An Invitation to Join a

Contemplative Marian Pilgrimage

to

FATIMA, LOURDES, and BONNEVAUX

12 Days

Highlights:

Lisbon ⁕ Fatima ⁕ Salamanca ⁕ Burgos
Lourdes ⁕ Bonnevaux Retreat Center
Chartres ⁕ Paris

Led by:

FR. LAURENCE FREEMAN, O.S.B.

Spiritual Director
World Community for Christian Meditation

October 18, 2022
Departure Date

"The importance of Mary in the Christian vision is to remind us that God is Father-Mother and that Jesus, whom she bore and nurtured, is caringly present in every human relationship. These are deep mysteries, but they are not abstract. We can feel them alive in all human ways and more intensely in certain physical places. Reflecting on them in Fatima, Lourdes, Bonnevaux and Chartres – all places where in different ways Mary has revealed herself – will help us more fully enter their transforming power. Meditating together, worshiping, sharing our personal journeys as fellow-pilgrims, will become part of the healing and inspiration that each of these holy places offers the pilgrim. The silent times will make the celebrations richer and more joyful. I look forward to sharing this time of grace and peace with you. After our long dark night of Covid this pilgrimage will refresh new life and hope."

LAURENCE FREEMAN, OSB

Laurence Freeman is a Benedictine monk and the spiritual successor of John Main OSB. He is the Director of The World Community for Christian Meditation. Author, retreat leader and international speaker, Fr Laurence sees the contemplative as the essential dimension of all spirituality.

ITINERARY:

Daily meditation will be scheduled everyday before breakfast, during the Holy mass, and after dinner.

18OCT (Tue). LISBON.
Arrive in ***Lisbon Airport***. After immigration and customs formalities, board your coach and head for the Church of St. Anthony de Padua, built on the site where the saint was born. See the Saint's relics located in the crypt. Mass to be arrange for the group. Across is the Lisbon Cathedral where St. Anthony was baptized. Check in at your hotel for dinner and accommodation. *Note: Standard hotel check in time is 2:00 p.m.* ***(D)***

19OCT (Wed). LISBON - FATIMA.
After breakfast, meet your local guide for a sightseeing tour of Lisbon. Stop at the Belem Tower – it is the city's most photographed landmark. Built in 1515 as a fortress to guard the entrance to Lisbon's harbor, the Belem Tower was the starting point for many of the voyages of discovery, and for the sailors it was the last sight of their homeland. It is a monument of Portugal's Age of Discovery. View the Jeronimus Monastery, the most impressive symbol of Portugal's power and wealth during the Age of Discovery. See the Moorish Citadel and the impressive Black Horse Square. After lunch, journey on to one of the world's greatest Marian pilgrimage centers - ***Fatima***. Check in at your hotel for accommodation. Mass to be arrange in one of the chapels in the Fatima Sanctuary. After dinner, there will a meditation before proceeding to the Sanctuary for the 9:00 p.m. evening Rosary and Candlelight procession. ***(B,D)***

20OCT (Thu). FATIMA.
In the morning, join the group meditation before breakfast. After, proceed to one of the chapels of the Sanctuary for the celebration of the Holy Mass. Then, meet your local guide for a tour of ***Fatima***. Visit the Chapel of Apparition, the Basilica where you can find the tombs of the three seers: Francisco, Jacinta, and Sister Lucia, Aljustrel - home of Francisco and Jacinta, Lucia's house with the well where the Angel appeared a second time, Valinhos - site of Our Lady's 4th apparition, Loca do Cabeco - where the children received the first and the third visit of the "*Angel of Peace*," the Stations of the Cross composed of 14 little chapels, and the Parish Church. The rest of the day shall be free for private devotions and prayers. Spend time at the Sanctuary in the Cova da Iria. Meditate and pray at the Chapel of Apparitions, the very heart of the Sanctuary. A marble pillar marks the exact spot on which the Statue of Our Lady is placed. Before dinner, join the group meditation. After, join the Rosary and Candlelight procession. ***(B,D)***

21OCT (Fri). FATIMA – SALAMANCA - BURGOS.
Meet the group in the morning for meditation. Then, proceed to one of the chapels in the Sanctuary for the celebration of the Holy Mass. Return to your hotel for breakfast followed by check out. Continue your journey toward the ancient town of ***Salamanca***. Stop at the Plaza Mayor for lunch. Drive to ***Burgos*** for dinner and overnight accommodation. Join the evening group meditation before retiring to bed. ***(B,D)***

22OCT (Sat). BURGOS – LOURDES.
Meet the group in the morning for meditation before breakfast. Check out of your hotel and walk to the Cathedral of St. Mary of Burgos for the Holy Mass. Spend some free time exploring the Cathedral which contains numerous architectural, sculptural, and pictorial treasures such as the Santísimo Cristo de Burgos, image of great devotional tradition; the tomb of El Cid and his wife Doña Jimena, his letter of Down payment and his chest; and the Papamoscas, articulated statue that opens his mouth to give the chiming of the hours.

After lunch, depart for the town of ***Lourdes***, where in 1858, the appearance of the Mother of God to the then 14-year old Bernadette

Soubirous in the remote Grotto of Massabielle can be summarized in four words that evoke and amplify the Good News of the Gospels: *POVERTY, PRAYER, PENANCE,* and *CHURCH*. Check in at your hotel followed by dinner and then meditation. Catch the evening Rosary and Candlelight procession. ***(B,D)***

23OCT (Sun). LOURDES.
Meet the group in the morning for meditation before breakfast. After, celebrate mass in one of the chapels of the Sanctuary. The rest of the day is free for private individual activities. Take time to explore the three superimposed churches built over the Grotto of Apparition, the Basilica of Immaculate Conception (Upper Basilica), the Crypt, and the Rosary Basilica. Spend time meditating and praying the Holy Rosary at the Grotto of Massabielle, the spot where Our Lady appeared to Bernadette and identified herself as, *"I am the Immaculate Conception."* The Sanctuaries and pools are always open and religious ceremonies are held every day: Masses, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Stations of the Cross, Blessed Sacrament Procession, and Blessing of the Sick. Group Meditation to be arrange before dinner. After, join the evening Rosary and Candlelight procession. ***(B,D)***

24OCT (Mon). LOURDES – BORDEAUX – BONNEVAUX.
Celebrate an early morning Mass in one of the chapels of the *Lourdes Sanctuary*. Then, return to your hotel for breakfast and check out. Stop in ***Bordeaux*** for lunch. Continue your pilgrimage to ***Bonnevaux***. Bonnevaux is the international meditation and retreat centre of The World Community for Christian Meditation (WCCM). Check in for your 3-night accommodation at the Bonnevaux Retreat Center, a place for peaceful transformation. A residential community lives in the spirit of the Rule of St Benedict together with volunteers from many parts of the world. Bonnevaux serves global peace and unity among all traditions through dialogue, silence and friendship. After dinner, join the evening meditation together with rest of the residents of the Center. ***(B,D)***

25-26OCT(Tue-Wed). BONNEVAUX.
Spend your 3-days stay at the Center for a contemplative retreat with daily morning and evening meditation. The beauty and peace of Bonnevaux´s 65 hectares (160 acres) reflects the contemplative life lived there from its foundation as a Benedictine monastery in 1119 until the French revolution. The land has over 20 different habitats, some of which are of heritage value. The community see themselves as stewards of this fertile place. The central house is home to a residential community living in the spirit of St. Benedict. This core community includes oblates and long-term guests. Daily life is built on the spirit of silence within the monastic rhythm of prayer, work and study, hospitality and care for others. During the set times of prayer and meditation all other activities rest and move into silence. Join the activities of Bonnevaux organized under the supervision of l'Association Abbaye de Bonnevaux. On your last evening here at the Center, enjoy an evening of fellowship after dinner. ***(B,L,D)***

27OCT (Thu). BONNEVAUX – CHARTRES – PARIS.
Morning meditation before breakfast. Check out of your hotel and depart for the medieval town of ***Chartres***. On arrival, lunch at a local restaurant. Then, meet your local guide for a sightseeing tour before visiting the classic Gothic style *Cathedral of Our Lady of Chartres*, world famous for its architectural wonders and is probably the most complete and best preserved medieval Church in the western world. It houses the "Virgin's Veil" which according to the tradition would have been worn by Mary at the time of the birth of Christ. Celebrate the Holy Mass before leaving for Paris. On arrival, check in at your hotel for accommodation. Enjoy dinner at your hotel followed by an evening meditation. ***(B,D)***

28OCT (Fri). PARIS.
Morning meditation before breakfast. Drive to Rue de Bac this morning where you will visit the Chapel of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal. It was here where in 1830 our Lady appeared to St. Catherine Laboure and instructed her to have a medal made and all who wear it will receive great graces. Mass to be arranged for the group. Then, meet your local guide after the Mass. On with your Paris Discovery Tour... a perfect introduction to the city which includes most of its highlights: Sacre Coure; Concorde Square; Trocadero Square; view of the Eiffel Tower; Champs Elysees; photo stop at the Arc de Triomphe; Madeleine; and the Opera. In the afternoon, visit the Louvre Museum, the world's largest art museum and a historic monument in Paris. End the day with a one-hour Bateaux Parisiens Cruise on the River Seine where you will have the opportunity to see the major historical buildings of Paris such as the Notre Dame de Cathedral; Louvre Museum. Dinner at a local restaurant before heading back to your hotel. End the night with a group meditation before retiring. ***(B,D)***

29OCT (Sat). PARIS - PARIS CDG AIRPORT.
Early morning meditation before having a leisurely breakfast. Day is free until you are transferred to ***Paris CDG Airport*** for your flight back home or other onward destination. ***(B)***
Note: Standard check out time is at 11:00 a.m.

TOUR INCLUSIONS:

- ✈ Roundtrip airport transfers as specifically scheduled
- ✈ First class hotel accommodation on twin sharing
- ✈ Three (3) nights accommodation at the Bonnevaux Retreat Centre
- ✈ Meals as specified in the itinerary (B - Breakfast; L - Lunch; D - Dinner)
- ✈ Transportation by deluxe air-conditioned motor coach
- ✈ Guided city tours with entrances as specified in the itinerary
- ✈ Services of a Tour Leader and Pilgrimage Chaplain all throughout the pilgrimage
- ✈ Tip Fund (for guides, coach drivers, restaurants, etc.)
- ✈ Porterage of one (1) piece of luggage at hotels (subject to availability)

TOUR COST PER PERSON:

Land Only based on Twin Sharing	
Based on minimum 30 pax	**US$ 3,770.00**
Based on minimum 20 pax	**US$ 4,140.00**
Optional:	
Additional for Single Room	**US$ 910.00**

PAYMENT:

1) US$ 500.00 deposit is required upon reservations together with a recent passport-size photo, photocopy of passport (valid for 6 months from date of departure), and Registration Form.

2) Full payment in U.S. dollars is required on or 45 days before departure date.

3) MODE OF PAYMENT:

> Deposits and full payment may be remitted via bank transfer to:

Account Name: EXECUTIVE RESOURCES, INC.
Bank: BANCO DE ORO
Address: BDO - Adriatico Branch,
G/F, SM Supermarket, Malate
Manila, Philippines
Savings Account No.: 10447-006129-0
Swift Code: BBNORPHMM
Note: Please arrange with your bank to remit in full and email us a copy of the bank transaction.

> Visa and Mastercard will be accepted subject to approval.

CANCELLATION POLICY:

All cancellations must be done in writing. The following charges will apply:

> 60 days before departure date - US$ 500.00
> 40 days before departure date - 50% of the Tour Cost
> 30 days prior to departure date - Full tour cost will be forfeited.

CONDITIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

TOUR COST DOES NOT INCLUDE: airfare, airline taxes, visa fee and documentation expenses, travel insurance, hospitalization and other medical expenses, tours and transportation during free periods, porterage of extra pieces of luggage in excess of maximum allocation, drinks and beverages taken during meals, items of personal nature such as laundry, telephone, fax, room service, and other expenses not mentioned in the itinerary.

EXECUTIVE RESOURCES, INC. has arranged for the various services to be performed under the responsibility of various contractors. Executive Resources, Inc., its employees or its subagents therefore only act as agents for the contractors providing the various services described in the pilgrimage and accept no responsibility or liability in connection with losses or accidental expenses due to delays of schedule, overbooking, defaults or "force majeure". All pilgrimage arrangements are subject to the general conditions specified by each contractor. Itineraries and prices are subject to change without prior notice. *When making a booking, the passenger acknowledges and accepts the foregoing conditions.*

***** RATES AND SCHEDULES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE. *****

For reservations and more details, please contact:

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