

IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF CHRIST

11-Day Saint Michael and All Angels Family Pilgrimage to the
HOLY LAND AND JORDAN
March 11–22, 2027

Hosted by
The Rev. Dr. Christopher Girata

Day 1 – Thursday, March 11 – DALLAS/TEL AVIV

Depart Dallas and arrive in Tel Aviv, Israel the following day in the afternoon.

Day 2 – Friday, March 12 – TEL AVIV/JERUSALEM

Arrive at Ben Gurion Airport in Israel in the afternoon. Transfer from the airport to the city of Jerusalem for dinner and overnight: David Citadel Hotel.

Day 3 – Saturday, March 13 – JERUSALEM/BETHLEHEM

This morning after breakfast we begin on the Mount of Olives for a panoramic view of the Old City of Jerusalem. We visit the Place of Ascension and the Pater Noster Church. We then drive to Bethlehem to visit the Church of the Nativity built over the cave where Christ was born. Proceed on to Shepherd's Field before returning to Jerusalem for dinner and overnight: David Citadel Hotel.

Day 4 – Sunday, March 14 – JERUSALEM/OLD CITY/MASADA/QUMRAN/DEAD SEA

This morning, we begin with Holy Eucharist at St. George's Cathedral. Following the service, we walk through the Walled City of Jerusalem. We enter through Herod's Gate to visit the Crusaders Church of St. Anne and the Pool of Bethesda. We then proceed to the temple area, Mount Moriah, where Abraham prepared to sacrifice Isaac, the Dome of the Rock, Mosque of El Aksa, and the Western Wall or Wailing Wall. After lunch we will drive to Masada. Along the way we will view the Qumran Caves in the Judaean Desert where the Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered. We will enjoy a swim in the Dead Sea before returning to Jerusalem. Dinner and overnight: Jerusalem, David Citadel Hotel.

Day 5 – Monday, March 15 – PETRA

This morning, we proceed to the country of Jordan. We enter the country of Jordan via Allenby Bridge and continue to Petra. In the afternoon, we experience the rose-red city of Petra known as Mount Seir in biblical times. Petra is unquestionably Jordan's most spectacular site to visit, always a breath-taking adventure. Petra flourished as a Nabataean city for some 500 years from the second century B.C. to the early fourth century A.D. Petra, the Rock, the Nabataean capital city, is an awesome, indestructible monument to the power and skill of the Nabataeans, an ancient Arab tribe. The whole city was carved out of solid rose-red sandstone leaving us the rock-cut relics of a civilization that expanded the barriers of human knowledge and technology 2,000 years ago. We will enter the city through its only narrow entrance called "the siq" which is a mere slit between cliffs 300 feet above. Dinner and overnight: Movenpick Hotel.

Day 6 – Tuesday, March 16 – JERASH/BEIT SHE'AN/TIBERIAS

This morning, we proceed north through the country of Jordan to the city of Jerash, the best preserved Roman provincial city with its magnificent arenas, theaters, and temples. We leave Jordan and cross

back into Israel at the Sheikh Hussein Bridge. After crossing into Israel, we will visit the city of Beit She'an, one of the oldest cities in the ancient Near East. It is one of the largest archaeological excavation sites in Israel and is one of the Decapolis cities of the Roman Empire. We continue to Tiberias for dinner and overnight: Scots Hotel.

Day 7 – Wednesday, March 17 – NAZARETH

This morning, we begin the day with a visit to Christ Episcopal School where we will have an opportunity to interact with students and teachers at our sister Episcopal school in Nazareth. Our youth will participate in the classrooms with their age group school activities and will attend a luncheon hosted by the school. In the afternoon, we proceed to the Church of Annunciation where the angel appeared to Mary and announced to her about the birth of Christ. We will visit the synagogue where Jesus taught, Mary's Well and the Old Market. Dinner and overnight: Tiberias, Scots Hotel.

Day 8 – Thursday, March 18 – SEA OF GALILEE/CAPERNAUM/MT. OF BEATITUDES

This morning, we begin with a 50-minute boat ride on the Sea of Galilee from Tiberias to Capernaum. We will visit the ruins of the second century synagogue, the ruins of the house of Simon Peter where our Lord lived after he was rejected in his hometown of Nazareth. We continue to Tabgha where Christ performed the miracle of the loaves and fishes and on to the Church of Primacy of St. Peter. We then proceed to the Mount of Beatitudes where Christ gave the Sermon on the Mount. Dinner and overnight: Tiberias, Scots Hotel.

Day 9 – Friday, March 19 – MT. CARMEL/HAIFA/CAESAREA

This morning, we leave Tiberias and travel the coastal highway to the city of Haifa where we will ascend Mt. Carmel for a view of the Mediterranean Sea and harbor, see the Carmelite monastery and Elijah's Cave, view the Bahai temple and the hanging gardens. We proceed south to Caesarea to visit the Roman theater, the water aqueduct and the ruins of the Crusaders' city. Continue to Jerusalem for dinner and overnight: David Citadel Hotel.

Day 10 – Saturday, March 20 – MOUNT OF OLIVES/GETHSEMANE/VIA DOLOROSA/ CHURCH OF THE HOLY SEPULCHRE

This morning, we begin at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre to visit the Tomb of Christ then return for breakfast. Next to the Garden of Gethsemane, the Church of All Nations, then on to visit the house of Caiaphas where Peter denied the Lord three times. From there we proceed to Pilate's Judgement Hall, Chapel of Flagellation, Lithostrotos. We then follow the Via Dolorosa to the roof of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. The remaining afternoon is free for family time and shopping as well as our preparation to depart hotel in the morning. Dinner and overnight: Jerusalem, David Citadel Hotel.

Day 11 – Sunday, March 21 – YAD VASHEM/EIN KAREM

This morning, we drive to West Jerusalem for a visit to the Holy Land Scale Model of Jerusalem at the time of Christ. We will then visit the Israel Museum where the Dead Sea Scrolls collection is exhibited as well as the Holocaust History Museum Yad Vashem. We continue the drive to Ein Karem where John the Baptist was born. In the evening, we will enjoy a farewell dinner in Jerusalem before leaving for Ben Gurion Airport for our trip back to the U.S. We will arrive back in the U.S. early the following morning (Monday, March 22).