt. Zion**, where we will pass the Tombs of Absalom and Zachariah. Our first visit is the **Cenacle**. The site is located on Mount Zion, outside the Old City walls. The traditional location of the "**Upper Room**" is a room in the David's Tomb Compound and where the Last Supper, in the Gospel accounts, Jesus shared with his Apostles in Jerusalem before His crucifixion. Our next visit is the **Dormition Abbey**; built to honor the Assumption of Our Lady. We continue to **Yad Vashem**, the Jewish people's living memorial to the Holocaust. Our next visit is to the **Israel Museum**, to view the Model of Jerusalem in **Second Temple period** and **Dead Sea Scrolls**. We conclude our day with a visit to the **911 Living Memorial**. Dinner and overnight at our hotel in Jerusalem. (B, D)

Day 9: Wednesday, November 13 – Jerusalem: Mount of Olives-Bethphage-Garden of Gethsemane

After breakfast, we drive to the **Mount of Olives** and ascend the Augusta Victoria Tower for a panoramic view of the Old City of Jerusalem, Judean Desert, Moab Mountains and the Dead Sea. At the **Mount of Olives**, we visit **Bethphage** and its Franciscan Chapel with rare medieval frescoes depicting Jesus entering Jerusalem and the resurrection of Lazarus. Next, we visit the **Chapel of the Ascension**, the **Shrine of Pater Noster**, and the **Chapel of Dominus Flevit**, where we look directly across to the **Temple Mount** with a breathtaking view of the **Dome of the Rock**, Islam's third holiest site. Then, follow Jesus' "**Palm Sunday route**" along Hosanna Road to the **Garden of Gethsemane** for teaching and private time in prayer. In the garden, Father Peter tells the story of Jesus' mother Mary, exploring what it must have been like for her during Holy Week, seeing her son moving inextricably toward the cross. We walk down to the **Church of All Nations** and view the **Rock of Agony**. Here, we celebrate Mass. Our next visit is the **Church of St. Peter-in-Gallicantu**, which is built in the slopes of Mount Zion. According to tradition, this was the place of the palace of high priest Caiaphas, where Jesus was brought to jail after his arrest. This afternoon, we stop to have a late lunch (on our own) at the **Ramat Rachael**.

These are the tallest olive trees in the world! Before returning to our hotel, we take a short walk for a panoramic view of the Judean Wilderness, Bethlehem and Mount Herodian. Dinner and overnight in Jerusalem. (B, D)

Day 10: Thursday, November 14 – Jerusalem: Old City-Western Wall Tunnels

Early this morning, we drive to the **Old City** and enter through **St. Stephen's Gate** to walk the **Via Dolorosa** and pray along the **Stations of the Cross**, retracing Jesus' last steps before His crucifixion to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. We visit the **Crusader Church of St. Anne** and explore the **Pool of Bethesda**. We stop at the **Convent of the Sisters of Zion** to see the **Lithostrotos** in the **Chapel of the Flagellation**, where Jesus was tried and condemned by Pilate. At the **Church of the Holy Sepulchre**, we visit the **Chapel of St. Helena, Tomb of Christ (Holy Edicule)** and **Chapel of the Apparition**, where an altar dedicated to **St. Mary Magdalene** is located. After Mass, we return to our hotel for breakfast and a day at leisure. After dinner, we take a night tour of the **Western Wall** (or the "Wailing Wall"), the holiest site in Judaism. We walk through the "**Western Wall Tunnels**" (subject to time confirmation), treading on the very paving stone where Jesus and the Apostles walked. Dinner and overnight at our hotel in Jerusalem. (B, D)

Day 11: Friday, November 15 – Jerusalem: Wilderness of Judea-Ein Gedi- Masada-Qumran-Dead Sea

We depart early this morning and travel to the **Dead Sea**, the lowest place on earth. Our first visit of the day is at **Ein Gedi**, a lush oasis, which served as David's hideout when he was on the run from King Saul. Here, we will have time for prayer and reflection. We continue to **Masada**,

where we will take a cable car ride to the ruins of Herod's palace-fortress. We visit the ruins of the fortifications, reservoirs for water, Herodian palaces, synagogue, and Roman temples and baths. After lunch (on our own), we stop at **Qumran**, where the hidden library of the Essenes, the Dead Sea Scrolls (currently displayed at the Israel Museum), were found in 1947. We stop for an optional float in the Dead Sea before returning to Jerusalem. This evening we experience an authentic **Shabbat Dinner**. Return to our hotel. (B, D)



Day 12: Saturday, November 16 – Jerusalem/ Tel Aviv

Today is at leisure. You might consider shopping in the Old City or spending time exploring the Jerusalem Archaeological Park. This evening, our group will attend Mass at the **Pontifical Institute Notre Dame of Jerusalem Center in Our Lady of Peace Chapel**. Tonight, we celebrate a special **Farewell Dinner** at a local restaurant. This will be time to share our many joys and memories. After dinner, we make our way to Ben Gurion Airport in Tel Aviv, for our flight back to the United States. (B, D)

Day 13: Sunday, November 17 – Arrive United States

On our flight home to Los Angeles, we spend time reflecting on our unforgettable journey and pilgrimage of faith.

Note:

- *Masses are subject to confirmation.*
- *While we do our very best at making sure all items listed in your itinerary are included, there are times when conditions beyond our control affect your program/itinerary, including but not limited to air carrier changes, delays, weather, political climate, time constraints, or changes by your trip leader and tour guide.*

THE FINE PRINT

ENROLLMENT IN AND PAYMENT OF YOUR DEPOSIT FOR THE TOUR, CONSTITUTES YOUR ACCEPTANCE OF THE CONDITIONS AND STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITY.

INCLUDED IN PRICE:

Round-trip group coach air from Los Angeles; US and Intl. departure taxes; group transfers from group flights to group lodgings; accommodation and sightseeing per itinerary; breakfasts and dinners listed as "B" or "D" in the daily itinerary; entrance fees to sights visited as noted in the itinerary; destination group ground transportation; local guide(s); and all standard taxes and gratuities. Prices based on a **minimum group size of 36**.

NOT INCLUDED IN PRICE:

1) Optional Travel Insurance Program; 2) Miscellaneous fees and personal expenses such as Individual Transfers; Passports, Laundry, Beverages at All Meals; 3) LUNCHES; 4) Meals not listed as Included Above, Excess Baggage and Items of a Personal Nature; 5) Fuel Surcharges which may be imposed by airlines and other suppliers. If applicable, fuel surcharge will be paid by the passengers; 6) Any increase in taxes and fees imposed after printing of brochure; 7) Airline baggage/carryon charges; and 8) Any other items not listed above as included.

PAYMENT:

\$500.00 per person is required at registration. Only the deposit may be charged to your credit card. Final payment for trip, including optional insurance premium if applicable, is due by July 18, 2019, and must be paid by check (to help keep trip prices reasonable). Registrations received on or after July 18, 2019, **must be accompanied by full payment.** Thereafter, a late payment fee of \$195 will be assessed. *imagine* reserves the right to add a surcharge if the dollar declines by more than 2% against the Israel Shekel on foreign exchange rates in effect on January 15, 2019.

ACCOMMODATIONS:

Price is based on double occupancy. When available, single rooms/cabins are often smaller than doubles. While we will try to match roommates, we cannot guarantee one will be available. Roommates may be assigned as late as 35 days prior to departure and, if one is not available or if you request a single, the following **single supplement charges apply: \$1,499.00** for basic 13-Day Program.

ITINERARY and CHANGES:

Because airlines often change flight schedules after brochures are printed, *imagine* reserves the right to shorten or lengthen the itinerary accordingly and, whenever possible, you will be notified in writing. If itinerary changes necessitate extra overnights, you will be charged \$185 per night/per person; single rooms \$220 per night. Meals for extra night not included. *imagine* and the trip leader reserve the right to adjust or change arrangements or to eliminate, shorten, or limit certain aspects of the itinerary as circumstances warrant in their judgment. *imagine* also reserves the right to cancel this trip in its sole discretion if minimum no. of 36 paid passengers is not met.

LAND ONLY:

Land Only price is \$4,398.00 per person. Price does not include international flights. Land Only passengers may be responsible for transfers and/or additional overnights incurred by booking their own flights. We recommend you purchase a ticket which can be changed without large penalties, as the group's flights may change. Passengers changing from the regular tour to Land Only after 120 days prior to departure will be charged a fee of \$150 per person.

AIRLINE TICKETS:

In order to keep prices low, **we do not guarantee you will be on the most direct flights to your final destination. Also, we do not guarantee the group will be on the same flights.** Flight routings are chosen by the airlines. Airline tickets cannot be changed or refunded once issued. Air transportation to/from your destination will be economy class aboard IATA and ARC carriers utilizing APEX or SUPER APEX non-refundable, non-amendable tickets for groups of 10 or more flying together for entire itinerary. We are unable to use individual frequent flyer points to upgrade or accept them as partial payment for air transportation. Deviations by the passenger, from the group's scheduled flights, could result in different routings/air carriers.

VISAS:

Applicable visas will be obtained by *imagine* for U.S. and Canadian Citizens only. All passengers who do not carry U.S. or Canadian Passports will be responsible for obtaining visas to the countries they are visiting. *imagine* is not responsible for non-U.S. & Canadian Passport holders.

FLIGHT TIMES:

All flight times are subject to change by the airlines without advance notice. We are not responsible for such changes or delays and do not reimburse expenses resulting from such delays. If making your own flight arrangements to a departure city or any other portion of your trip, we recommend you purchase a ticket which can be changed without large penalties. Passengers are responsible for reconfirming their flights with the airline 24 hours prior to departure.

CANCELLATION FEES:

From day of registration, until January 31, 2019, fee is \$350.00 per person for trip; February 1, 2019 - July 17, 2019 fee is 100% of the deposit; July 19, 2019 - August 29, 2019, cancellation fee is 50% of Trip price per person; August 30, 2019 - September 20, 2019, cancellation fee is 75% of Trip price per person; and on/after September 21, 2019, 100% total Trip price (no refund). **Cancellations must be received in writing to be effective.** On or after day of departure, no refund for any services not used. **If final payment is not received by July 18, 2019, a late payment fee will be assessed or we may cancel your registration and refund your payment, less applicable cancellation fee. Devotion Travel recommends you purchase a travel protection plan. Coverage includes Trip Cancellation, Trip Interruption, Trip Delay, Baggage Delay and much more. Based on a tour price of \$5,198.00, the cost of the Travel Protection Plan is \$472.00.**

RIGHT TO CHANGE TRIP LEADER:

Should Fr. Peter Gelfer be unable to lead all/part of the trip for any reason, another trip leader may be substituted in his place without notice. There will be no refunds or credits.

PASSPORT:

Each passenger is responsible for making sure that they have a **valid passport that has an expiration date at least six months after the date of return from their trip.** A copy of your valid passport must be submitted to our office by July 18, 2019.

STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITY:

imagine and its associated companies agree to provide the itinerary described in this brochure. This represents the entire agreement between the passenger and his agent, the travel agent, the tour host, and the tour operator. All prices, itineraries and schedules are subject to regulations and changes by acts of government, international agreement, and airline tariff adjustments, rules, and regulations. *imagine* reserves the right to refuse or revoke travel to anyone who is, in the sole judgment of *imagine*, incapable of group travel. Except for the willful negligence of its direct employees, the tour operator assumes no liability or responsibility for any injuries, inconveniences, illness, irregularity, or incidental damages caused by circumstances beyond the control of the tour operator or by any person or reason whatsoever, including but not limited to events such as strikes, revolts, wars, natural disasters, closures of airports or hotel, default or omission of any common or private carrier, or the fault, negligence, or omission of and by any third party providing services or facilities related to or included in this tour or any part thereof, or in arranging for the same, or the acts or omissions of the travel agent or the tour host.

ENROLLMENT IN AND PAYMENT FOR THE TOUR, CONSTITUTES YOUR ACCEPTANCE OF THE CONDITIONS AND STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITY.

The conditions become a binding contract when your enrollment and payment are received and accepted. Florida law will be applicable to any dispute which arises out of or concerns regarding this brochure or your tour. *imagine* Tours & Travel, LLC., is registered with the State of Florida as a Seller of Travel. Registration No. ST36635.

RELEASE OF LIABILITY:

By traveling on this tour you affirm that you are fit to participate in this tour and accept all risks to your safety and health. All travel involves risks, and travel to some countries, including Israel, involves a heightened risk to your health and safety, including risks from terrorism, criminal acts, and illness. You understand and freely accept these risks, and you generally and specifically release and hold harmless *imagine* and Executours dba Devotion Travel and their officers, agents and employees from any liability and any claims for (i) any physical, mental, emotional or other injuries whatsoever that you may sustain related to this tour; (ii) delays, damages, illness, injuries or death, or for the loss of or damage to property, from any cause (including negligence) and however occurring; and (iii) any accident, illness, injury, damage, sickness, loss of personal property, delay, or other injury or claim of any kind related to or arising from strikes, armed conflicts, social or labor unrest or strikes/work stoppages, war or acts of war, terrorism or terrorist acts, acts of God, mechanical or construction failures or difficulties, diseases, local laws or acts of local or government authorities, criminal acts, weather or climatic conditions, volcanic eruption, earthquake, disruption of advertised schedules, refusal of visas, or any other causes beyond their direct control.

Traveler 360° Group Travel Protection Plan

Premier Plan Benefits

	Benefit Amounts per person (up to limits shown below)
Trip Cancellation.....	Up to 100% of Trip Cost
Trip Interruption.....	Up to 150% of Trip Cost
Trip Delay.....	\$1,000
Missed Cruise Connection.....	\$1,000
Emergency Medical Expenses.....	\$50,000
Emergency Medical Evacuation / Repatriation.....	\$250,000
Baggage and Baggage Delay.....	\$1,500 / \$250
Travel Assistance & Concierge Services*.....	Included

*Assistance Services are provided by Traveler's designated provider

This is a partial description of benefits. For a summary of coverages, benefits, limitations and exclusions of the insurance plan, please refer to the Description of Coverage or for a complete listing of terms and conditions refer to the Group Certificate/Individual Policy. This plan provides insurance coverage for your trip that applies only during the covered trip. You may have coverage from other sources that provides you with similar benefits but may be subject to different restrictions depending upon your other coverages. You may wish to compare the terms of this policy with your existing life, health, home and automobile policies. If you have any questions about your current coverage, call your insurer, insurance agent or broker. The purchase of this plan is not required in order to purchase any other travel product or service offered to you by your travel retailers. California Residents: California Insurance Department: Toll free consumer hotline is 1-800-927-7357. Traveler CA Agency License #0D10209. Travel Insurance is underwritten by Stonebridge Casualty Insurance Company, a Transamerica company, Columbus, OH; NAIC #10952

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