



PROROME



REGISTER TODAY

A Jubilee Pilgrimage to Italy Join Fr. Juan Puigbó & St. Leo the Great Parish, Fairfax VA

This pilgrimage features three nights in Subiaco, one night in Manoppello, one night at the Sanctuary of Saint Michael the Archangel, two nights in Matera, one night in Pompeii and three nights in Rome, with day trips to L'Aquila, Lanciano, San Giovanni Rotondo, and Monte Cassino along the way. Daily Mass - the cornerstone of each day - will be complemented by a touring program that will immerse pilgrims in the incredible history, heritage and relics of our Catholic Faith. Highlights include an Audience with the Holy Father in Saint Peter's Square, the Papal Basilicas of Rome, the Eucharistic Miracle of Lanciano, the incorrupt body of Padre Pio, and the breathtaking views of the Amalfi Coast.

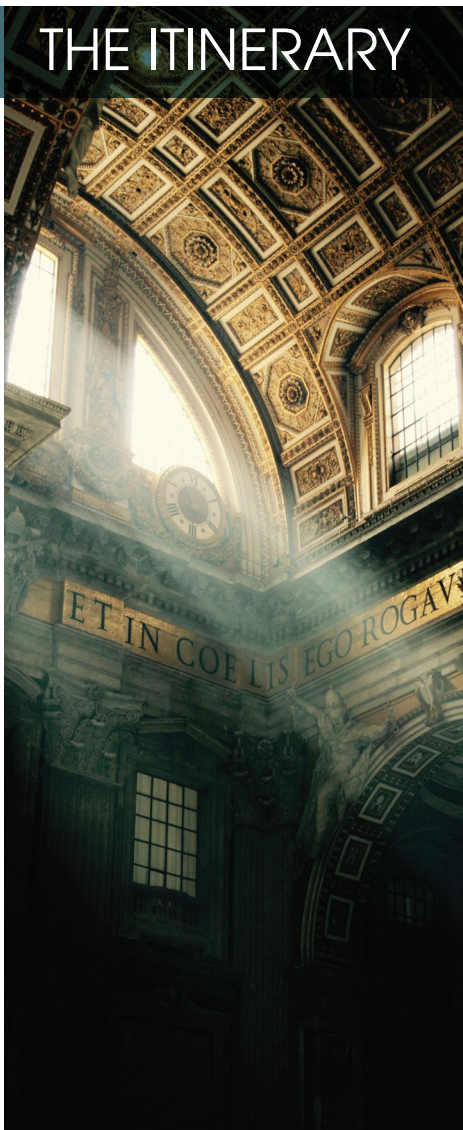
Roundtrip airfare from Washington Dulles and hotel accommodations will be arranged. A ProRome tour manager will accompany the group throughout the course of the pilgrimage, and private bus transportation, Catholic tour guides, all tours and tickets, daily breakfast and daily dinner are included in the price.

March 23 - April 4, 2025

\$4980 per person (includes airfare from Washington Dulles Airport)

For more information or to register, please visit www.prorometours.com/stleothegreatparish or contact ProRome Tours directly at (434) 953 1112 or by email at office@prorome.com.

THE ITINERARY



Sunday, March 23 **Departure**

Flight information can be found on the ProRome trip webpage.

Monday, March 24 **Arrival In Rome | Subiaco**

Upon arrival in Rome we will be met by our tour director and private bus and depart immediately for Subiaco, where St. Benedict first went to escape the world - which meant Rome and his academic studies. This was around the year 494 and he was fourteen years old. Two miles from that spot, the beautiful hilltown of Subiaco grew up in the Middle Ages. An 11th century abbey that also functioned as a protective castle still towers over the town. At the base of the town, spanning the River Aniene, is the Bridge of San Francesco; a beautiful stone bridge built in 1358 which remains completely intact and untouched. After our tour we will check-in to our hotel for dinner and overnight.

Holy Mass: Monastery of St. Scholastica
Meals Included: Dinner

Tuesday, March 25 **Subiaco**

Subiaco invites us to walk in the footsteps of St. Benedict. We will visit the Sacro Speco (holy cave) where Benedict first lived as a hermit and developed the rules of the Benedictine Order. Here are cells and chapels, many of them painted. We will see the first known portrait of St. Francis of Assisi, believed to coincide with a retreat that he made there around 1223. St. Benedict built his first monastery, the Abbey of St. Scholastica, about a mile and a half from the site, and several others were built in the vicinity. In the evening we will all return to our hotel for a group dinner and overnight.

Holy Mass: Subiaco
Meals Included: Breakfast and Dinner

Wednesday, March 26 **Subiaco**

We will begin our day celebrating the Holy Mass together and will then be given the rest of the day to spend as we wish. We will be able to revisit some of the sites we have already seen, explore new ones, spend some time in personal prayer or simply rest. We will all reconvene in the evening for group dinner before retiring for the evening.

Holy Mass: Subiaco
Meals Included: Breakfast and Dinner

Thursday, March 27 **L'Aquila | Manoppello**

After breakfast we depart for L'Aquila, a medieval jewel that dates from the 13th century. Parts of the town are still being rebuilt following a devastating earthquake in 2006. Arriving in Aquila we will stop to see the fascinating Fountain of 99 spouts built in 1272. Each spout is a sculpted unique face. The meaning of the 99 faces is unknown; as well, the source of the water that feeds the fountain remains unknown to this day. We will visit the church of Santa Maria di Collemaggio, where we will learn the story of the monk Pietro da Morrone, to whom the Blessed Mother appeared in a dream and told him to build a church in her honor. Pietro later became Pope St. Celestine V, who resigned from the Papacy, a task which was much too difficult for this monk of profound interior spirituality. St. Celestine is buried in the church. Here we will celebrate Mass.

After free time for lunch we will depart for Manoppello. Upon our arrival we will visit the Santuario del Volto Santo (Holy Face). We will venerate the unpainted image of the face of Christ, believed to be miraculously visible on a cloth that is woven of rare Mediterranean fiber. It is claimed that this is the veil of Veronica that disappeared from St. Peter's in 1508 during the basilica's rebuilding. Around 1608 the veil was given to the Capuchins of Manoppello. After our tour concludes, we will check-in to our local hotel where we have dinner and overnight.

Holy Mass: Santa Maria di Collemaggio
Meals Included: Breakfast and Dinner

Friday, March 28 **Lanciano | Sanctuary Of Saint Michael**

Following an early breakfast we depart Manoppello for the Sanctuary of Saint Michael the Archangel. Along the way we will stop in Lanciano, the site of a Eucharistic Miracle that took place in the 8th century to a monk who doubted Christ's true presence in the Eucharist. Following the prayers of Consecration, this monk watched as the host was changed into living flesh and the wine was changed into living blood, which coagulated into five balls, irregular and differing in shape and size. Scientific studies have proven that this is in fact living human flesh of muscular tissue from the heart. Here we will celebrate Holy Mass together.

Departing Lanciano, we will continue on our way to the Sanctuary of Saint Michael the Archangel, a medieval sanctuary built into the rocky summit of a mountain overlooking the Adriatic Sea. In the 5th century, when Barbarian invasions were unsettling many parts of the European continent, the local bishop saw a miraculous apparition of St. Michael on this site. For over a thousand years it has been one of the most important pilgrimage sites in Europe. We will enjoy free time to explore and pray, before checking into our religious guest house for dinner and overnight.

Holy Mass: Lanciano
Meals Included: Breakfast and Dinner

Saturday, March 29 **San Giovanni Rotondo | Matera**

Following breakfast, we will depart the Sanctuary for the nearby San Giovanni Rotondo. Upon our arrival we will celebrate Holy Mass and then receive a guided tour. We will visit the friary where Padre Pio lived and worked many miracles. Our tour will conclude with the opportunity to pray in front of the incorrupt body of St. Padre Pio. We will then break for an independent lunch and some free time to rest or explore.

In the late afternoon we will board our motorcoach and continue to the town of Matera. Matera is among the most captivating sites in Europe for its antiquity and religious history. Upon our arrival we will check-in to our hotel and enjoy a delicious dinner and then retire for the evening.

Holy Mass: San Giovanni Rotondo
Meals Included: Breakfast and Dinner

Sunday, March 30 **Matera**

Matera sits atop cliffs which contain hundreds of rock dwellings, monks' cells and churches hewn out of the cliffs. This was one of the oldest settlements in Italy, being occupied by humans some 8,000 years before Christ. In the 8th century, Benedictine monks began dwelling here and many of the caves were made into chapels. In the 8th, 9th and 10th centuries, monks and priests from the Byzantine East came westward to Italy to escape the Muslim advances; some came and dwelt in Matera. They decorated the cave church-

ITINERARY CONTINUED



es with Byzantine wall paintings. The cave church of Santa Maria alle Malve is the first female Benedictine settlement. Visiting and contemplating these painted rupestrian churches is like an experience out of time.

We will also have the chance to visit Matera's gorgeous 13th century Romanesque cathedral, Santa Maria della Bruna. It contains the relics of St. John of Matera, a Benedictine monk and preacher. Here we will celebrate Holy Mass. The group will then return in the evening for dinner and overnight.

Holy Mass: Santa Maria della Bruna
Meals Included: Breakfast and Dinner

Monday, March 31 **Amalfi | Pompeii**

Following an early breakfast, we will depart for a leisurely day trip to the beautiful Amalfi Coast. Here we will celebrate Holy Mass at the Cathedral of St. Andrew, before enjoying some free time for lunch and exploring. Following lunch, we will depart Amalfi for Pompeii. Upon arrival, we will stop at the Shrine of the Virgin of the Rosary in Pompeii. Built by Blessed Bartolo Longo, a 19th century convert to Roman Catholicism from Satanism, this shrine is dedicated to Our Lady of the Rosary and has been a place of great devotion and pilgrimage for more than 100 years. Blessed Bartolo Longo's incredible conversion and subsequent devotion and promulgation of Our Lady's Holy Rosary make this place one of the world's greatest Marian Shrines, and a center of Catholic devotion in southern Italy. We will then check-in at our hotel for dinner and overnight.

Holy Mass: Cathedral of St. Andrew
Meals Included: Breakfast and Dinner

Tuesday, April 1 **Monte Cassino | Saint Paul Outside The Walls**

Following an early breakfast in Amalfi we will depart for Rome. Along the way we will stop at the mountain-top monastery of Monte Cassino. This monastery is the motherhouse of the Benedictine Order (OSB) and the burial place of Saint Benedict and his sister Saint Scholastica. Here we will enjoy lunch and a beautiful tour of the monastery. We will then conclude our time at Monte Cassino with the celebration of Holy Mass before continuing our journey to Rome.

Right before we arrive in Rome we will visit the Papal Basilica of Saint Paul Outside the Walls, the burial place of Saint Paul and the second-largest Catholic church in the world. Located just south of the historical center on the banks of the Tiber River, Saint Paul's is a peaceful refuge and the perfect place to begin our time in Rome. Here we will enjoy a guided tour before continuing on to our hotel, where we will check-in and then proceed to dinner.

Holy Mass: Monte Cassino
Meals Included: Breakfast and Dinner

Wednesday, April 2 **Papal Audience | Scavi Tour**

Following breakfast we will attend an Audience with the Holy Father in Saint Peter's Square. Make sure to bring religious articles which the Pope will bless at the conclusion of the Audience! After the Audience we will attend Mass in the church of San Lorenzo in Piscibus, followed by free time for lunch. You might consider strolling through the medieval Borgo Pio neighborhood and stopping in one of the Borgo's many quaint restaurants for a sumptuous Italian pranzo. Our favorites? I Tre Pupazzi and Arlu.

In the afternoon we will rendezvous in St. Peter's Square and embark on the Scavi Tour, a unique subterranean tour that takes the visitor right to the tomb of St. Peter himself. Following the tour all will have some free time to ourselves, before concluding the day with a group dinner.

Holy Mass: San Lorenzo in Piscibus
Meals Included: Breakfast and Dinner

Thursday, April 3 **St. Peter's Basilica | St. Mary Major | The Lateran**

Following an early breakfast we depart to Saint Peter's Basilica for Mass followed by a guided tour of the basilica. After the tour you might consider climbing to the top of Michelangelo's dome - nearly 450 feet above the streets below! There will then be free time for lunch.

Following lunch, we will visit the great Basilica of Saint Mary Major where we will have Mass and a tour. After our time here we will make our way to the Cathedral of Rome, "The Lateran." Built by Constantine in the 4th century, this church is known as the "Mater et Caput" - the mother and head of all the churches in the entire world, as it officially became the seat of the Bishop of Rome upon the legalization of Christianity under the Emperor Constantine the Great. After the tour everyone will have the opportunity to climb the Holy Stairs - the very stairs that Christ once walked in the Praetorium of Pontius Pilate. The stairs must be climbed on one's knees out of respect for our Lord and the suffering He endured. We will then walk down the street to venerate the most Holy Relics of Christ's Passion, including a large relic of the True Cross, kept in the Basilica of Holy Cross in Jerusalem. We will then proceed to dinner before returning to our hotel for the night.

Holy Mass: Saint Peter's Basilica
Meals Included: Breakfast and Dinner

Friday, April 4 **Departure**

Following breakfast we will depart for FCO airport for our return flights home. Buon viaggio!

Holy Mass: TBD
Meals Included: Breakfast



▶ Final Cost

\$4980 per person, airfare included

▶ Payment Schedule

\$200 - ProRome Registration Fee - Due upon Registration

\$2390 - Due September 20, 2024

\$2390 - Due November 22, 2024

\$990 - Single Occupancy Surcharge (if applicable) - Due November 22, 2024

▶ Price Includes

- Roundtrip airfare from Washington Dulles on ITA Airways
- 11 nights lodging in double occupancy room
 - Three nights lodging at Foresteria di Santa Scolastica in Subiaco
 - One night lodging at the La Casa del Pellegrino in Manoppello
 - One night lodging at the Hotel Casa del Pellegrino at the Sanctuary of Saint Michael
 - Two nights lodging at the Locanda San Martino Thermae in Matera
 - One night lodging at a hotel in Pompeii
 - Three nights lodging at the Nova Domus Aurelia in Rome
- ProRome Tour Manager throughout the course of the trip
- Professional English-speaking guides for all visits according to the above itinerary
- Tours and all entry-tickets
- Daily buffet breakfast (without choice of menus)
- Daily three-course dinner (without choice of menus)
- Water and house wine at meals
- Deluxe a/c coach when required (note that we will still walk 3-5 miles per day)
- Audio guiding system throughout the course of the trip

▶ Price Exclusions

- Any personal expenses
- Daily lunch
- Beverages other than water and house wine at included meals
- Trip Insurance (available for purchase through ProRome)
- Gratuities for the Tour Manager and Driver (Suggest \$20-\$30 per person for both the tour manager and the bus driver)



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