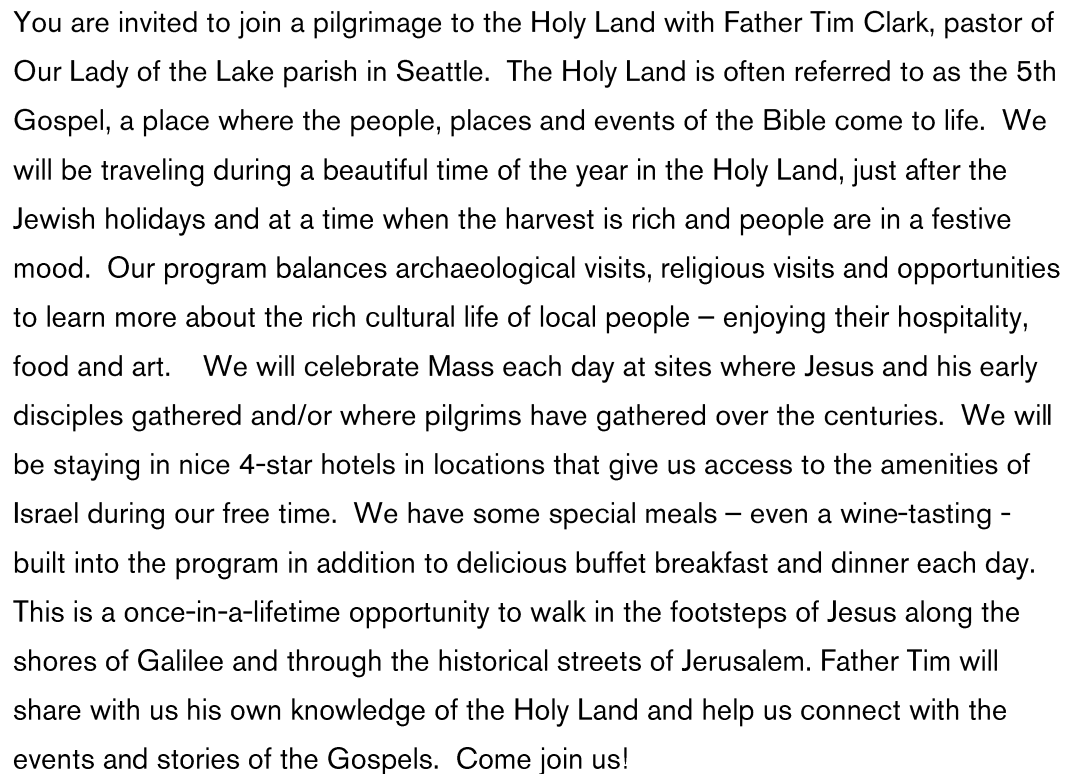


Exploring Our Faith Heritage: A Pilgrimage to the Holy Land
October 17-27, 2017You are invited to join a pilgrimage to the Holy Land with Father Tim Clark, pastor of Our Lady of the Lake parish in Seattle. The Holy Land is often referred to as the 5th Gospel, a place where the people, places and events of the Bible come to life. We will be traveling during a beautiful time of the year in the Holy Land, just after the Jewish holidays and at a time when the harvest is rich and people are in a festive mood. Our program balances archaeological visits, religious visits and opportunities to learn more about the rich cultural life of local people – enjoying their hospitality, food and art. We will celebrate Mass each day at sites where Jesus and his early disciples gathered and/or where pilgrims have gathered over the centuries. We will be staying in nice 4-star hotels in locations that give us access to the amenities of Israel during our free time. We have some special meals – even a wine-tasting - built into the program in addition to delicious buffet breakfast and dinner each day. This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to walk in the footsteps of Jesus along the shores of Galilee and through the historical streets of Jerusalem. Father Tim will share with us his own knowledge of the Holy Land and help us connect with the events and stories of the Gospels. Come join us!

We are all members of a global community that is increasingly interdependent. The future of our world depends on our cultivating a spirit of hospitality, respect, understanding and compassion for one another.

Enlightenment comes in many forms, but we believe that there are few life experiences more moving than exploring other cultures, meeting people of diverse backgrounds, and becoming a citizen of the world – *leading and inspiring respectful and compassionate ways of life.*



A Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

EVENT SPECIFICS

Our Program

Tuesday, October 17: Departure from Seattle for Tel Aviv.

Wednesday, October 18: *We Travel as Pilgrims to the Birthplace of Our Faith Tradition.* We arrive today in Tel Aviv and transfer with the tour manager to our hotel in Nazareth. Dinner and overnight Nazareth.

Nazareth is Jesus' home town. The city was a modest size village during the time of Jesus and suffered during the Jewish revolt against the Romans in the 1st century. Today it is inhabited by Christians, Jews and Muslims and includes a medieval architectural center as well as a covered souk.

Thursday, October 19: *The Roman and Jewish Context of Jesus' Early Life.* Breakfast. This morning we will visit the Basilica of the Annunciation with Mass at the Grotto, followed by visits to Mary's well, the synagogue church, and the excavations under the Sisters of Nazareth guesthouse. We will proceed to nearby Sepphoris—a large Roman town—and conclude with visit to Cana to renew marriage vows. We will return to Nazareth for dinner and overnight.

The main attraction here is the Basilica of the Annunciation – a modern church built over the ruins of a Byzantine church built over a cave where the angel Gabriel appeared to Mary, announcing that she had been chosen by God to be the mother of the Messiah. There are also ruins nearby of a site believed to be the home and workshop of Joseph. The excavations under the Sisters of Nazareth complex date back to the 1st century and are evidence of a home and workshop. There are artifacts and other elements of the site that lead some archaeologists to conclude that this could be the home of Mary, Joseph and Jesus.

Sepphoris was once the capital of Galilee. This is now one of the most important archaeological parks in the region. The hilltop includes a Roman theatre that seated 5000, the remains of a Crusader citadel and sections of the ancient water supply. Joseph of Tiberias, a Jewish convert, built the first Christian church around 306-37 in Sepphoris. The Crusader Church is dedicated to Mary's parents, Anne and Joachim.

Cana is the site where Jesus performed his first miracle at the wedding feast (John 2:1-11). There is a church here that

commemorates the miracle and a nice place where married couples renew their marriage vows.

Friday, October 20: *Jesus' Ministry on the Shores of Galilee.* Breakfast. We will begin with a visit to Nof Ginosar to see the "Jesus Boat," traveling after by boat to Capernaum. We will visit this great archaeological site and then continue to Tabgha for a visit to the site of the Multiplication of the Loaves and Fishes, with Mass here. Afterwards, we will have lunch at Peter's Fish Lunch. We will continue with visits to the Mt. of Beatitudes and Migdal (a new site –with a synagogue and a nice chapel celebrating women in scripture). We will stop at Yardenit for renewal of our baptismal vows. Dinner and overnight Nazareth.

Capernaum is one of the most important sites along the shores of Galilee. There is an extensive archaeological park here with ruins from the 1st century. This was the city where many of Jesus' first disciples lived. A church is built over the ruins believed to be the house of Simon Peter where Jesus cured his mother-in-law. The ruins of a 4th century synagogue underscore the long-term importance of this city for Jewish life in the region.

Near Capernaum is Tabgha. It is here that Jesus did much of his preaching. The Church of the Multiplication of the Loaves and Fishes commemorates the miracle of the feeding of those gathered to hear Jesus. The site is right on the shore of the Sea and offers a suggestive place to commemorate Jesus' calling of his disciples (as the Chapel of the Primacy of Peter celebrates).

The Mount of Beatitudes is a hillside overlooking the Sea of Galilee. It lies on the northern end of the sea in a region where Jesus was active in his ministry and in calling his first disciples. The site includes a beautiful eight-sided chapel signifying the eight beatitudes and offers an inspiring place for worship and prayer. The site marks the place where Jesus preached to the crowds - his so-called 'Sermon on the Mount.' Galilee was the region where the rabbis fled after the destruction of the temple in the year 70. It was there that they began to write commentaries on the Jewish scriptures. There are many similarities between the themes of the Gospels and the commentaries of the rabbis, underscoring how important this region was for the creative evolution of Jewish and early Christian spirituality. Matthew's Gospel compares Jesus with Moses as Moses receives the Torah (Law) on Mount Sinai.

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Saturday, October 21: *We Journey with Jesus to Jerusalem.* Breakfast. This morning we will visit the Mt. of Transfiguration, with Mass. We will continue with a visit to Caesarea Maritima and then proceed to Jerusalem and stop on top of Mt. of Olives for a panoramic view of the Old City of Jerusalem. We will check into our hotel for dinner and overnight.

Caesarea Maritima was built by King Herod and later became the seat of government of the Roman governors including Pontius Pilate who sat in judgment on Jesus Christ and sentenced him to be crucified. We shall visit the extensive excavations of the site including the harbor, the Crusader City, the theatre, the hippodrome and the Roman aqueduct.

The Mount of Olives rises to the east of the Old City of Jerusalem. It has been a burial site for 4500 years – with acres of tombs covering the hillsides. It is believed that this is where the Messiah will first beckon the faithful to the resurrection. There are breathtaking views from the Mount of Olives of the Old City of Jerusalem including an unobstructed view of the Temple Mount and the Dome of the Rock.

The Mount of Olives is associated with Jesus' agony and betrayal. Nearby is the Chapel of the Ascension, built on the site where Jesus is believed to have ascended into heaven after his resurrection. The road nearby is called the Palm Sunday Road – the route Jesus would have taken from Bethphage to Jerusalem during his triumphal entry into the city. The Pater Noster Church commemorates the place when Jesus taught his disciples to pray. The Chapel of Dominus Flevit is built around a rock in the garden believed by medieval pilgrims to have been the place where Jesus wept over his impending passion. The Church of All Nations was built over the site where Jesus prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane.

Sunday, October 22: *Our Jewish Heritage.* Breakfast. Early this morning, we will visit the Temple mount area (Haram Esh-Sharif) and the Western Wall. We will celebrate morning Mass at St. Anne's before a visit to the Jerusalem Archaeological Complex and Davidson Center. We will enjoy some free time in the Old City. This afternoon, we will visit a vineyard for a wine tasting. Dinner and overnight Jerusalem.

Haram Esh-Sharif is the large platform rebuilt by the Muslims in

the 8th century. It was originally the site of the Jewish temple and traditionally believed to be the place where Abraham went up to sacrifice his son (and was given a goat instead). The Dome of the Rock sits here. It is a magnificent shrine built by the Muslims to commemorate the site and to mark Muhammad's mystical ascent.

The Church of St. Anne is built over the site where Anne and Joachim, the parents of the Virgin Mary, lived.

The Jerusalem Archaeological Complex and the Davidson Center is a large archaeological park adjacent to the Western Wall devoted to exposing the various foundations and monuments built on this site. There is an important and illuminating exhibit of the development of Jerusalem over the millennia.

Monday, October 23: *The Passion of Christ.* Breakfast. This morning we will visit the Upper Room, St. Peter in Gallicantu (Caiphas's house), and then Garden of Gethsemane, with Mass. Sack lunch will be included. We will then proceed with the Stations of the Cross—from St. Ann's to the Holy Sepulchre. Dinner and overnight Jerusalem.

The Church of St. Peter in Gallicantu is built over some 1st century caves and buildings. According to tradition, this is where Jesus was held prisoner prior to his trial and where Peter denied knowing Jesus when he was accused of being one of his followers.

A crusader building houses the "Upper Room," place where the disciples dined with Jesus – the so-called "Last Supper." It is here that Jesus washed their feet and announced his impending death. Jews believe that in the lower level of the building, amongst a series of chambers, is the Tomb of King David. This continues to be an important Jewish pilgrimage site.

The Garden of Gethsemane is a very evocative of the site where Jesus prayed with his disciples prior to his arrest and passion. It continues to be a grove of olive trees just under the shadow of the walled city of Jerusalem.

The Via Dolorosa is a route through the Old City of Jerusalem that traces the path of Jesus' journey from his trial and flagellation to his crucifixion and burial. Christians stop at 14 stations to remember important moments of that journey and to pray. The Via Dolorosa ends at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre.

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Tuesday, October 24: *Witnessing to Christ.* Breakfast. Early this morning, we will celebrate Mass at the Holy Sepulchre. Afterwards we will travel to Bethlehem to visit the Church of the Nativity and Shepherd's Field. We will visit the Holy Child Center in Bethlehem to learn about Palestinian Christians' lives, hopes, and struggles. Lunch in Bethlehem will be included. We will return to Jerusalem for some free time. Dinner and overnight Jerusalem.

The Church of the Holy Sepulchre was first built by Emperor Constantine and his mother Helena in the 4th century. In the 11th century it was rebuilt and has been enlarged and repaired over the centuries. It encloses two important sites – Golgotha, the site of Jesus' crucifixion and the tomb of Jesus, where he was laid to rest after his death and where he resurrected. Disputes over access to the most important pilgrimage site for Christians led to a resolution under the Ottoman Turks, dividing custody among Armenians, Greeks, Cops, Roman Catholics, Ethiopians and Syrians.

Bethlehem is the traditional birth place of Jesus. The town is not far from Jerusalem and attempts have been made to preserve some of the pastoral feel it must have had in the 1st century. In the 4th century, Constantine built a church over the site of Jesus' birth. The church has been enlarged and rebuilt several times. A star marks the place of Jesus' birth in the Grotto of the Nativity. The Field of Shepherds commemorates the place where the shepherds learned of Jesus' birth and came to pay him homage.

Wednesday, October 25: *The Dead Sea.* Today we will go on an excursion to Masada and Ein Gedi. If time permits, we will also visit Qumran. We will return to Jerusalem for dinner and overnight.

Masada, the site of the last Jewish resistance against the Romans in 73 AD. It is an impressive fortress built high upon a plateau. Originally, Herod had used it as a desert palace. There are extensive ruins accessible by a gondola or, for the more athletically inclined, by winding foot path. There are magnificent views of the desert and the Dead Sea.

Qumran is the site where the Essenes – an ascetical Jewish community of the 1st century – lived and prepared for the coming of the Messiah. Their writings were lost until a Bedouin shepherd found a cave full of jars containing their scrolls in 1947. The so-

called Dead Sea Scrolls were instrumental in helping scholars better understand the various movements that were active in 1st century Palestine and their relationship to the life and teachings of Jesus. The scrolls are now preserved in the Israeli Museum in Jerusalem.

Thursday, October 26: *We Travel Forth as Pilgrims Renewed.* Breakfast. This morning we will visit the Israel Museum and Yad Vashem, followed by an afternoon visit to Abu Gosh, with Mass. If time permits, we will visit Ein Karem. This evening we will enjoy a farewell dinner in the area and then transfer to the airport for our return flight to Seattle.

The Yad Vashem memorial is a center that includes archives, exhibits and monuments. It commemorates those who lost their lives during the Holocaust and those who risked their lives seeking to assist Jews – such as Oskar Schindler. The exhibits help visitors gain an appreciation for the various dimensions of the Holocaust under the Nazi regime.

Abu Gosh is the site where Christians commemorate the appearance of Jesus after his resurrection at the place of Emmaus (Luke 24). There are two sites traditionally believed to be Emmaus. One is Latrun - where older legends place the breaking of the bread and appearance of Jesus. In Latrun there is a crusader church, a Cistercian monastery and a templar fortress. But, the Crusaders shifted emphasis to Abu Gosh (a place associated with the resting place of the Ark of the Covenant just before King David took it to Jerusalem) based on a more accurate distance from Jerusalem given in Latin Bibles and the presence of a caravanserai (a watering place along the highway) that was more evocative of the scene from Luke. A beautiful church was built here in the 12th century and is the place where groups come to celebrate the appearance of the resurrected Jesus in the Eucharist.

Ein Karem is a beautiful village where John the Baptist was born. Several churches and monasteries were built here to commemorate his life, including the visitation of Mary to her cousin Elizabeth.

Friday, October 27: We arrive back in Seattle today.

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Inclusive Features

- Roundtrip airfare Seattle to Tel Aviv
- Four star hotel accommodations in twin-bedded rooms as follows:
 - Nazareth ~ 3 nights
 - Jerusalem ~ 5 nights
- Continental breakfast served daily in the hotels
- Dinner served daily in the hotels
- Three lunches
- One wine tasting at a vineyard
- A farewell dinner at a local restaurant
- Transportation via private deluxe motorcoach with English-speaking assistance
- Services of a professional, government-licensed, English-speaking tour manager/guide throughout Israel
- Privately guided sightseeing including entrance fees as per the itinerary
- Luggage, portorage, road and local taxes

Travel Resource Center: Visit www.travelillum.com/trc/vbb for details and registration information. Please contact Fr. Clark with any questions:

(206) 523-6776 x 111
frtim@ollseattle.org

Program Prices

\$3675 per person based on double occupancy
 + \$725 additional - airline taxes, airport fees, security fees, fuel surcharges (estimate as of January 10, 2017)

\$800 supplement for single room occupancy

Please note: Single rooms for single use are limited to 10% of the total number of rooms reserved. Should additional single rooms be requested, hotels may impose a higher supplement for all single rooms of \$1250. Alternatively, if you have selected double occupancy but no roommate is available due to uneven numbers or if your roommate should cancel you will be in a single room and responsible for the single room supplement.

Land Only Program Prices:

(excludes all air transportation and airport transfers)

\$3025 per person based on double occupancy
 + \$0.00 additional airline taxes, airport fees, security fees
 \$800 supplement for single room occupancy

All prices listed are discounted for payment by check. When paying with a credit card you will be charged the standard base price which is 5% higher.

All program prices are based on availability of services at the time registration material is received; currency exchange rates in effect January 10, 2017—and on 2017 land and air tariffs—and are subject to change. All services are provided subject to Illume's Conditions and Clauses.

The program prices will be reviewed before the invoices for the final payment are mailed, and will reflect the current prices.

Travel Insurance

Illume recommends that you purchase travel insurance to cover the cost of the investment you will make. Travel insurance provides peace of mind and protection against the unexpected. Please read the Illume Conditions and Clauses attached to the Program Registration Application to review the charges that will apply in the event that you cancel your program participation. Illume offers you the option of adding a Group Deluxe Insurance Plan to your program. If you wish to purchase the plan, the premium **must be paid** with your initial deposit on the same check.

Travel Insurance Premiums:

\$ 276 Deluxe Group Travel Insurance Plan – double occupancy
 \$ 353 Deluxe Group Travel Insurance Plan – single occupancy
 (will provide 100% reimbursement if cancellation is for a covered reason, will provide 0% if reason is not covered.)

\$ 414 Deluxe Plan with Cancel for Any Reason – double
 \$ 529.50 Deluxe Plan with Cancel for Any Reason – single
 (will provide 100% reimbursement if cancellation is for a covered reason, will provide 75% if reason is not covered.)

*The Cancel for Any Reason option is not available for residents of New York due to state regulations.

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This insurance policy is provided by Travel Insured International. All questions concerning covered reasons for cancellation, coverage while traveling, benefits and filing claims can be best answered by the travel insurance company. Travel Insured International's customer care phone number is 1-(800)-243-3174.

To download the policy, please visit the "Travel Insurance" link on your program's Travel Resource Center.

Program Registration:

Complete the Application and forward with your \$800.00 deposit per person (and insurance premium if applicable) by February 21, 2017:

Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church
c/o John Cowan
8900 35th Ave NE
Seattle, WA 98115

Checks can be made payable to illume.

Land-Only registrations are accepted after the registration deadline on a space-available basis and with a \$100 per person late registration supplement.

A second non-refundable deposit of \$1800 due not later than:
April 21, 2017

Balance of payment due not later than:
July 19, 2017

Note: Any changes to the program will be outlined in the final documents which you will receive one month prior to departure. If changes are made that affect the program price, you will receive an invoice or a credit accordingly.

Program No. 17.10334

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