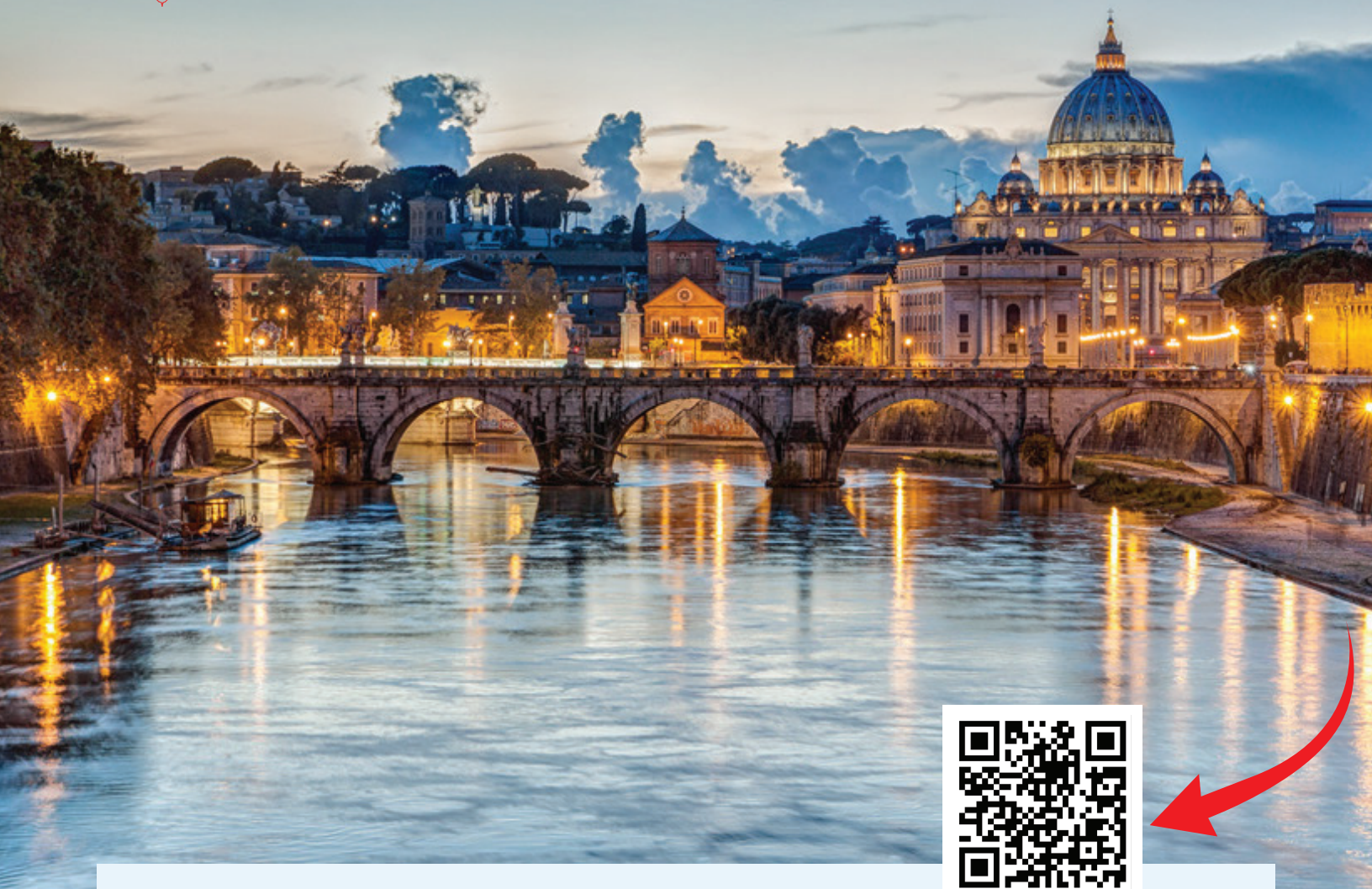




PROROME



REGISTER TODAY

Join Father John Brancich and Father Carl Gismondi, FSSP

A Traditional Catholic Pilgrimage through Italy

FEATURING ROME, FLORENCE, BOLOGNA, PADUA, TRENT, VICENZA AND VENICE

Sunday, November 10 - Wednesday, November 20, 2024

\$4590, air-inclusive from Newark (EWR) or Boston (BOS)

For more information or to register, please visit www.prorometours.com/fssp-italy or contact ProRome Tours directly at (434) 953 1112 or by email at office@prorome.com

THE ITINERARY



Sunday, November 10 **Departure**

Today we will depart either from Newark International Airport (EWR) or Boston Logan International Airport (BOS), depending on the pilgrim's choice of airport. From EWR we depart at 4:50 PM on Air France flight 63 for Paris (CDG), arriving on November 11 at 5:55 AM. We depart Paris at 12:35 PM on Air France flight 1504 for Rome (FCO) and arrive at 2:40 PM. From BOS we depart at 6:10 PM on Delta Airlines flight 112 for Rome (FCO), arriving on November 11 at 8:15 AM.

Monday, November 11 **Rome: Arrival And Mass**

Upon arrival in the Eternal City, our first stop will be for Mass at the church of Santissima Trinità dei Pellegrini. After Mass we proceed to our hotel, the four-star Hotel Michelangelo where we will enjoy a welcome dinner. After dinner, we may take an optional stroll to St. Peter's Square to view the Vatican by night.

Mass - Santissima Trinità dei Pellegrini
Dinner - Hotel Michelangelo

Tuesday, November 12 **Rome: Papal Basilicas And Catacombs**

Our day begins with a tour of St. Peter's Basilica. A highlight of our trip will be the tour of the Scavi, the excavated cemetery underneath St. Peter's. We will walk through its ancient streets to arrive at the tomb of St. Peter and venerate his relics. After lunch our bus will take us to the Appian Way, the famous Roman road where the catacombs of St. Sebastian are located.

Sebastian's remains are entombed in the basilica which now bears his name and is the entrance to the catacombs. The original church on the site was built in the 4th century and dedicated to Sts. Peter and Paul (during the 3rd century persecutions, their remains were hidden in these catacombs where St. Sebastian was also buried). Next we will visit the magnificent Basilica of Saint Paul Outside the Walls, built over the tomb of the Apostle to the Gentiles. St. Paul's Basilica stood completely intact until 1823, when it was destroyed by fire. The rebuilt basilica incorporates some elements that could be salvaged from the fire and is a near-perfect replica of the original structure. St. Paul's sarcophagus was discovered in 2006, buried underneath a tombstone that reads "Apostolo Paulo Martire." Our final stop will be SS. Trinità dei Pellegrini for Mass before we return to our hotel for a local dinner together.

Mass - Santissima Trinità dei Pellegrini
Dinner - La Vittoria

Wednesday, November 13 **Rome: The Ancient City**

This day is dedicated to the ancient city. After morning Mass at Santissima Trinità dei Pellegrini we will visit churches which stand in the area of the Campus Martius - in Roman times this area was a vast field where soldiers trained. We will begin at the magnificent Pantheon (Basilica of Santa Maria ad Martyres), the only fully intact building of Roman antiquity. In 609 Pope Boniface IV transformed this 2nd century temple into a church dedicated to Our Lady and the Martyrs. Next we will walk to the Piazza Navona (built on the foundations of Domitian's circus), where St. Agnes was martyred, to visit the church of Sant'Agnese where the saint's relics are kept. Afterwards we will admire some of Caravaggio's masterpieces at the nearby churches of San Luigi dei Francesi and Sant'Agostino - where we will also venerate the relics of St. Monica. After lunch we will explore the Colosseum and Roman Forum, beginning at the Arch of Constantine, built to commemorate Constantine's victory over Maxentius in the year 312 which led to the legalization of Christianity in 313. Constantine's arch stands in the shadow of the Colosseum, a place of gladiator combats, wild beast fights and capital punishment for criminals, including Christians who would not deny their faith. We will walk through the Forum, the center of Rome's public life for over a thousand years. The Forum's best preserved structure is the Senate House, where Julius Caesar gave the final speech of his life; in the 7th century it was transformed into a church and became one of the most important charitable institutions for Rome's poor during the early Middle Ages. Before returning to our hotel for a local dinner, we will make a final stop at the Chiesa Nuova (Santa Maria in Vallicella), to pray before the tomb of St. Philip Neri "apostle of Rome."

Mass - Santissima Trinità dei Pellegrini
Dinner - Osteria dei Pontefici

Thursday, November 14 **Rome: Papal Basilicas & The Holy Relics**

Our day begins with Mass at the Basilica of St. Mary Major. It is built over Pope Liberius' original 4th century church on the site of a miraculous August snowfall. Since the 6th century the Basilica has been home to the Madonna Salus Populi Romani icon, believed to be painted by St. Luke. It was carried by St. Gregory the Great through the streets of Rome in supplication for saving the Romans from the Plague. We too will pray before this icon. We will also venerate the relic of Christ's manger and the incorrupt body of St. Pius V. Our next stop will be the Basilica of St. John Lateran, built by Constantine and restored to its present state in the 17th century. The Lateran houses the relic of the table of the Last Supper and the stairs from the praetorium of Pontius Pilate that Jesus ascended when He was brought before Pilate. Keeping with tradition, we will climb the Holy Staircase on our knees. After lunch we will proceed to the nearby Basilica of Holy Cross in Jerusalem, built by Constantine's mother St. Helen to house the relics of the Crucifixion which she brought back from Jerusalem in about 326. Our last stop today is the Basilica of St. Lawrence outside the Walls. Here we will stand before the tomb of the heroic martyr St. Lawrence, around which the Basilica is constructed. The relics of St. Stephen are placed with those of St. Lawrence. We will be privileged to kneel before the tomb of Blessed Pius IX and ask for his intercession. Pius IX loved this church so much that he asked to be buried here. We will return to our hotel for our final dinner in Rome and overnight.

Mass - Papal Basilica of Saint Mary Major
Dinner - Hotel Michelangelo

Friday, November 15 **Florence: The Duomo**

This morning we depart for Florence with a brief stop for lunch enroute. We will check into our hotel, the four-star Hotel Baglioni, and then go directly to the Institute of Christ the King church of SS. Michele e Gaetano for Mass. After Mass we will walk two blocks to the Florence Cathedral complex - a stunning panoply of sacred buildings with patterned exteriors of pink, green and white marble. The towering Gothic Cathedral of Florence was once the second largest church in the world after St. Peter's Basilica. The construction of its Renaissance dome by Brunelleschi is one of mankind's greatest engineering feats. The origins of the octagonal medieval Baptistery are still shrouded in mystery. In the Renaissance, the Baptistery was adorned by three sets of spectacular bronze doors that are the pride of the Florentines. The ornately decorated bell tower was designed by the painter Giotto. For a fitting end to our visit we may choose to climb the bell tower for an enchanting view of the medieval city. It is a short walk back to our hotel for dinner on the Baglioni's enclosed terrace, which overlooks the city!

Mass - Institute of Christ the King -
SS. Michele e Gaetano
Dinner - Baglioni Hotel Terrace

ITINERARY CONTINUED



Saturday, November 16 **Florence: San Marco & Free Afternoon**

This morning we will go to San Marco Monastery Museum where Fra Angelo lived and worked and where many of his famous masterpieces are displayed. The holy painter Fra Angelico was beatified by Pope John Paul II in 1984. The Pope proclaimed "Fra Angelico was reported to say "He who does Christ's work must stay with Christ always". This motto earned him the epithet "Blessed Angelico", because of the perfect integrity of his life and the almost divine beauty of the images he painted, to a superlative extent those of the Blessed Virgin Mary." We will be moved by the exquisite images that Fra Angelico painted in the friars' cells, to aid them in prayer and meditation. We will see the cell of San Marco's most famous prior, Girolamo Savonarola, the fiery preacher who boldly warned about the decadence of Florentine society in the 1490s. Savonarola harshly condemned Lorenzo de' Medici for his worldliness, power and patronage of art with pagan subject matter. Yet when Lorenzo lay on his deathbed, Savonarola is the priest who he called to administer Viaticum to him. In 1998 the Archdiocese of Florence opened the cause for Savonarola's canonization. Mass at the Basilica of San Marco. After Mass we will visit the Accademia Museum where we will marvel at Michelangelo's David, perhaps the greatest sculpture ever made. We will then enjoy a group lunch together at Ristorante Buca Niccolini, followed by a free afternoon and evening in Florence or its museums.

Mass - Basilica of San Marco
Lunch - Buca Niccolini

Sunday, November 17 **Bologna & Padua: Tomb of St. Dominic & Basilica of St. Anthony**

After Mass at SS. Michele e Gaetano we depart for Bologna where we will stop at the Basilica of San Domenico to pray before the tomb of Saint Dominic. After lunch in the lovely city of Bologna (known for its marvelous cuisine) we will continue to Padua where we will check into the four-star Hotel Europa. We will visit the Basilica of St. Anthony. The tongue of St. Anthony who was famous for his preaching is miraculously preserved in a reliquary in the basilica, while St. Anthony's body is entombed in the Chapel of St. Anthony. Our day in Padua will be complete when we see Giotto's frescoes in the Arena Chapel, one of the most breathtaking and pivotal works in the history of art. We will return to our hotel for dinner and overnight.

Mass - Institute of Christ the King - SS. Michele e Gaetano
Dinner - Hotel Europa

Monday, November 18 **Vicenza, Trent & Padua**

A day trip will take us through the Alpine foothills to the beautiful town of Trent, stopping in Vicenza for Mass at the FSSP church of San Rocco. Lunch in Trent. Today Trent is acclaimed for its beauty, culture and quality of life, but its medieval center and town square are as lovely as any in Italy. As pilgrims, the Cathedral which adjoins the square beckons us. In this cathedral dedicated to St. Vigilio, Bishop of Trent and martyr, the Council of Trent took place in the 16th century and renewed the Church through the onslaught of Protestantism. We will return to Padua for a local dinner.

Mass - FSSP - San Rocco Vicenza
Dinner - TBD

Tuesday, November 19 **Venice & Padua**

Our introduction to Venice will be Mass at the stately domed church of San Simeon Piccolo (FSSP), which we will reach on foot, crossing the bridge of the Scalzi, over the Grand Canal. After Mass a vaporetto will take us down the Grand Canal to St. Mark's Square, possibly the most beautiful public square in the world. Our first stop will be the nearby church of San Zaccaria where we will venerate the relics of St. Athanasius and see Giovanni Bellini's sublime masterpiece, the San Zaccaria Altarpiece. Returning to St. Mark's Square, we will spend time in prayer - and awe - within the splendor of St. Mark's Cathedral, a marvel of Byzantine architecture and mosaic. Our final stop in Venice will be the church of Santa Maria Gloriosa dei Frari. The church holds numerous great masterpieces of Venetian Renaissance art, the most outstanding being Titian's Assumption of the Virgin.

Mass - FSSP - San Simeon Piccolo Venice
Dinner - Hotel Europe

Wednesday, November 20 **Return To Usa From Venice**

If flying back to Newark (EWR), we depart Venice (VCE) at 6:55 AM on Air France flight 1357 for Paris (CDG), arriving at 8:55 AM. We depart Paris at 12:20 PM on Air France flight 62 for EWR and arrive at 2:40 PM in Newark. If flying back to Boston (BOS), we depart Venice (VCE) at 12:20 PM on KLM flight 1630 for Amsterdam (AMS), arriving at 2:20 PM. We depart Amsterdam at 5:15 PM on KLM flight 617 and arrive at 7:05 PM in Boston. Welcome home!



► Final Cost

\$4590 per person

\$990 single occupancy room surcharge

(only for those requiring/desiring a single occupancy room)

► Payment Schedule

\$200 - ProRome Registration Fee - Due at Registration

\$2195 - Due May 10, 2024

\$2195 - July 10, 2024

\$990 - Single Occupancy Surcharge (if applicable) - Due July 10, 2024

► Price Includes

- Roundtrip airfare on Air France in Economy Class
 - One checked-bag, one carry-on and one personal item permitted
- Nine nights lodging in a double occupancy room
 - Four nights at the four-star Hotel Michelangelo, Rome
 - Two nights at the four-star Hotel Baglioni, Florence
 - Three nights at the four-star Hotel Europa, Padua
- Catholic ProRome Tour Manager throughout the course of the trip
- Professional qualified English-speaking guides for all visits according to the above itinerary
- Tours and all entry-tickets (excluding tickets for the free afternoon in Florence)
- Daily buffet breakfast (without choice of menus)
- 8 three-course pre-selected dinners (see itinerary for meals) with water and house wine included
- 1 three-course pre-selected lunch (see itinerary for meals) with water and house wine included
- Deluxe a/c coach throughout (note that we will still walk 3-8 miles per day)
- Audio guiding system throughout the course of the trip

► Price Does Not Include

- Any personal expenses
- Meals not specifically listed in the above itinerary
- Beverages other than water and house wine at included meals
- Trip Insurance (Available for purchase through ProRome)
- Gratuities for the Tour Manager and Driver
 - Suggested \$20-\$30 per person for both the tour manager and the driver



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