



Holy Land Christian Ecumenical Foundation
Living Stones Pilgrimage to the Holy Land
The St. Camillus Parish
11-21 May, 2020 – 11 Days / 10 nights

Under the leadership of **Fr. Jean-Marie Kabango**, we will visit holy places, spend time with Palestinian Christians – the “Living Stones” of the Holy Land – and meet some remarkable people from Jewish, Christian and Muslim faith traditions who build bridges of hope through their work for justice, peace and reconciliation.

Day 1- Monday, May 11th: Departure

Our Holy Land pilgrimage experience begins this evening as we depart on our international flight. There are meals and movies in flight, as well as some conversation and sleep.

Day 2- Tuesday, May 12th: Travel & Arrival in Tel Aviv

After arriving in Tel Aviv Ben Gurion Airport, we will have entry formalities at the airport and then transfer to **Bethlehem for dinner and overnight.**

Day 3- Wednesday, May 13th: Bethlehem



After Breakfast, we will begin our day with a visit to ***Shepherd's Field*** in Beit Sahour. It is where the angels appeared to announce the birth of Jesus to the shepherds. Then we will visit ***Church of the Nativity***, the birthplace of Jesus, and celebrate Mass. During **lunch**, we will have a welcome by a representative of **HCEF**, who will teach us about HCEF's programs in the Holy Land. Then we will visit ***Bethlehem University*** and meet with some of the students, and after that we will have time to walk in the Old City near Manger Square. **Dinner and overnight in**

Bethlehem.

Day 4- Thursday, May 14th : Bethlehem

After Breakfast, we will visit Aida Refugee Camp and meet with some of the families who live there. After lunch, we will visit the Cremisan Valley. There we will see the separation wall between Palestinian farm fields and Israeli housing settlements, and consider both perspectives around the wall, including the impact on Palestinian agriculture and neighborhoods as well as the Israeli security dilemma. Later in the afternoon we will celebrate Mass at the **Carmelite Convent** founded by Maryam Baouardy (St. Maryam of Jesus Crucified), a Palestinian Carmelite nun canonized by Pope Francis in 2015. **Dinner and overnight in Bethlehem.**





Holy Land Christian Ecumenical Foundation
Living Stones Pilgrimage to the Holy Land
The St. Camillus Parish
11-21 May, 2020 – 11 Days / 10 nights

Day 5- Friday, May 15th: Jerusalem



After Breakfast, we will depart very early to Jerusalem to walk the **Via Dolorosa** (Way of Suffering) through the narrow alleys and bazaars of the Old City of Jerusalem, ending at the Church of the **Holy Sepulchre** and the Tomb of Christ. We will celebrate Mass in one of the chapels of the Holy Sepulchre. Then, we will visit the **Latin Patriarchate** and meet with a representative of the Bishop. **After lunch**, we will drive to the Mount of Olives to visit the **churches of Pater Noster and Dominus Flevit**. We will also visit the **church of All Nations**, located in the beautiful

Garden of **Gethsemane** where Jesus prayed the night before his Passion. **Back to Bethlehem for dinner and overnight.**

Day 6- Saturday, May 16th: Jerusalem

After breakfast, we will drive to Jerusalem to visit the **Dome of the Rock, the Golden Gate and Western wall and the Temple Mount**. **After lunch**, we will visit **Mount Zion and the Upper Room**, scene of the **Last Supper**, and then the **Church of the Assumption (Tomb of Mary)** for Mass.. Before returning to Bethlehem, we will visit Parents Circle Bereaved Families or Rabbis for Human Rights or B'Tselem (subject to availability.) **Back to Bethlehem for dinner and overnight.**

Day 7- Sunday, May 17th: Jericho, Dead Sea, Nablus

After an early breakfast, we will depart for **Jericho**. On our way, we will visit the **Tomb of Lazarus**, an important pilgrimage site located in the West Bank town of Al-Eizariya, traditionally identified as the biblical village of Bethany, on the southeastern slope of the Mount of Olives, some 2.4 km (1.5 miles) east of Jerusalem. The tomb is the site of a miracle recorded in the Gospel of John in which Jesus resurrects Lazarus. We will celebrate Mass at the Catholic Church here.



Then we will continue to Jericho to view the Monastery of Temptation and remember Zaccheus climbing the tree and blind Bartimaeus wanting to see. After lunch in Jericho, we will enjoy ourselves around the Dead Sea, the lowest place on earth. **Return to Bethlehem for dinner and overnight.**

Day 8- Monday, May 18th: Birzeit



After Breakfast, we will drive to visit **Birzeit**, and visit the **Catholic Church**, where we will meet the Parish Priest and celebrate Mass. Then we will visit the **Birzeit Social Development and Cultural Center**, giving us the chance to share a lunch with the elders of Birzeit and hear their stories. Afterward, we will visit the Birzeit University Museum. **Back to our hotel in Bethlehem.**



Holy Land Christian Ecumenical Foundation
Living Stones Pilgrimage to the Holy Land
The St. Camillus Parish

11-21 May, 2020 – 11 Days / 10 nights

Day 9-Tuesday, May 19th: Nazareth - Mt.Tabor.



After an early morning breakfast we will depart Bethlehem and drive to **Mount Tabor**, to visit the site of Jesus' Transfiguration at the summit of the mountain and enjoy the beautiful scenery of the Valley of Jezreal. Continue to Nazareth to tour the holy places in Nazareth, the town where Jesus and the Holy Family lived. We will visit the **Basilica of the Annunciation** where the Angel Gabriel proclaimed: "Rejoice O highly favored daughter," and celebrate Mass. At Nazareth we will also see **Mary's well**, and **Joseph's workshop**, and visit the **Nazareth Synagogue** where Jesus

began his ministry. **Return to hotel in Nazareth for dinner and overnight.**

Day 10- Wednesday, May 20th: Sea of Galilee

After breakfast, we will drive to Galilee, to the **Mount of Beatitudes** to recall the Sermon on the Mount and celebrate Mass here. Continue to **Tabgha** for a visit to the **Church of the Multiplication**. Then we will visit the small chapel of the **Primacy of St. Peter**, and continue to **Magdala Synagogue** after enjoying a lunch of St. Peter's fish. Then we will go to **Capernaum**, the Town of Jesus, for a detailed visit of its ruins: the remains of the House of Peter, and the White Synagogue. Afterward, we will experience a **boat ride** going out on the Sea of Galilee where we will recall Jesus' mighty deeds calming the wind and the waves. **Back to hotel in Nazareth for dinner and overnight.**



Day 11- Thursday, May 21st: Return Home

After an early morning check-out and transfer to the airport, we fly back home. However, our faith journey will continue in a new, invigorated way. Having visited the sacred places in our tradition, having met the descendants of the first disciples of Jesus and witnessed how the people of the Holy Land strive to build bridges of justice, peace and reconciliation --all these experiences will enrich your spiritual life and transform you. They will also enable you to interpret the news from the region in a different way. A Living Stones pilgrimage to the Holy Land will definitely enrich and permanently change your life for better.

For further information and to register for this pilgrimage, please contact:
Fr. Jean-Marie Kabango, jkabango@hotmail.com

Notes:

- ***Mass can be arranged daily***
- ***Itinerary subject to change without notice***
- ***The Itinerary includes interaction with the Living Stones***
- ***The meeting at the Latin Patriarchate may be changed depending on their schedule and availability.***