

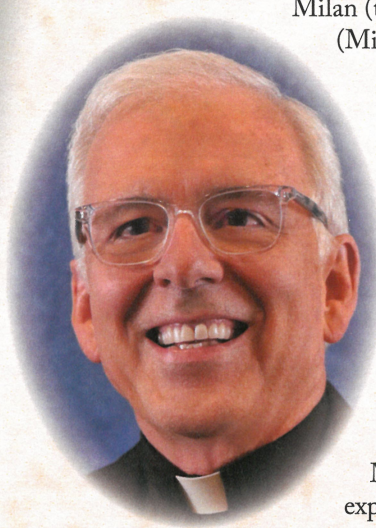
# Pilgrimage to Italy: Home of Our Catholic Faith

## *April 13 - 23, 2024*

*Dear Pilgrims,*

*Buongiorno* my friends! On behalf of the Marianist Mission, I am delighted to share with you this wonderful invitation to join us on a beautiful and prayerful pilgrimage to Italy!

Come and explore with us some of the most sacred places of our Catholic faith and unmatched beauty in Milan (the magnificent gothic Duomo), Venice (St. Mark's Square), Florence (Michelangelo's David) and Rome (the "Eternal City")! It can't get any better!



Let this brochure open the door to you for a most wonderful and enjoyable time in this beautiful country. You will have the opportunity to visit many awe-inspiring points of spiritual interest.

We are going to have a lot of fun together! For nearly 40 years the Marianist Mission Pilgrimages have been special times of grace. I have met so many special people as we form a family spirit on these pilgrimages and take the time to see the glory of God in our small world. We will pray and we will taste some wonderful local foods and learn about the culture. I promise you that *this will be a journey that will be treasured forever.*

I invite you to send in your deposit now and reserve a place on this Marianist pilgrimage. And please get ready for the time of your life, an experience you will never forget! We will be in very good hands with *Unitours*, a tour company that has been leading pilgrimages for a very long time.

*Gratefully in J.M.J.*

*Fr. Timothy M. Kenney, S.M.  
Pilgrimage Director*

### THIS PILGRIMAGE INCLUDES:

*Round trip airfare on United Airlines  
Breakfast and dinner per itinerary  
Specially selected hotel accommodations  
Air-conditioned motor coach  
Departure tax and current fuel charge*

For Information & Reservations Contact:  
Call 937-910-6099 or email [kcooper@sm-usa.org](mailto:kcooper@sm-usa.org)  
Marianist Mission, PO Box 340998, Dayton OH 45434-0998

Have questions about this pilgrimage? Ask us! Go to [www.Unitours.com/questions](http://www.Unitours.com/questions).

*Unitours* will provide the travel arrangements for this tour. You will discover joining us is a wise choice, given Unitours' extensive worldwide reputation for quality tours since 1957. Under the same American ownership since its founding, Unitours maintains close partners in Tel Aviv, Athens, Italy and London. Unitours has arranged for your transfers, hotels, meals, air-conditioned motor coach, English-speaking guides of the highest quality, sites for your Masses and other services along the way and every detail. You can rest assured that Unitours' financial security, attention to detail and high standard of service will assure you the most memorable travel experience.





# ITINERARY

**Saturday, April 13 – DAY 1 – Depart USA** — Today, we depart our home airport and meet at Newark airport for our overnight flight to Milan aboard a wide-bodied jet. We enjoy in-flight movies, dinner, and breakfast aloft. (D,B)

**Sunday, April 14 – DAY 2 – MILAN** — This morning, upon arrival in Milan, we are greeted by our Unitours Tour Manager, who will be with us during our travels. We board our motor coach for a short drive to the Duomo di Milano, one of the largest cathedrals in Italy and a gem of gothic architecture with its magnificent stained-glass windows. We visit the crypt church and the tomb of St. Charles Borromeo, the first Archbishop of Milan and patron saint of seminarians. Mass will be celebrated before or after lunch on our own. Then we continue to our hotel for rest, our “welcome” dinner and overnight. (D)

**Monday, April 15 – DAY 3 – MILAN/ VENICE** — This morning, we visit the Santa Marie delle Grazie, home of Leonardo di Vinci’s famous painting “The Last Supper” (subject to tickets availability, at the time of booking). We tour this magnificent church, as well as nearby Sforza Castle, a 15th century renaissance castle, which features numerous works of art, including Michelangelo’s last work before his death, the Rondanini Pieta. Following a break for lunch on our own, we admire the picturesque Italian countryside, as we continue toward Venice, and nearby Mestre, for dinner and overnight at our hotel. Mass will be celebrated today. (B,D)

**Tuesday, April 16 – DAY 4 – VENICE** — Venice, the Queen of the Cities! The glories of Venice have attracted Byron, Goethe, Wagner, Shakespeare and now you! Following Mass in one of her beautiful churches, time is spent this morning walking the sights of Venice: the splendid Piazza San Marco and the incredibly rich Byzantine Basilica of San Marco. We marvel at the intricate network of elegant squares lined with stately Renaissance villas and palaces. This afternoon, we are free for shopping, personal adventure, or relaxation. We rejoin our Tour Manager and return to the Hotel in Mestre for Dinner and overnight. (B,D)

**Wednesday, April 17 – DAY 5 – VENICE/TUSCANY/MONTECATINI** — Today, we journey to Florence. On our scenic drive through this beautiful countryside, we stop in Padua to celebrate Mass and a tour of the Basilica of St. Anthony and view the largest bronze work of Donatello, “The Equestrian Statue of Gattamelata”. Next, we continue to Tuscany and Florence’s delightful nearby spa town of Montecatini Terme, whose streets invite us to stroll after dinner at our hotel. (B,D)

**Thursday, April 18 – DAY 6 – FLORENCE** — This morning, we drive to Florence where our first stop will be “Piazzale Michelangelo,” for the best panoramic view of this spectacular city one could ask for. We proceed with a tour of the Academia Gallery, where we view one of Michelangelo’s most famous works, “David” (OR MEDICI). We continue with the celebration of Mass and a visit to the Duomo (also known as the Cathedral of Santa Maria del Fiore), in the heart of the city and the fourth largest in the world! There we admire the cupola by Brunelleschi, completed in 1240, its campanile by Giotto. Once outside we view the Baptistry with its incomparable bronze doors by Ghiberti. We break for a leisurely lunch on our own at one of the many trattorias that dot the riverfront area, along Florence’s Arno River. The rest of the day is free for personal shopping or exploring this fascinating city on our own. Return to our hotel for dinner and overnight. (B,D)

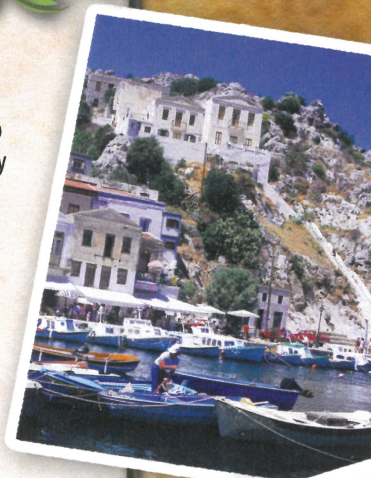
**Friday, April 19 – DAY 7 – FLORENCE** — Today we visit the beautiful Basilica of Santa Croce. Among the most famous Italians interred here, lie Galileo, Rossini, Michelangelo, and Machiavelli. We continue our tour with the Piazza della Signoria, dominated by the Palazzo Vecchio and its embattlement crowned tower. Across from the Palace, we visit the Loggia dei Lanzi with the statues of the Perseus by Cellini; Giambologna’s the “Rape of the Sabines” and “Hercules.” Mass will be celebrated nearby. Following a break for lunch on our own, we enjoy some free time for shopping or personal adventure in any of the many art museums or to have a walk along the Arno River admiring the enchanting Ponte Vecchio. This evening, we enjoy dinner at one of the many restaurants in this enchanting city. After our included dinner we return to our hotel for overnight. (B,D)

**Saturday, April 20 – DAY 8 – MONTECATINI/ROME** — This morning, we travel south to Rome. This afternoon begins in Rome with a visit to the Holy Stairs and Basilica of St. John Lateran. If time permits a driving tour of the Colosseum, Arch of Constantine and Roman Forum. We celebrate Mass, then proceed to our hotel for dinner and overnight. (B,D)

**Sunday, April 21 – DAY 9 – ROME** — This morning, we go to Vatican City and enjoy the Sunday Angelus offered by Pope Francis if he is in residence. This afternoon, we tour the Basilica of St. Mary Major and the Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Walls. This huge, imposing Basilica, second only to St. Peter’s and one of the largest churches in the Christian world, contains an unusual gallery of papal portraits: 265 tablets portraying the popes of the past. We celebrate Mass below St. Peters. We return to our hotel for dinner and overnight. (B,D)

**Monday, April 22- DAY 10 – ROME** — This morning we see the treasures of the Vatican Museum. We marvel at Michelangelo’s restored frescoes in the Sistine Chapel and the wonders of St. Peters. Following our visit, we have lunch and celebrate Mass at the General Administration offices of the Marianists. The remainder of the day, we are free to further enjoy this fascinating city. This evening we have a Farewell Dinner with entertainment at a typical local restaurant. Return to the hotel for overnight. (B,L,D)

**Tuesday, April 23 – DAY 11 – ROME/USA** — Today, we make our way home with memories of a lifetime.





# TERMS AND CONDITIONS

**Total Tour Price:** The tour price is based on airfare, cruise, land rates and rates of exchange in effect July 5, 2023. All rates are subject to change without prior notice. Should the rates go up or down, an adjustment would be made prior to departure. Refunds CANNOT be granted for any accommodations, services or events that are not used nor if you deviate from the tour. If fewer than 30 pilgrims participate a price adjustment may be necessary.

**Passport And Visa Requirements:** A valid passport is required. At the time of printing, U.S. citizens holding valid passports DO NOT REQUIRE visas or immunization for the country or countries being visited. Passport MUST be valid until October 23, 2024, or later. Citizens of countries other than U.S. – please contact the consulate of the country or countries being visited to determine visa requirements.

**Air Transportation:** International flight reservations are being held on United Airlines. No stopovers are permitted. Any changes after ticket is issued carries a mandatory charge of \$200. Once the tickets are issued, they are NON-REFUNDABLE. Additional non-recoverable airline penalties of up to \$200 may be assessed for cancellations received within 90 days of departure.

**Domestic Airfare:** For those who make domestic air arrangements to the originating city of this tour, your tour host and Unitours strongly recommend the purchase of tickets that can be changed without heavy fees and penalties as international flight schedules are always subject to change. We encourage arriving a day in advance of departure.

**Hotel Accommodations:** Specially selected hotels based on twin occupancy with private bath. Single Room supplement of \$812 will be charged where requested and available. If you do not have a roommate and Unitours is unable to arrange one, you will be billed for the single room supplement. All singles are subject to availability.

**Meals:** Breakfast and Table D' Hote dinners are provided daily except where noted in the itinerary. An extra charge will be made when coffee, tea or other beverages are not included in the menu of the day with the dinner meal.

**Tips And Taxes:** Tips and taxes normally appearing on hotel and restaurant bills as service are included, as are all government and local taxes on hotels and meals, portage of one suitcase per person. International departure taxes of \$114 plus current fuel surcharges of \$400 are included (subject to change). GRATUITIES OF \$126 ARE NOT INCLUDED AND WILL BE PRE-COLLECTED WITH THE FINAL INVOICES. One average sized suitcase not exceeding 50 lbs total weight and 62 linear inches (height plus width plus depth) is permitted throughout the trip.

**Not Included:** Expenses and items not specifically mentioned in this brochure are NOT covered, including but not limited to passport and visa fees, meals not listed and items of a personal nature such as laundry, wines, liquors, mineral waters, after dinner coffee or tea, sightseeing or services other than those specifically mentioned, tips and taxes mentioned above, excess baggage and insurance, etc.

**Deposits And Cancellations:** A deposit of \$500 is required to secure reservations. Any balance is to be paid in full no later than 60 days before departure of tour. Final payments received by Unitours after 45 days before departure must include a \$25 late payment fee. (This does not apply for new reservations made within 45 days of departure.) Reservations made within 60 days of departure must include full payment. Amex, Discover, Visa and MasterCard are accepted with signed reservation form. Final payments will be applied to same credit card on final payment due date including insurance. Cancellations made from time of reservation to within 61 days prior to departure – \$400 administration fee (charged to deposit) plus any air penalties noted above. In the event of a cancellation from 60 to 31 days prior to departure – \$400 administration fee plus up to 50% of the land cost, plus any air penalties noted above. No refund for cancellations received within 30 days of departure. All cancellation and refund claims must be in writing to Unitours, Inc.

**Bank Fee:** A fee of \$50 will be charged for any check that is returned to us for insufficient or unavailable funds.

**Deviations:** A service charge of \$50 pp will be applied for any deviations made in tour, (where possible), PLUS any additional air or land charges incurred.

**Travel Insurance:** Optional Travel Insurance is strongly recommended for your trip. See [www.Unitours.com/TravelInsurance](http://www.Unitours.com/TravelInsurance) for full details. Cost of travel insurance for this trip starts at \$390. To cover pre-existing conditions, insurance must be purchased with your reservation. (See reservation form). If paying by check, add insurance cost to your deposit. Insurance can also be purchased at the time of your final payment.

**Land Arrangements:** The tour operator reserves the right to change the itinerary due to unforeseen emergencies.

**Responsibilities:** Unitours, Inc., the organizer, and their representatives act only as agents for the tour members in making arrangements for hotels, transportation, sightseeing, restaurants or any other services in connection with the itinerary. They will exercise reasonable care in making such arrangements, however, they do not assume any liability whatsoever, for any injury, damage, loss, accident or delay to person or property because of any acts of war or terrorism, any act of default of any hotel, carrier, restaurant, company or person rendering any of the services included in the tours. The tickets, coupons, tariffs, rules or contracts currently in use by any carrier, hotel, restaurant or other contractor rendering services shall constitute the sole contract between such contractor and the tour member. Unitours Inc., or the organizer, accept no responsibility for any damage or delay due to sickness, pilferage, labor disputes, machinery breakdown, quarantine, government restraints, weather or any other cause beyond their personal control. No carrier shall be responsible for any act, omission or events during the time passengers are not on board its own conveyance. The right is reserved to cancel or change itineraries or substitute services without notice and to decline to accept or retain any passenger at any time. In view of statutory or contractual limitations that may apply to personal injury or property damage/loss the purchase of accident and baggage insurance is strongly recommended. Optional travel insurance offered by Unitours must be paid with your final payment.

**Errors:** In case of printing, typographical errors, computer errors, verbal or human billing errors, we reserve the right to invoice or re-invoice participants with corrected billing.

## Pilgrimage to Italy: Home of Our Catholic Faith *with Marianist Mission*

**April 13 – 23, 2024 – 11 Days – \$5,599 pp from Newark**

Please complete and mail to: Marianist Mission, PO Box 340998, Dayton OH 45434-0998

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ seat (s) on this trip. Enclosed please find deposit of \_\_\_\_\_ (\$500 per person). Make check payable to UNITOURS, INC.

Please enclose a copy of your passport (must be valid until **October 23, 2024** or after.)

Name(s) (as it appears on passport) \_\_\_\_\_ My roommate is: \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s) to use on nametag(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Charge my deposit to: ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ AmericanExpress ☐ Discover

Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature (Required) \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ Please assign me a roommate (if available)
- ☐ I prefer a single room (**\$812 additional, availability limited**)
- ☐ I/we wish to purchase optional travel insurance starting at **\$390 per person** now in order to cover pre-existing conditions (See "Travel Insurance" on pilgrimage Terms for price and details.)

I understand that certain charges such as air taxes, fuel surcharges and rates of exchange can affect the final cost and I agree to pay such costs should adjustments be necessary. I have read and understand the deposit and cancellation fees. Signature: \_\_\_\_\_