



ST. MARY'S PARISH
8 CHURCH ST.
HOLLISTON, MA 01746

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CHRISTMAS MASSES

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24,
 CHRISTMAS EVE**

4 PM Masses in both the Church and Father Haley Hall (*Hall Mass includes the Christmas Pageant, 4 PM parking is difficult, so please plan accordingly*)

5:30 PM Mass in the Church

7:30 PM Mass in the Church

11:00 PM (Midnight) Mass in the Church



**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25,
 CHRISTMAS DAY**

9:30 AM Mass in the Church

11:30 AM Mass in the Church



COOKIE WALK RAISES \$2,220 FOR THE POOR OF HAITI! Tables groaned under the weight of nearly 3,000 homemade Christmas cookies. They were baked by our Middle School Youth Group teens and sold at the December 7/8 Cookie Walk after all Masses. The funds raised are sent to support the poor of Haiti through Mother Theresa's Missionaries of Charity there. Thank you to all who took part in this delicious and meaningful annual event!



St. Mary's Parish Newsletter

January, 2020 ~ Volume 45, Number 5

St. Mary's Parish
8 Church Street
Holliston, MA 01746

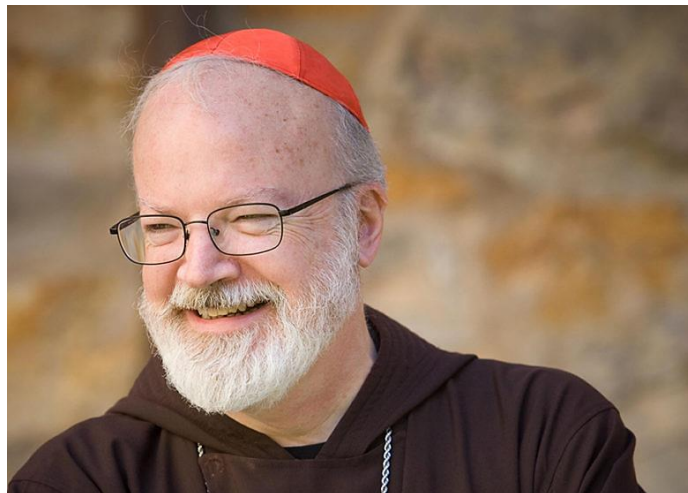
Rectory: 429-4427, 879-2322
Religious Education Center: 429-6076
Fax: 429-3324 ~ Music: 429-4427

Religious Education Email: st.marysre1870@gmail.com
Parish Email Address: st.marys1870@gmail.com
Website: www.stmarysholliston.com

Mission ~ "To Know Christ and to make Him Known."

Parish Clergy

Rev. Mark J. Coiro, Pastor
The Xaverian Fathers, Weekend Assistance
Rev. James Flynn, Weekend Assistance
Deacon John Barry, Permanent Deacon
Deacon Martin Breinlinger, Senior Deacon



CARDINAL'S OFFICE
66 BROOKS DRIVE
BRAINTREE, MASSACHUSETTS 02184-3839
617-782-2544

Dear Father Coiro:

Please allow me this opportunity to congratulate your parish community on its 150th anniversary. Our records indicate that Saint Mary Parish was canonically erected as a parish on November 29, 1870.

It is my hope that this anniversary serves as an opportunity to reflect in gratitude upon the graces that have come from the life of the parish, the Sacraments received at Saint Mary's, the abundant and varied contributions of the people of the parish, as well as the gifts and leadership of its pastors and parochial vicars. It is also my hope that this anniversary serves as an opportunity for the parish community to look to the future enthusiastically and with fervent hope, so that the mission of Saint Mary Parish continues and thrives, bringing God's love and salvation to all of its parishioners, those who are currently members and those who have yet to meet Christ through his bride, the Church.

With all good wishes and assurance of a remembrance in my prayers, I am

Fraternally yours in Christ,

+ Sean, OFM Cap
Archbishop of Boston

1870-2020 Celebrating 150 years!



ST. MARY'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

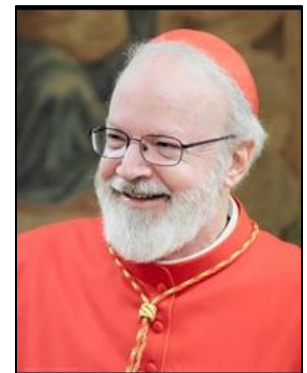
1870 to 2020. Those 150 years represent untold moments of ministry and grace that have blessed generations of Catholics in Holliston and the surrounding communities. We give thanks to God for this beautiful family of faith and ask Him to watch over and guide us into the future. There will be many special events to mark this Anniversary, including a new History of St. Mary's Book, the commissioning of an original St. Mary's Hymn, Children's Activities, and a new partnership with a Parish in the Holy Land to support the Christians there. Additionally:

From February 9-11, 2020, Mr. Jon Leonetti will lead St. Mary's in a 3-night Parish Anniversary Mission entitled, "Surge of the Heart." Jon is a nationally known Catholic speaker, best-selling author and radio host who conveys a message of lasting fulfillment in Jesus Christ. Through Jon's keynote presentations and parish missions, thousands of Catholics each year discover the freedom Christ offers by way of his life and love.



From March 6-15, St. Mary's parishioners may take part in an Anniversary Pilgrimage to the Holy Land. Details at: <http://www.pilgrimimages.com/frcoiro/>

On Sunday, May 10, 2020, at 11:30 AM, our Archbishop, Cardinal Sean O'Malley, will celebrate Sunday Mass at St. Mary's in Holliston for the first time, joining us to mark our 150th year as a Parish Family. We are honored to welcome His Eminence. Save the date for this highlight of our Anniversary Celebrations!



On Friday, May 22, come enjoy our Anniversary Concert, "Sing of Mary," a night of the greatest music written in honor of Our Lady. St. Mary's Adult, Youth and Children's Choirs will perform, accompanied by Orchestra.



On Saturday, October 10 – Sunday, October 11, St. Mary's parishioners may take part in a Retreat at Miramar in Duxbury, MA. <https://miramarretreat.org/wp/>

Saturday, November 14, is the date of St. Mary's 150th Anniversary Gala in the Regency Ballroom, DoubleTree Inn, Milford. There will be dinner, dancing, a silent auction and a Keynote Address by His Excellency, Robert P. Reed, Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Boston and President of Boston Catholic Television. Join us! Did you know? Tuesday, November 29, 1870 was the day that St. Mary's Parish was officially established.

Celebrating 150 years!



ST. MARY'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

Did You Know? This January Newsletter will begin a series of 'Did You Know' articles with tantalizing tidbits from the research that's been done for the new history of St. Mary's book. A different story will appear in each Monthly Newsletter during 2020.

Did You Know? The first Sunday School for Catholic children in Holliston was held in the 1850's by three non-Catholic young men; Thomas Andrews (straw hat merchant, bank president, businessman, education advocate), Rufus Brewer (cashier at the Holliston Bank), and William Gaylord. While their parents walked to Mass in Milford, the young children in Catholic families were left behind at home as the journey was considered too hard for them.



Thomas Andrews approached Fr. Cuddihy, Pastor of the Catholic Church in Milford, about starting a Sunday School. With Fr. Cuddihy's blessing and support, and using his own funds, Thomas Andrews purchased appropriate religious teaching materials. He received the approval of the town to hold classes in Schoolhouse No. 8, located in Mudville, where many of the Irish Catholic families lived. (Photo Above).

However, the teaching did not go smoothly as Thomas was verbally and physically harassed by "bullies and thugs" who did not think his endeavors were what a good non-Catholic boy should be doing. He was considered to be "consorting with the enemy". Alas, he had to give up his project and turn it over to a few young Catholic women who continued teaching with no problems. Schoolhouse No. 8 eventually became Andrews School named after Thomas Andrews who went on to become a prominent businessman in Holliston. [This story is from "Holliston, A Good Town," by Joanne Hulbert.]

St. Mary's Anniversary Video Series: Plans are well underway for the 150th Anniversary Video Series. There will be a series of four 10 – 15 minute segments highlighting Parish History, Parish Pastors, Parish Buildings, and Parish Life. The segments will be shown in the Religious Education Center lobby, one segment each month from February to May 2020 and then repeated September to December 2020. Look in the February newsletter for exact times.

Thank you to the parishioners who have donated photos to be used in the video series. The Parish Life segment will not be shown until May 2020, so there is still plenty of time to donate photos. We currently have photos from the Quinlan Congress, music ministries, EPIC, Boy Scouts, and the Knights of Columbus just to name a few. More are always welcome! Contact Betty Febo, 508- 429-7190 or betty.febo@gmail.com

St. Mary's Parish

Invites you to take part in our upcoming
150th Anniversary Parish Mission ...

Surge of the Heart!

JON LEONETTI
International Speaker, Bestselling Author & Radio Host

PARISH MISSION

SURGE
of the
Heart

"One of the most inspiring parish missions available in America today."

-Matthew Kelly, Founder of Dynamic Catholic

"Engaging, entertaining and hilarious!"

-Erin Walsh, NE.

"One of the most compelling Parish Missions we have ever experienced."

-Fr. Winston Bath, NY.

"I've never heard of the guy." -Pope Francis

Who is God and Why That Matters

Sunday, February 9 from 7 to 8 PM

God's Dream For Your Life

Monday, February 10 from 7 to 8 PM

Living God's Dream

Tuesday, February 11 from 7 to 8 PM

**RENEW
REINVIGORATE
RE-INSPIRE
YOUR
CATHOLIC
FAITH!**



From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Members of the St. Mary's Parish Family,

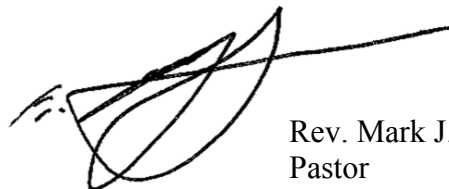
A few months ago, I discovered that all nine seasons of "Little House on the Prairie" are available on Amazon Prime. This series aired in the 1970's to early 80's – exactly when I was growing up. My family used to watch the show, and perhaps in an attempt to reconnect with my childhood I have been watching it since the Fall (I'm now in Season Four).

What I did not remember from my childhood viewing, is how much of a role religion and faith play in the show. Rarely is there an episode without someone talking to God as a friend in prayer, children and adults both. Some of the biggest questions of religion are addressed, especially when tragedies befall the good and innocent. Prayer, Scripture and the support of fellow Christians are lifelines for people living a precarious existence in a still untamed part of the country. They are flawed, imperfect people who often make mistakes. Yet faith somehow holds everything together for the families in the show. And it is faith that empowers the characters to make beautiful sacrifices for those they love.

As a New Year begins, and as we at St. Mary's begin celebrating our 150th Anniversary, my hope is that faith will become more a part of every aspect of our lives. And always faith begins with prayer – prayers of Adoration, prayers of Contrition, prayers of Thanksgiving and prayers of Supplication. There is no such thing as a prayer that God does not answer. We might not understand or even recognize the answer. But no matter how we pray, one thing is certain – the act of prayer always brings us closer to God. And when we pray as a family, it strengthens the bonds of love between us.

If we do one thing "new" in this New Year 2020, let it be to pray more as families and as a family of faith. And if you happen to have Amazon Prime, you could do worse than to introduce your kids to a certain "Little House on the Prairie" – a house small in size, but huge in faith and the joy that comes from loving God.

God bless you.



Rev. Mark J. Coiro
Pastor

P.S. To assure the spiritual success of our upcoming Parish Mission, "Surge of the Heart," please join in praying now through February 9 that it will bless and renew all those who call St. Mary's Home. Thank you!



St. Mary's Parish Mission Prayer



**Lord Jesus, You are The Way, The Truth, and The Life.
With full confidence we run to You now, bringing with us all those we know and love.
We ask that our forthcoming Parish Mission
be a time of renewal and growth in our walk with You.
Enter into every household of our parish, Lord; especially those who are tired,
lonely, and in need of your embrace.
Heal our brokenness and awaken our hearts to a life fully lived in you.
Mary, Mother of Jesus and our Mother, pray that all who experience this mission
may grow in discipleship of your Son.
We ask all this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.**



Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

~ A Holy Day of Obligation ~

Vigil Mass:

Tuesday, December 31, at 5:00 PM

Feast Day Masses:

Wednesday, January 1, at 9:00 AM & 6:30 PM

The Story of Mary, Mother of God

Mary's divine motherhood broadens the Christmas spotlight. Mary has an important role to play in the Incarnation of the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity. She consents to God's invitation conveyed by the angel (Luke 1:26-38). Elizabeth proclaims: "Most blessed are you among women and blessed is the *fruit of your womb*. And how does this happen to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?" (Luke 1:42-43, emphasis added). Mary's role as mother of God places her in a unique position in God's redemptive plan.

Without naming Mary, Paul asserts that "God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law" (Galatians 4:4). Paul's further statement that "God sent the spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying out 'Abba, Father!'" helps us realize that Mary is mother to all the brothers and sisters of Jesus.

Some theologians also insist that Mary's motherhood of Jesus is an important element in God's creative plan. God's "first" thought in creating was Jesus. Jesus, the incarnate Word, is the one who could give God perfect love and worship on behalf of all creation. As Jesus was "first" in God's mind, Mary was "second" insofar as she was chosen from all eternity to be his mother.

The precise title "Mother of God" goes back at least to the third or fourth century. In the Greek form *Theotokos*—God-bearer—it became the touchstone of the Church's teaching about the Incarnation. The Council of Ephesus in 431 insisted that the holy Fathers were right in calling the holy virgin *Theotokos*. At the end of this particular session, crowds of people marched through the street shouting: "Praised be the *Theotokos*!" The tradition reaches to our own day. In its chapter on Mary's role in the Church, Vatican II's *Dogmatic Constitution on the Church* calls Mary "Mother of God" 12 times.

Reflection

Other themes come together at today's celebration. It is the Octave of Christmas: Our remembrance of Mary's divine motherhood injects a further note of Christmas joy. It is a day of prayer for world peace: Mary is the mother of the Prince of Peace. It is the first day of a new year: Mary continues to bring new life to her children—who are also God's children.

“A Christian steward is one who receives God’s gifts gratefully, cherishes and tends them in a responsible and accountable manner, shares them in justice and love with others, and returns them with increase to the Lord.”



Stewardship of Retired Priests ~ The 2019 Christmas Collection

There is only one collection taken up at Christmas Masses and every penny of it goes to support the housing and healthcare costs of our retired priests – holy men who have given their entire lives in service to God’s people. The Clergy Fund that provides for their needs is currently underfunded. So please, if you can, try to make a truly sacrificial gift for our priests at this year’s Christmas Mass collection. Please also pray for these wonderful men. On behalf of all our retired priests, THANK YOU!

Stewardship of Parish ~ The 2019 Grand Annual

Thank you to all who have already done their part in this year’s Grand Annual – the single most important collection at our parish each year. For 57 years, combined with the weekly offertory, it has allowed our parish to cover its operating costs. If you have not yet done so, please return the orange Grand Annual envelope you received in the mail as soon as possible (extras at the church doors). Grand Annual envelopes may be placed in any Mass collection basket or mailed in or dropped off.

We ask every single family of our parish to please participate in the Grand Annual, doing the best they can according to their means. Thank you and God bless you. *“No one shall appear before the Lord empty-handed, but each of you with as much as he can give, in proportion to the blessings which the Lord, God has bestowed on you.”* - Deuteronomy 16

2019 ST. MARY’S PARISH GRAND ANNUAL UPDATE FOR 12/15/19

2019 Grand Annual goal to cover operating expenses:	\$ 150,000.00
Grand Annual parishioner support received to date:	- \$ <u>128,105.00</u>
Parishioner support still needed to reach 2019 Grand Annual goal:	\$ 21,895.00
% of 2019 Grand Annual achieved to date:	85 %
% of St. Mary’s families who have now made their Grand Annual gift:	53 %



As the Grand Annual continues, contributions may be placed either in the orange G.A. envelope you received in the mail, or in one of the extra G.A. envelopes available at the church entrances. G.A. envelopes may be placed in any Mass collection basket or mailed or dropped off at the rectory.

As explained in the November mailing to all parishioners, the \$150,000 goal will be applied to cover a number of parish operating expenses, including but not limited to: Interior Church Floor Replacement, Installation of New Pew Kneelers Pads and Hardware, Designated Pew Removal Improvements for our handicapped members for easier accessibility in the Church, Church Sound System upgrades and Salaries for St. Mary’s dedicated and hardworking staff. Your generous support will assure the financial health of our parish continues.

Thank you for your support of this most important annual collection!



SERVE THE LORD WITH GLADNESS!

On Sunday, November 24, the Feast of Christ the King, ten St. Mary's youths were installed as Altar Servers for our parish. Each had completed six hours of training in the previous weeks, learning the names and uses of liturgical objects, how to set up for Mass, and how to serve Mass. After promising to serve with "responsibility, reverence and love," the candidates knelt to receive the Church's blessing. Next their Mom or Dad came forward to "vest" them in an alb – the symbol of Baptism and the vesture for their new ministry. We thank God for the generous response of these boys and girls to the needs of our parish and ask Him to bless them and their families through this Ministry of Service. Shown above, those installed were:

Scott Baribeau

Brody Cashman

Aubrey Cullen

William Enriquez

Ben Kaufman



Hannah Kaufman

Will MacLeod

Anthony Meisner

Patricia Osborne

Matthew Pierce

Music Notes



CHOIR TRIP ~ On Sunday, December 8, for the second year in a row, eight members of St. Mary's Children and Youth Choirs travelled to Cambridge, Massachusetts to hear the St. Paul Boys Choir perform their annual "Celebrations of Christmas" concert. The Choir School generously gave the group premium reserved seating in the third pew. The evening was an enjoyable experience for all.



**The St. Paul Boys Choir will be presenting a Lenten Concert
at St. Mary's on March 27, 2020 at 7:00 PM!**

LESSONS & CAROLS ~ On the cold night of December 15, the choirs and ensembles of St. Mary's Music Ministry joined forces to present our annual service of Lessons and Carols. Fr. Mark presided, and we were joined by nationally renowned organist Brandon Santini. It was a truly inspiring evening of music and scripture, where together we celebrated the mystery of the Advent Season and the Nativity.

AN INVITATION FOR YOU ~ In order to make sure St. Mary's Music legacy of great music is preserved, however, we need to continue to add new faces to our ranks. Do you like to sing? Do you enjoy playing an instrument? Do your children enjoy singing? Whatever your talents are, we invite you to join our wonderful ministry. Our Adult Choir meets on Thursday nights and sings for the 11:30 AM Mass on Sunday; our Children and Youth Choirs meet on Wednesday afternoons and sing for select Sundays at the 9:30 AM Mass; our Contemporary Ensemble meets on Wednesday nights and sings for the 5:00 PM Saturday Vigil Mass. Our Children and Youth Choirs participate in the Royal School of Church Music's Voices for Life program, where each chorister receives free music training and materials. Interested? Come see our rehearsals, or just talk to us! Contact the Director of Music, Kevin Lyczak, at musicatstmarysholliston@gmail.com or 508-429-6076 ext. 24. Also check us out at our Facebook page, www.facebook.com/MusicAtStMarysHolliston. We look forward to hearing from you!



NATIVITY PAGEANT PREPARATIONS IN FULL SWING!

Shown above, this year's Children's Christmas Pageant Cast participates in a full-dress rehearsal in preparation for Christmas Eve. Many thanks to our Pageant Director Debra Frey and her family for their leadership of this beloved St. Mary's tradition!



2019 GIVE A GIFT

On Sunday, December 8, St. Mary's Sanctuary was piled high with gifts donated by the good people of our parish at every Mass that weekend. Parishioners attending the 11:30 AM Mass helped carry them to Fr. Haley Hall, where sixteen Knights of Columbus, some K of C family members, and thirteen Religious Ed. students sorted and packed the 531 gifts for delivery to the children of two Roxbury parishes. (This was up from 479 gifts last year). Six Knights drove into Boston and delivered the gifts to St. Mary of the Angels and St. Patrick's. Thank you to all those who assisted in this annual St. Mary's Christmas Charitable effort!





women in
WINGS
God's spirit

Deepen Your Faith in 2020!

*Give yourself the gift of
God's Word.*

**St. Mary's WINGS
Winter Season
Wednesdays, 9:45 – 11:15 AM,
Father Haley Hall.**

Great Themes of the Old Testament
Based on the writings and lectures of Richard Rohr, OFM

January 22, 2020: *Who is the God Whom We Seek?*

January 29, 2020: *Surrendering to God and His Power to Save*

February 5, 2020: *God is Ever Faithful*

February 12, 2020: *Living in Right Relationship*

February 19, 2020: No WINGS, School Vacation

February 26, 2020: *Allowing God to Be God*

Our program includes inspiring speakers who provide insights and reflections on selected Scriptures followed by small group discussion. Loving childcare is available.

Women of all ages are welcome and encouraged to attend WINGS.

Sign Up/Information: Betty.Febo@gmail.com or call Jennifer Schiller 617-852-9632



HOLY HOUR FOR LIFE: The bishops of the United States have established January 22 as a particular day of penance “for violations to the dignity of the human person committed through acts of abortion, and of prayer for the full restoration of the legal guarantee of the right to life.” To mark this event, Holy Hours for Life will be prayed at parishes, college campuses, hospitals, convents and on the buses carrying Catholics to Washington, D.C. for the annual March for Life. All those faithful to the inherent dignity of all human life from conception to natural death are invited to participate.

Here at St. Mary's, the Holy Hour will take place on **Monday, Jan. 20 at 7:30 PM in the church.** It will include Adoration & Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. Deacon John Barry will be preaching and presiding.

ROSE FOR LIFE: In every Sunday bulletin you see the name of an individual or family who has sponsored the “Rose for Life” that week. This tradition began at St. Mary's twenty-four years ago. The cost of sponsoring the rose is \$10. Part of this goes to purchase a single rose which is placed in front of the statue of Mary in our church

every Saturday morning, remaining there all week as a visible reminder to please pray for the health and safety of unborn children. The rest of the offering is given to the Pregnancy Help Program of the Archdiocese of Boston, a beautiful ministry that assists individuals in crisis pregnancies. Pregnancy Help offers free and confidential counseling, referrals and assistance on a wide range of medical, social service, housing and financial issues. Many women come to Pregnancy Help feeling totally alone, isolated and abandoned by family, friends and partners. Others have some support, but they are confused and frightened about what to do. Whatever a particular woman's situation might be, Pregnancy Help provides a safe place where she can come, speak from her heart and find the support she needs.

Want to sponsor the Rose for Life one week in 2020? We currently need many new sponsors. Please call 508-429-4427 to become part of this beautiful affirmation of life today!



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

St. Mary's Council #14224 January 2020

Grand Knight: Albert Scaramella
Deputy Grand Knight: Tom Anguish

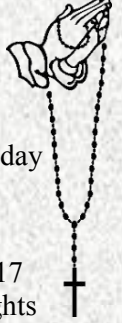
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CHRISTMAS POSTER CONTEST:

The Council conducted a poster contest on "Keep Christ in Christmas" for elementary school boys and girls. Judges selected four winners for 2019. They are Mary Hupfer, Leo Wagner, Mia Magnani, and Rebecca Daley. The Council will present the students a \$25 cash prize and their entries will be submitted to District Council for state competition. The Council thanks all students who entered. The Council thanks Fran Crespi, Religious Education Director, for promoting the contest.

MONTHLY ROSARY:

The next Rosary will be Wednesday, January 15. The Council recites the Rosary every third Wednesday of the month in St. Mary's Church at 7:00 PM.

As quoted in the March 2017 Columbia magazine, "Knights need to be men of prayer." **ALL PARISHONERS are invited** to share in this beautiful and powerful prayer with our Council.



12th ANNUAL CRECHE

SET-UP: On Saturday, November 23, the Council set-up our Parish Christmas Creche and lights. See Photo Left.

COATS FOR KIDS: The Council purchased from Supreme Council (24) winter coats and have distributed them to Project Just Because. Knight Thomas Anguish coordinated the annual distribution.

WREATHS ACROSS

AMERICA: On December 14, the Council had ten wreaths distributed on Veterans' graves at the Bourne National Cemetery.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS SPONSORING RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE: On Saturday, January 18, 2020 in St. Mary's Father Haley Hall, the Council will sponsor its annual Red Cross Blood Drive. Hours are from 8:30 AM to 1:30 PM. Walk-ins are welcome but appointments are strongly

encouraged. To schedule an appointment, contact 1-800-REDCROSS or visit redcrossblood.org and search by zip code (01746) in the "Search for Blood Drive" field. For further information, contact the Knights of Columbus Blood Drive coordinator, Rodman Burgett at 508 653-6130.



Give the perfect gift.

Give blood.





Troop 14 Holliston

Boy Scouts of America

St. Mary's Parish * January, 2020

Meetings: Monday Nights 7:00 - 8:30 PM
Lower Church Hall

Contact: Chris Baribeau, Scoutmaster
508.579.4357

Email: Troop14Holliston@yahoo.com
Website: www.Troop14Holliston.com

EARLY WINTER CAMPOUT: Fourteen Scouts and leaders went camping on December 7 and 8 at Squanto Scout Camp in Plymouth, MA. With cooking being November's monthly program feature, the Scouts applied the skills they learned and cooked some amazing meals, including Dutch Oven Lasagna and a Peach Cobbler dessert. In between meals, they learned some winter skills and teamed up to build survival shelters using materials they found in nature. They rounded out the weekend with a hike by the lake and nearby cranberry bogs and built a roaring fire to warm up the chilly night air. Waking up the next morning to 14-degree temperatures, many of the Scouts set a personal record for their coldest night camping. They knew they had a ways to go to break the Troop 14 record of -9 degrees. Perhaps in January ...

UPCOMING EVENTS:

January snow-shoe backpacking trip to Lonesome Lake in the White Mountains.

February 2, 2020, Scout Sunday 9:30 AM Mass and Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser at St. Mary's.

St. Mary's Boy Scout Troop 14 meets weekly on Monday nights. If interested in joining Troop 14, come to any of our meetings. Scouting is an ideal organization for boys 11-17 years old.



St. Mary's EPIC

High School Youth Ministry

Pictures from Dec. 8 EPIC Meeting featuring Christmas Games; Improvised, Unrehearsed Christmas Pageants; Delicious Cookies and a Christmas Sing-A-Long!

EPIC Winter/ Spring Meeting Dates

General Meetings

Jan. 12, Feb. 12 (Wed), Mar. 1,
Mar. 29, May 3, May 31

7:15 – 8:45 PM in FHH - \$5 Dues

Prayer and Planning

Jan. 5 and Mar. 22

7:15 – 8:15 PM in Classrooms 3 and 4
Social Trips and Service Projects will be finalized and announced soon!



Contact Youth Minister Jake Thiringer at stmarysym1870@gmail.com for information

January 12 Meeting will feature the announcement of the Location of the St. Mary's EPIC Summer Mission Trip! (July 26 – Aug 1, 2020)

As well as a faith reflection from Deacon John on Service and Mission. Teens must attend 5 EPIC Meetings and 1 Service Project before participation in the summer Mission Trip (6 general meetings still remain). Mission Trip Paperwork and Teen Leader Interview Sign Ups will also be available at Jan. 12 Meeting.



St. Mary's Parish Middle School Youth Group

Open to all 6th, 7th, & 8th Graders for Faith, Friendship, Service & Fun.





St. Mary's Parish Middle School Youth Group

Open to all 6th, 7th, & 8th Graders for Faith, Friendship, Service & Fun.



LASER TAG & MOVIES:

On Monday, November 11, eighty-eight MSYG teens spent a morning playing Laser Tag at Extreme Craze in Westboro. Teams battled across multiple levels, guarding their own bases while trying to infiltrate the enemy. In between games, the youths enjoyed arcade games and pizza. Then it was off to Bellingham for a matinee movie. The high scorer at Laser Tag got \$20 in movie snacks. A great day! [Photos Previous Page & Above].



BINGO: On Monday, November 25, thirty 7th Grade members of the Middle School Youth Group took a service trip to St. Patrick's Manor in Framingham. When the 7th Graders arrived at St. Patrick's they moved chairs and tables to help get the residents ready for a fun night of BINGO. The Youth Group members then split into a couple of groups – some sat with the residents and helped them fill up their BINGO cards while others went to different floors to meet and visit with the residents. After five rounds of BINGO as well as a championship round, the kids helped pass out ice cream for everyone to enjoy. It was a dark winter night, but the youth group's smiles and energy definitely brightened the night for the residents of St. Patrick's!



JOIN FR. MARK J. COIRO IN CELEBRATION OF THE
150TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST. MARY'S PARISH, HOLLISTON



MARCH 6 - 15, 2020
\$3,719 FROM BOSTON (BOS)
Price is Per Person Based on Double Occupancy

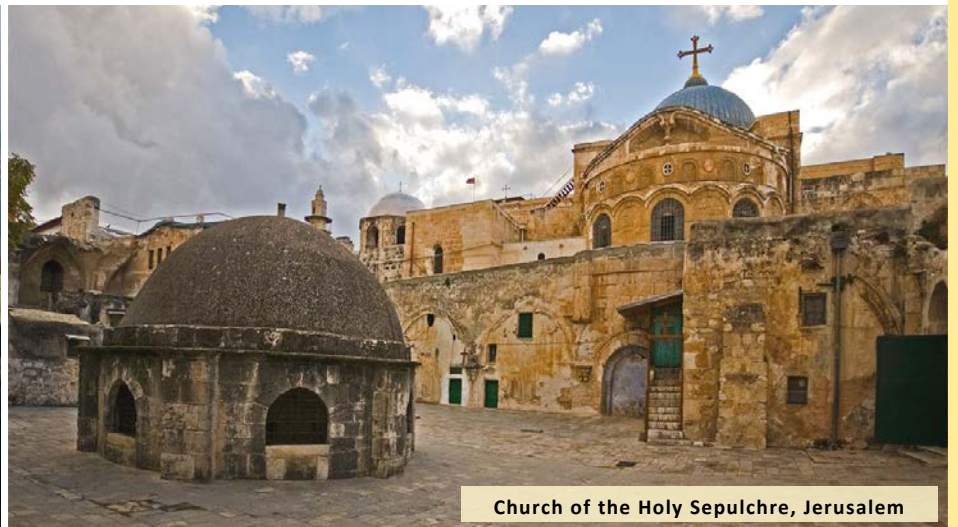


Fr. Mark J. Coiro

www.pilgrimages.com/frcoiro



Church of the Transfiguration, Mount Tabor



Church of the Holy Sepulchre, Jerusalem



Church of All Nations, Jerusalem



Dead Sea

SAMPLE DAY-BY-DAY ITINERARY

Day 1, Fri, Mar 06: Depart for the Holy Land

Make your way to your local airport where you will board your overnight flight. Your meals are served on board.

Day 2, Sat, Mar 07: Arrive in Tel Aviv and continue to Tiberias

Upon arrival at Ben Gurion Airport in Tel Aviv, make your way to the baggage claim area and collect your luggage. Proceed to the arrival's hall, where you will be greeted by your tour guide and/or driver. Transfer to your hotel in Tiberias in time to check-in. Enjoy dinner at the hotel before retiring for the evening.

Day 3, Sun, Mar 08: Caesarea - Stella Maris - Nazareth - Tiberias - Cana

Theme: The Annunciation

Depart Tel Aviv to Caesarea Maritima, one of the three largest ports in the Roman world, next to Alexandria and Piraeus "Athens", which were built by Herod the Great between 21 B.C. and 9 B.C. It was in Caesarea where St. Peter baptized the first gentile convert Cornelius, and where St. Paul gave his defense of the church. From here, we will see the Roman Theater, Herod's Palace, view the Hippodrome, and the harbor from where St. Paul sailed on his journeys. Continue north to Haifa, located on Mt Carmel, where we will visit the Carmelite Shrine dedicated to Our Lady of Mt Carmel, and pray at the cave which Elijah the prophet took refuge. Continue on to Nazareth for lunch, and then visit the Church of the Annunciation. Visit the museum and archaeological garden where we can see the remains of Nazareth at time of Christ, as well as St. Joseph's workshop – which is now known as St. Joseph's Church. Within the Church of the Annunciation, you will make our way down to the Grotto to see the remains of the house of the Blessed Mother, and where the Angel of the Lord announced the good news to Mary. Celebrate Mass in this Church, and then continue on to Cana. It was here that Jesus performed His first miracle, changing water into wine. During your visit at the Wedding Church, married couples will have the chance to take part in the ceremony and renew their wedding vows. From there, we continue on to Tiberias, located on Sea of Galilee, for dinner and overnight.

Day 4, Mon, Mar 09: Tiberias: Sea of Galilee

Theme: The Ministry of Christ in the Galilee

Today begin this day with breakfast at the hotel, followed by a boat ride on the beautiful and scenic Sea of Galilee (Luke 5:1). Upon docking the boat, you will have the opportunity to view the remains of a boat that dates back to the time of Jesus. Following the Sea of Galilee, we continue to the Mount of Beatitudes, where Jesus proclaimed His great Sermon on the Mount (Luke 6:20-49). Near the Mount, is Tabgha, one of Jesus' miracle sites. At Tabgha, Jesus fed the crowd of 5,000 people from five loaves of bread and two fish (Luke 9:10-17). Also, in Tabgha is St. Peter's Primacy where Jesus bestowed church leadership upon Peter (John 21:9). Continue to visit the birthplace of Mary Magdalene in Magdala. During the time of Jesus, this village was a prosperous fishing village that exported fish and garum (a fish sauce reduction; popular in Roman cooking). Your day concludes at Capernaum, the launching place of Jesus' ministry. In Capernaum, see the Synagogue where Jesus taught (Mark 1:21-29) and gave His sermon on the Bread of Life. Return to the hotel for dinner and overnight.

Day 5, Tue, Mar 10: Jordan River - Mt. Tabor – Jericho – Jordan River - Jerusalem

Theme: The Transfiguration

After breakfast, we will drive to the site of the Transfiguration, Mount Tabor (Matthew 17:1-50). At this site, you will have some time to reflect on Christ's Humanity and Divinity. Celebrate Mass at the Basilica of the Transfiguration. Continue south to the Jordan Valley to the oldest inhabited city in the world, Jericho (Joshua 6:12-25). In Jericho, you view the exact location, the Mount of Temptation, of where the Devil tempted Jesus during his forty-day fast (Luke 4:1). Following the visit to this mountain, continue to Jesus' baptismal site on the River Jordan (Matthew 3:13-17). After some time at the Jordan River, we will transfer to Jerusalem to check-in to your hotel and enjoy dinner and overnight.

Day 6, Wed, Mar 11: Jerusalem: Temple Model - Ein Karem - Bethlehem

Theme: The Visitation and Nativity

This morning, enjoy breakfast before we start our day in Jerusalem, which houses the temple to which Jesus was Presented (Luke 2:22). Visit a model of the Second Temple as it was in the time of Jesus. Following this visit, we will take a short drive to the village of Ein Karem, the birthplace of John the Baptist. It is known that there are two churches in Ein Karem, both representing the two homes of Zechariah and Elizabeth. The first is in a valley where the birth of St. John the Baptist is commemorated (Luke 1:39-80) in the Church of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist. The second is on a hill where Elizabeth spent five months in seclusion (Luke 1:24) at the Church of the Visitation. You will have a chance to visit both of these churches and have the opportunity to pray the Mystery of the Rosary as you walk up the hill to the Church of the Visitation. In the afternoon, transfer to Bethlehem, the birthplace of Jesus. In Bethlehem, you will have the opportunity to view the Shepherd's Fields (Luke 2:8). In the caves of these fields, you are still able to see the soot marks of fires that shepherds lit to

keep warm. The tour concludes at the Manger Square which stands in front of the Church of the Nativity. As you enter the Church, you will proceed down to the Grotto of the Nativity which marks the spot of Our Savior's birth (Matthew 2:1-18). Beneath the altar, there is a silver star and a Latin inscription that states: HIC DE VIRGINE MARIA JESUS CHRISTUS NATUS (Here Jesus Christ was born to the Virgin Mary). Following Mass in this Sacred space, return to the hotel for dinner and overnight.

Day 7, Thu, Mar 12: Bethany - Dead Sea

Theme: Early Years in Jerusalem & the Wilderness

Following breakfast at your hotel, we will travel down the Jordan Valley to Qumran. Qumran is made up of 2,000 year old ruins from the days of the Second Temple and also the site where the Dead Sea Scrolls were written and discovered (Ezekiel 47:8-10). These writings have helped further the understanding of Jewish background in Christianity. Time and weather permitting, you will have the opportunity to take a float in the Dead Sea, the lowest and saltiest spot on Earth. Continue as you travel through the Judean wilderness, the site where Jesus spent His 40 days of fasting. The day of touring culminates with a transfer to Bethany. Bethany is the site where Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead which foreshadows His own Resurrection (John 11:38-44). Return to the hotel for dinner and overnight.

Day 8, Fri, Mar 13: Jerusalem: Mt. Of Olives - Gethsemane - Mt. Zion (Upper Room) - Western Wall

Theme: Palm Sunday and the Agony in the Garden

After breakfast, we will make our way to the Mount of Olives where you will be able to take in the beautiful, panoramic view of Jerusalem. Historically, the Mount of Olives was a mandatory transit point for Jesus during many iconic moments. Visit the Pater Noster Shrine where Jesus taught His disciples the Lord's Prayer (Pater Noster) (Luke 11:1-4). You will have the opportunity to stop at Dominus Fleuit which is a Church that commemorates where Jesus wept for Jerusalem (Luke 19:41). Continue on to Gethsemane, a garden at the foot of the Mount of Olives. Jesus brought His disciples here to pray the night before He was crucified (Luke 22:29-53). The Garden still contains trees with roots that date back to the time of Jesus. Your next stop, the Church of All Nations, built over the "Rock of Agony". This is where Jesus prayed alone on the night of His arrest. Throughout this time, you are invited to remain in prayer and to reflect on Christ's agony that He experienced. You will have the opportunity to visit the Western Wall, which is the last remnant of the Jewish Temple after it was destroyed in 70 A.D. Continue with a visit to the house of the High Priest Caiaphas (Church of St. Peter in Gallicantu). This Church commemorates where Jesus was examined and eventually imprisoned before the Council in Jerusalem. It also commemorates Peter's Denial of Christ (John 18:15-18), Peter's repentance, and Jesus' forgiveness of Peter. You will also visit the Upper Room on Mt. Zion. The Upper Room is where Jesus and His disciples celebrated the Last Supper (Matthew 26:17-30) and where Jesus appeared to His disciples after His Death and Resurrection (Mark 16:14). In addition, visit the nearby Benedictine Church of the Dormition. Tradition tells us that this Church is where Mary, the Mother of Jesus, "fell asleep." At the end of this prayerful day, return to your hotel for dinner and overnight.

Day 9, Sat , Mar 14: Jerusalem: Via Dolorosa - Holy Sepulchre

Theme: The Way of the Cross, The Crucifixion, The Resurrection

This morning you will have a very early wake-up to begin the Via Dolorosa (The Way of the Cross) at the Antonia Fortress. This is the spot where Jesus was condemned to death by Pontius Pilate (John 18:28-19:16). Following His condemnation, He was taken (on the Road to Calvary) to His place of Crucifixion. Reflect upon the Stations of the Cross as you travel through the markets of the Old City to the Church of the Holy Sepulcher (Luke 23:26-33). This sacred destination is the site of Calvary (Jesus' crucifixion place) and His tomb (Luke 23: 50-55). Celebrate Mass at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. Following Mass, we will return to the hotel to enjoy breakfast. We will continue our day with a visit to the Church of St. Anne's, the home of Jesus' maternal grandparents (Anne and Joachim); and the Pool of Bethesda, where Jesus healed the crippled man (John 5:1-9). This afternoon, enjoy a revisit to the Old City. Following this visit return to the hotel to enjoy dinner and overnight at your hotel.

Day 10, Sun, Mar 15: Return Flights Home

After an early breakfast and heartfelt farewells, transfer to the Tel Aviv airport for return flights home.

***206 Tours Disclaimer:**

Though every effort will be made to follow the itinerary, it should be considered as an indication, rather than a contract of places to be visited. Occasionally local religious holidays, national days, weather, traffic conditions and other events may necessitate changes in the sequence of visits or the missing of certain visits.

HIGHLIGHTS OF TERMS & CONDITIONS (FOR COMPLETE TERMS & CONDITIONS PLEASE VISIT WWW.206TOURS.COM/TERMS)

DEPOSIT AND REGISTRATION A \$400 per person deposit is required at the time of booking with a completed reservation application. Fax, internet, e-mail, or phone reservations are welcome. Deposit and/or payment in full must be received within 7 days of booking or reservation will cancel. Full payment is due 60 days prior to the departure date. If a booking is made within 60 days of departure, full payment is required at the time of booking. If payment is received less than 30 days before departure, please include a \$50 late fee. Packages shipped outside of the USA will incur additional shipping charges.

FORM OF PAYMENT Bank/Certified/Checks, Money Orders, ACH (check by phone) or Wire Transfers (please fax a copy of bank confirmation when wiring funds) are accepted forms of payment at any time. Personal checks are acceptable if received more than 30 days prior to departure date. 206 Tours accepts PayPal payments (send to: info@206tours.com). You may also make Direct Credit Card Payments to 206 Tours (American Express, Discover, Visa and Master Card). In order to speed the processing of deposits and final payments, please note the departure date on deposit and balance of payment checks. Every reservation must be accompanied by a signed application. Returned checks will incur a \$50 service fee. In case of computer or human billing error, we reserve the right to re-invoice participants with corrected billing.

PRICE GUARANTEE Rates shown on website are based on double or twin occupancy and are as per each program's inclusions. All prices are shown in U.S. Dollars and are calculated on currency rates and fares in existence on July 9, 2019. 206 Tours reserves the right to alter prices at any time prior to departure and without prior notice if circumstances so warrant. Any devaluation or revaluation of currencies may effect published price. **NOT INCLUDED** Items of a personal nature, such as telephone calls, mini bar, laundry, food, beverages or alcohol not included and not on regular d/hote menu (these extra items will be billed to you before leaving the hotel or restaurant); room service, optional activities, and laundry. Insurance, Extended Cancellation Protection Plan @ \$299, portage at airports, excess baggage fees and passport or visa fees.

PASSPORTS, VISAS & DOCUMENTS A valid US passport is required for US citizens. If you do not have a valid passport please contact your closest passport office or see Passport Information. Passports must be valid at least 6 months after return date. US or Canadian citizens do not need to obtain visas for most countries 206 Tours services. For all other nationalities please consult the country of your consulate. When and if visa is required it is passenger's responsibility to obtain one. Cancellations due to lack of appropriate documents will incur usual penalties.

FINAL DOCUMENTS Final documents are issued upon receipt of final payment only and within 3 weeks of departure. Documents are not guaranteed if final payment is not received on time. Upon receipt of your documents you are responsible to check your itinerary, spelling of your name, dates, times and other important information to insure their validity. Should your final documents have any errors it is the passenger's responsibility to contact 206 Tours immediately.

PARTICIPATION 206 Tours and suppliers contacted for services reserve the right to refuse to accept or retain any person whose behavior is deemed likely to affect the smooth operations of a tour, or adversely affect the enjoyment or safety of other passengers. 206 Tours, its agents, and suppliers shall be under no liability to any such person for refund, compensation, repatriation or any other matters arising.

CANCELLATIONS AND REFUNDS Once a deposit or partial/full payment has been made, cancellations will only be accepted in writing. Cancellation terms will be applied based on the date that the written cancellation is received. In addition to a \$300 per person administration fee, the following charges apply:

- 60 - 46 days prior to departure 10%
- 45 - 21 days prior to departure 50%
- 20 - 03 days prior to departure 80%
- 02 days prior to departure or less no refund

Additionally, once tickets are issued the ticket value is non-refundable. Requests for a refund must be in writing (mail, fax or e-mail). Phone calls cannot be used as a form of cancellation. Refunds will be issued within 30 to 60 days of receipt of written notice. No change of names or substitutions are permitted. No refund or cancellation fees will be waived due to death or sickness. *Special trips & events such as Canonizations, WYD or Oberammergau have additional cancellation penalties such as a \$400 non-refundable deposit. Please carefully review the terms and conditions for each trip as per the trip website prior to reservation.

TRAVEL INSURED INTERNATIONAL INSURANCE 206 Tours suggests the purchase of travel protection to protect you and your trip investment. Travel Insured International Insurance offers a waiver of the pre-existing medical condition exclusion if insurance is purchased within 21 days of initial trip deposit. Travel protection cannot be purchased after your trip is paid in full and protection plan premiums are non-refundable.

Please find plan rates below:

Trip Cost	Plan Cost Per Person
\$1,001 - \$1,500	\$150
\$1,501 - \$2,000	\$170
\$2,001 - \$2,500	\$180
\$2,501 - \$3,000	\$196
\$3,001 - \$3,500	\$210
\$3,501 - \$4,000	\$225
\$4,001 - \$4,500	\$240
\$4,501 - \$5,000	\$253
\$5,001 - \$5,500	\$280

This is a partial description of benefits. For a summary of plan details on benefits, coverages, limitations and exclusions of the plan, please refer to the Description of Coverage, which is available at www.206tours.com/ insurance. If you do not have internet access 206 Tours is happy to provide a copy of the Description of Coverage (DOC), upon your request. Travel Assistance & Concierge Services are provided by the designated provider as listed in the Description of Coverage. This plan provides insurance coverage for a covered trip. The purchase of travel insurance is not required to purchase any other product or service from the travel retailer. You may already have coverage that provides similar benefits and you may wish to compare the terms of this coverage with your existing coverage. If you have questions about your current coverage, call your insurer or agent. The travel retailer is not qualified to answer questions about the benefits, exclusions or conditions of the travel insurance. Travel Insured International, 855 Winding Brook Dr PO Box 6503 Glastonbury, CT 06033. Phone # 1-844-228-3679.

SUPPLEMENTAL CANCELLATION PROTECTION 206 Tours offers an optional additional protection plan for \$299 which permits travelers to cancel for any reason up until 24 hours prior to departure without penalty. You MUST file a claim with Travel Insured International insurance if you cancel your reservation, and if you are denied reimbursement from Travel Insured International for any reason 206 Tours will refund your losses in cash in full (not including the insurance and cancel protection premiums). You MUST select this option at the time of booking and it must be paid with your deposit. You MUST purchase standard insurance in order to purchase the cancel for any reason protection plan (unless you are a resident of NY). Claims MUST be filed NO LATER than six (6) months after initial cancellation. After six months, no reimbursement can be provided. Insurance is Non refundable and Non Transferable.

AIR TRANSPORTATION Air transportation is in economy class on IATA-approved carriers. Ticketing must be completed no later than 14 days prior to departure. Fares are based on levels in effect at the time of printing and prices and schedules are subject to change without notice. All is subject to the airlines terms of carriage. 206 Tours is not responsible for any cancellations, loss, delays, injury, illness, or expenses incurred due to actions made by the airlines. Business class is based upon availability and at additional cost for the Trans-Atlantic portions of your ticket. For any issues which arise in relation to airline service complaints and compensation should be addressed to the specific carrier.

AIRPORT TAXES, FEES & FUEL CHARGES Airport taxes are included in our tour packages. Airport taxes are based on departure city and government fees (airport taxes include Federal Inspection Fees for the U.S. Customs and Immigration; International Air Transportation Tax; Agricultural tax; security fees, and other airport related taxes).

SEAT ASSIGNMENT Random seats are assigned for all group participants. If you would like to secure a specific seat, or sit with a companion please advise us of such request at the time of booking, we will make an effort to accommodate you, however we cannot guarantee. If you must have specific seat we recommend you to be at the airport at least three hours prior to departure and arrange the seat assignment with your airline's gate agent. Bulkhead and exit row seating can never be requested prior to the day of departure. 206 Tours can never guarantee specific seats, which are at the discretion of the airline & are pending availability, subject to aircraft/seat map changes.

LAND ONLY Transfers are NOT included in Land Only costs. From time to time, a tour may be canceled due to non-materialization. If you chose to purchase a Land Only package and arrange your own domestic or international flight independently of us, be advised that 206 Tours is not responsible for domestic or international flights or transfers of any kind. Booked or purchased items outside of 206tours are sole responsibility of client.

TRANSFERS Our programs include group round-trip transfers. Pilgrims or passengers who did not purchase "all-inclusive tour" or who purchased land only package and are arriving or leaving independently must transfer at their own expense. Expenses incurred for transfers due to lateness of flights are at the expense of the passenger and may be claimed for reimbursement from the airlines. No smoking is allowed on motor coach.

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

Hotel accommodations are based on twin-bedded or double rooms. 206 Tours reserves the right to substitute similar category hotels without prior notice.

PRIVATE ROOMS and SINGLE SUPPLEMENT

A limited number of single rooms is available (on request basis only) at the supplement price. Single rooms provide privacy, but they are in some hotels smaller than twin or double rooms and sometimes may be poorly located, especially in the older hotels. As a general ratio we are able to confirm 10% of the total number of group participants in single rooms. If ratio is higher special supplements may be implemented for something referred to "single in double room" at an additional rate to the single supplement rate listed. If passengers are traveling alone and wish to have 206 Tours assign a roommate we will do our best, however, if we do not succeed in assigning a same sex roommate for you, you will be responsible for the additional Single Supplement fees.

TRIPLE ROOMS In most hotels (other than Paris) triple accommodation is possible, however, no reduction in cost is available. Due to pace of our pilgrimage schedule it's a challenge to open up all 3 suitcases and everyone's hand luggage; take showers and be on the move within appropriate time. First Class and Superior Tourist Class Hotels in general are not set up for triple rooms. Hotels usually either add a third bed which is like a fold up bed or a sofa bed. At times such as in Paris it is either impossible or worse it's the "Murphy bed". For that reason we discourage booking triple rooms. **MEALS** Most trips includes two meals per day (breakfast and dinners) which are served at your hotel or local restaurants. Beverages are not included with dinners where not indicated. In case you chose not to have a meal, there is no refund for unused meals. Although we cannot guarantee, we will try and accommodate each special meal request on flights as well as at hotels. Please advise of such a request at the time of booking. We can not guarantee that special meal/diet requests can be met.

BAGGAGE Each tour participant is permitted to bring one checked suitcase, one small carry on bag (8" x 14" x 22"), and one personal item (i.e. purse, laptop case). In general, the airlines permit 1 checked bag weighing up to 50 lbs (23 kg) and maximum dimensions of 62 in (158 cm) calculated by adding the length + the width + the height of the bag. Please check with your specific airline to verify the size and weight allowances. 206 Tours is not responsible for the loss of, theft of, delay, or damage to a participant's belongings.

RESPONSIBILITY CLAUSE 206 Tours acts as a tour operator. The suppliers providing transportation, sightseeing arrangements and hotel accommodations for the tour program are independent contractors and are not agents or employees of 206 Tours. All coupons, receipts and tickets issued are subject to the terms and conditions specified by suppliers. By utilizing the service of the suppliers, you agree that 206 Tours will not be liable for any change in flight or itinerary schedule, strikes, delay, acts of governments, fires, riots, theft, pilferage, epidemics, quarantine, medical or customs regulations, accident, loss, injury, or damage to you or to those traveling with you in connection with any accommodations, transportation or any other services or resulting directly or indirectly from any occurrence or

conditions beyond its control, including defects in vehicles, breakdown in equipment, thefts, delay or cancellation of or changes in itinerary for any act, omission, or event during the time you are on board the aircraft. Neither 206 Tours and/or agents of the airlines concerned are to be held responsible for the late arrival of passengers at airports or hotels due to inclement weather, nor are they to be held liable for payment or any refund for transfers or unused hotel accommodations or meals occasioned by such late arrivals at the hotels holding rooms as confirmed itineraries. Passengers must bear all such losses or expenses. To guard against unforeseen health or other circumstances, we recommend you purchase our optional insurance. 206 Tours is not responsible for circumstances beyond its control. In circumstances where trip cancellations resulting from the inability for trip to depart as scheduled, such as cancellations due to acts of war and/or terrorism, war, God, or nature takes place, 206 Tours is not liable for restitution. Though every effort will be made to follow the itinerary, it should be considered as an indication of the tour, rather than a contract of places to be visited. Occasionally local religious holidays, national days, traffic conditions and other events may necessitate changes in the sequence of visits or the missing of certain visits. We will have daily Mass and strive to be in places as indicated. However, sometimes this is not possible as the site may not be available for Mass or itinerary changes are forced upon us. In this case an alternative site for Mass will be arranged.

SPECIAL MEDICAL CONDITIONS THOSE WHO NEED SPECIAL ASSISTANCE You must report any disability requiring special attention to 206 Tours at the time of registration for any tour. We make every effort to accommodate disabled passengers by reserving for them wheelchair assistance at airports and handicap accessible rooms where available, however, we cannot guarantee and are not responsible for any denial of services by carriers, hotels, restaurants, or other independent suppliers. Be aware that all of our tours are operated outside the U.S. where the Americans with Disabilities Act is not applicable and facilities for disabled individuals are limited. Most transportation services, including the touring motor coaches, are not equipped with wheelchair ramps or lifts. We regret that we cannot provide individual assistance to any tour participant for walking, dining, while in their room, on flight, getting on and off motor coaches and other vehicles, or other personal needs. A qualified and physically able companion(s) must accompany passengers who need special assistance. It is the passenger Traveler's responsibility to arrange for such assistance prior to making their reservations. Motorized scooters are unsuitable and impossible to accommodate. 206 Tours is not responsible for any medical condition that occurs prior, during or after the tour. Additionally, airlines are not able to guarantee or provide assistance for disabled passengers including special seating. Pregnancy, Breast-Feeding, and Pregnant women considering international should be advised to evaluate the potential problems associated with international as well as the quality of medical care available at the destination and during transit. A pregnant woman is advised to travel with at least one companion; during her pregnancy, her level of comfort may be adversely affected by traveling.

YOUNG TRAVELERS Travelers who are less than 18 years old on the departure date must be accompanied by an adult. Due to heightened security, many countries have adopted practices to prevent international abductions of children. If a child will be traveling with adults other than the parents or with only one parent, it is recommended that a notarized letter be written by the parents or non-traveling parent granting authorization to including the dates of. We also suggest that you contact the appropriate consulate and airlines because they may have additional requirements. For the purposes of 206 Tours trips an infant is defined as anyone who is under the age of 24 months for the entire duration of their trip. A child is defined as any one between the ages of 24 months and 11 years for the entire duration of their trip.

SAFETY Please be aware that during your participation on tours operated by 206 Tours, certain risks and dangers may arise beyond our control including, but not limited to, the hazards of being in undeveloped areas; by boat, train, automobile, aircraft or other means of transportation; the forces of nature, political unrest and accident or illness in remote regions without means of rapid evacuation or medical facilities. 206 Tours does not have liability regarding provisions of medical care or the adequacy of any care that may be rendered. 206 Tours is not responsible for compensation for cities/sites omitted from the itinerary due to circumstances beyond it's control.

PHYSICALITY OF OUR TOURS Please note that almost all destinations serviced by 206 Tours require physical fitness and a lot of walking, sometimes up/or down the hills and at times very rough terrain. You may certainly stay behind for certain parts of the journey, however, it is suggested that 3 to 4 weeks before your departure one should begin preparing physically begin walking "briskly" 1-2 times a day; build up to 2-3 miles with no discomfort. **SERVICE INQUIRIES AFTER THE TRIP** If upon returning from your trip, you wish to inquire about any services provided, please ensure that all correspondence is received by 206 Tours, 333 Marcus Blvd - Hauppauge, NY 11788, within 45 days of the tour completion date. This will enable us to make a timely investigation.

TOUR CANCELLATION BY OPERATOR Be clearly advised that from time to time a tour departure may be cancelled due to lack of participation. In such case, the operator's sole responsibility is to provide a full refund. 206 Tours is not responsible and does not assume responsibility for any additional costs or any fees relating to the issuance and/or cancellation of air tickets or other arrangements not made through 206 Tours. Cancellations due to state advisories and/or state warnings, Acts of War, War, Terrorism, Acts of God, Natural Disaster or any other circumstance outside the control of 206 Tours, are not the fault of 206 Tours. Great effort will be made to accommodate to another trip or to revise itinerary, however, cancellation for any of these reasons will not be eligible for refund.

PRINTING DISCLAIMER 206 Tours is not responsible for typographical or print Traveler's errors including errors in trip cost. We reserve the right to re invoice or correct billing at any time.

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