

THE *Holy* LAND

A PILGRIMAGE TO
ISRAEL/PALESTINE
FOR
**The Church
of the
Messiah**
AND FRIENDS.

Led by **The Rev. Dr. John W. Conrad**

May 23 - June 3, 2014



LIGHTLINE
PILGRIMAGES

NORTH AMERICA

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Early in the 4th Century, C.E., the Empress Helena, mother of Constantine traveled from Western Europe to the Holy Land. She must have been a strong and resilient woman to make such a long journey in those times. Legend has it that she was in search of the concrete realities that underpinned this new Christian faith. If Christ was indeed crucified, and raised from the dead, then this must have happened not in books and stories, but in a certain place. Helena went to find the place, to see and pray where it all happened. She did it and it changed her life, that of her son, and it changed the entire world.

Since that time, millions of Christians have followed where Helena led. You are invited to join members of Church of the Messiah, Santa Ana, led by The Rev. Dr. John W. Conrad, on this pilgrimage to those same places. Not only will you see where it all began and walk the road that Jesus walked and visit the sites of His ministry, but you will see what it means to be a Christian in Israel and Palestine today.

All are welcome (family members, friends, and colleagues) for the experience of a lifetime. The cost of this trip includes, full board, airfare, lodging, site visits, and activities.

We hope you will join us.

TO SECURE PLACES ON THIS TOUR

Please complete and send the enclosed booking form together with a deposit of \$500 per person. The balance of the tour cost is payable no later than **3rd March 2014**.

HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE

Day 1 Friday, May 23rd

We check in at Los Angeles International Airport for our afternoon journey to Tel Aviv, changing planes in Newark. Dinner will be served on our international flight.

Day 2 Saturday, May 24th

We arrive mid afternoon, and transfer to our beautiful Pilgrim House on the shore of the Sea of Galilee for three nights stay. We will arrive in time to unpack and freshen up before dinner, and have the chance for a restful evening and full night's sleep before our first day of touring. Dinner and overnight stay by the Sea of Galilee.



Day 3 Sunday, May 25th

We begin our pilgrimage in Nazareth, the home of the Good News and join members of the local Episcopal community for their Sunday Eucharist, after which we will visit the Basilica of the Annunciation. After lunch we drive the short distance to visit Cana, the site

of Jesus first miracle. Leaving Cana we drive across the fertile plains of Jezreel, the biblical scene of Armageddon to visit Mount Tabor, believed to be the site of the Transfiguration, after which we return to our lakeside hotel in good time to relax and freshen up before dinner. Overnight stay by the Sea of Galilee.



Day 4 Monday, May 26th

This morning, we will visit the lakeside sites associated with Jesus' ministry, enjoying the beautiful views of the Mount of Beatitudes, the churches of Peter's Primacy and the Loaves and Fishes, and the excavations of Galilee on a modern-day version of the kind of boat used for fishing at the time of Jesus. We will also see the remains of a similar boat which dates back to the early First Century. Dinner and overnight stay in Galilee.





Day 5 Tuesday, May 27th

After breakfast we leave the Sea of Galilee and drive into the heart of the West Bank to visit the city of Nablus (Shechem). Here we will visit Jacob's Well, where the Fourth Gospel tells us of Jesus' encounter with the woman drawing water. From here we will visit the Episcopal church in the Old City, to see its important work with young children in its kindergarten, and meet its Rector. After lunch with the Episcopal community there we will drive down to the Jordan Valley, stopping to renew our



baptism vows at the Jordan River, before making our way through the hills of the Judean wilderness towards Jerusalem and on to Bethlehem. Passing through the checkpoint, we make our way to our hotel situated on Manger Square. Dinner and overnight stay in Bethlehem.



Day 6 Wednesday, May 28th

Today will give us the chance not only to see the places associated with the birth of Jesus, but to see the implications of the Incarnation as lived out by the Christians of Bethlehem. During the course of the day we will visit the Shepherd's Fields and the Church of the Nativity, as well as seeing the work of two remarkable institutions endeavouring to bring something of the abundant life promised in the gospel to those living under the restrictions of the Occupation. We will visit a Refugee Camp and Dar al-Kalima College, to learn of its pioneering work in the West Bank. We will also visit the remarkable International Center of Bethlehem, founded by the Lutheran Pastor Mitri Raheb. Dinner and overnight stay in Bethlehem.



Day 7, Thursday, May 29th

After breakfast, mirroring the experience of many residents of the West Bank, we will pass through the



checkpoint to leave Bethlehem and drive to south towards Hebron, both to visit the Tomb of the Patriarchs and to see in microcosm the effects of the conflict arising out of the Occupation, as we walk the deserted streets of the Old City. Late morning we drive on to Beit Sahour and break for lunch. In the afternoon we drive to Jerusalem and on to the summit of the Mount of Olives to relive the drama of Palm Sunday. Starting at the church at Bethphage and gradually descending to the Kidron Valley, we will visit the churches of Pater Noster and Dominus Flevit before



coming finally to the dark and mysterious Church of the Agony, close to where Jesus prayed prior to his arrest. Finally we proceed down to the city of Jerusalem to check in to St George's Guest House, set around a beautiful courtyard adjacent to the Episcopal Cathedral. Dinner and overnight stay in Jerusalem.



Day 8, Friday, May 30th

This morning we drive to the Israel Museum, to see a remarkable model of Jerusalem at the time of Christ, before proceeding to the Yad Vashem Holocaust memorial museum and park. After lunch we drive back to the Old city to visit the Western Wall, From here we make our way to Mount Zion to visit its churches, finishing at the haunting and evocative St Peter in Gallicantu, where we recall Peter's denial of Jesus. Dinner and overnight stay in Jerusalem.





Day 9, Saturday, May 31st

Our day begins with the climax of our pilgrimage as we visit the church of St Anne, close to the start of the Via Dolorosa. From here we will prayerfully walk the Way of the Cross through the winding alleys of the souk, until we come to the Church of the Holy Sepulcher, built over what every generation has believed is the place of Jesus' crucifixion, burial and resurrection. After a break for lunch. In the afternoon we drive down to the Dead Sea to visit Qumran, the site where the Dead Sea scrolls were found and to explore the nearby Essene monastery where the scrolls may have originated. After an opportunity to bathe in the unique mineral-laden waters of the Dead Sea we return to Jerusalem, arriving in good time for dinner and overnight stay.

Day 10, Sunday, June 1st

After breakfast this morning we worship with our sister and brother Episcopalians at St George's Cathedral in East Jerusalem followed by coffee with the local community. After lunch we will drive to the village of Ein Karem on the outskirts of Jerusalem, to visit the birth place and home of John the Baptist. We



will return to Jerusalem late afternoon with time to relax before dinner. Farewell dinner and our final overnights stay in Jerusalem.



Day 11, Monday, June 2nd

After an breakfast, we will visit Abu Ghosh, one of the possible sites of biblical Emmaus, for a final celebration of the Eucharist together. Returning to Jerusalem we will have free time (lunch not being included today) before our final dinner together and our journey out to the airport for our flight home.

Day 12, Tuesday, June 3rd

Landing at JFK in the early morning, we transfer to a flight to Los Angeles, landing mid morning.

Please note this complex touring programme may be subject to minor local amendments



HOLY LAND TOUR COST - \$3995

All Lightline tours are carefully calculated to include all items necessary to complete your tour at the advertised price.

- ✓ **Scheduled direct flights from Los Angeles on Delta Airlines**

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|--------|--------|---------|-------|-------|--------|
| UA1489 | 23 MAY | LAX EWR | 1200N | 815P | 23 MAY |
| UA0090 | 23 MAY | EWR TLV | 1055P | 420P | 24 MAY |
| UA0091 | 02 JUN | TLV EWR | 1110P | 430A | 03 JUN |
| UA1455 | 03 JUN | EWR LAX | 800A | 1055A | 03 JUN |
- ✓ **All airport departure taxes, passenger taxes & entrance fees**
- ✓ **Accommodation with private bath/shower at Christian run hotels:**
 - Galilee - Tabgha Pilgerhaus (Situated on the northern shores of the lake),*
 - Bethlehem - Orient Palace (A Christian run hotel on Manger Square).*
 - Jerusalem - St George's Guest House I (Cathedral Guest House by the Old City).*
- ✓ **Full board throughout (breakfast, lunch & dinner daily).**

THE ONLY ITEMS NOT INCLUDED IN THE PRICE

Single room supplement (very limited) \$589, travel insurance, beverages, gratuities \$160, laundry and any items of a personal nature.

