

## Grace Cathedral

### A Journey to the Holy Land

Under the Direction of Rev. Mark Stanger  
Local Guide Canon Iyad Qumri  
**12-Days: May 18-29, 2018**



Be part of the transformative journey of pilgrimage to biblical sites in Israel-Palestine. Experience Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Jericho, Galilee, Nazareth and more. Led by the Rev. Canon Mark Stanger and an Israeli-licensed local Palestinian Christian guide, Canon Iyad Qumri.

#### Schedule

**MAY 19-24** Saint George's Guest House  
**MAY 24-27** Sisters of Nazareth  
**MAY 27-29** Saint George's Guest House

#### **FRIDAY, MAY 18, DAY 1: DEPART USA**

On our way to the Holy Land

#### **SATURDAY, MAY 19, DAY 2: ARRIVE TEL AVIV**

We arrive in Tel Aviv and are met by our guide, Canon Iyad Qumri. We are transferred to Jerusalem. Dinner and overnight at Saint George's Guest House

#### **SUNDAY, MAY 20, DAY 3 (PENTECOST SUNDAY): WORSHIP AT ST. GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL / ISRAEL MUSEUM**

Sunday Eucharist at Saint George's Cathedral, the liturgy will be celebrated in English and Arabic, the language of our Arabic Palestinian Christians in the Holy Land and the whole Middle East, Lunch, Israel Museum and the Shrine of the Book, where the *Dead Sea Scrolls* are housed. We will also visit a scale model of the Old City of Jerusalem, describing the city as it would have been during Jesus' time.

Dinner and overnight at Saint George's Guest House

#### **MONDAY, MAY 21, DAY 4: HORIZONS OF JERUSALEM / HERODIUM**

Introductions, In the morning we will drive to Mt. Scopus where we will look at the different dramatic settings of the Scripture. Then we will look at the many different Jerusalem, visit Herodium some 12 km. south of Jerusalem, on a hill shaped like a truncated cone that rises 758 m. above sea level, stood Herodium, the palace-fortress built by King Herod. It had a breathtaking view, overlooking the Judean Desert and the mountains of Moab to the east, and the Judean Hills to the west, walk to Western Wall to "welcome" the Sabbath.

Dinner and overnight at Saint George's Guest House

**Guest Speaker: Contemporary Issues – A Palestinian Perspective**

#### **TUESDAY, MAY 22, DAY 5: SHEPHERD'S FIELD / BETHLEHEM**

We depart Jerusalem for Bethlehem and the Shepherds' Field, visit a 1<sup>st</sup> century cave dwelling, Lunch is in Beit Sahour (Shepherds' Field), 'And in that region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night', Lunch, Church of the Nativity located in Manger Square. It is the Oldest Church in Christendom, constructed by Constantine in AD 326 and the traditional site of the Nativity.

Dinner and overnight at Saint George's Guest House

**Guest Speaker: Lecture on Islam**

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#### **WEDNESDAY, MAY 23, DAY 6: WESTERN WALL / DOME OF THE ROCK / HOLY SEPULCHER**

We depart for the Western Wall near Elharam Esh Sharif (The Dome of The Rock and the Al-Aqsa Mosque). St. Anne's Church and the pools of Bethesda, Lunch, Walk the Cardo to the Constantinian Entrance to the Church of the Resurrection to the Holy Sepulcher  
Dinner and overnight at Saint George's Guest House

**Guest Speaker: Contemporary Issues — An Israeli Perspective**

#### **THURSDAY, MAY 24, DAY 7: JERICHO / NAZARETH**

Wadi Qelt early morning to get the feel for the desert, depart for Jericho to hike up Mt. of Temptation and view Tell Jericho, 20-minute meditation on Mt of Temptation, Lunch in Jericho, drive through the Rift Valley to Nazareth. In Nazareth we will visit Mary's Well, the site of the only spring-fed fountain in the city, and most likely the place where Mary would have gone to draw water. We then visit the Greek Orthodox Church of the Annunciation where we will have an opportunity to have an introduction to the Icon, we then follow on foot the path to the Latin Church of the Annunciation, the traditional site of the Angel Gabriel's appearance to Mary, telling her she would conceive Jesus, the Emmanuel.

Dinner and Overnight at the Sisters of Nazareth

#### **FRIDAY, MAY 25, DAY 8: SEPPHORIS / CAESAREA PHILIPPI**

Depart for Zippori, Sepphoris, where we explore the excavations of the Roman/Byzantine city, Lunch, Depart for Caesarea Philippi (Baniyas) 'And Jesus went on with his disciples, to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?"  
Dinner and Overnight at the Sisters of Nazareth

#### **SATURDAY, MAY 26, DAY 9: JORDAN RIVER / CAPERNAUM / BEATITUDES / TABGHA**

Today we depart for the Sea of Galilee-Lake Kinnereth. Stop at the Jordan River for the renewal of Baptismal vows, Boat ride on the Sea of Galilee, we then visit Capernaum where we see the Ancient Synagogue and St. Peter's House. We continue to the Mount of Beatitudes, Lunch, visit to Tabgha (Heptapegon), The Loaves and Fishes Church and the Chapel of St. Peter's Primacy, Boat ride on the Sea of Galilee.

Dinner and Overnight at the Sisters of Nazareth

**A treat you will not want to miss!!!!**

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#### **SUNDAY, MAY 27, DAY 10: BURQIN / NABLUS / TAYBEH**

Depart for Burqin. Jesus had passed through Burqin on his way to Jerusalem from Nazareth, and as he was passing by the village he heard cries for help from ten lepers who were isolated in quarantine in a cave, Nablus to visit (St. Photini the Greek Orthodox Monastery), St. Photini lived in first century Palestine, she was the Samaritan woman who Christ visited at the well asking her for water, the church built over Jacob's well where will tour the church and drink from the Well, Lunch in Taybeh, visit Taybeh, the only 100% Christian town in the Palestinian Authority, in the fourth century the Emperor Constantine and his mother St. Helena built the church of St. George in the village, the ruins of the Church are still found on a hill in the town. Taybeh is also the home of the only Palestinian brewery in the Middle East.

Overnight at Saint George's Guest House

#### **MONDAY, MAY 28, DAY 11: BETH-PHAGE / DOMINUS FLEVIT / GETHSEMANE**

Walk the Palm Sunday Procession. We will stop at Pater Noster and Dominus Flevit, where Jesus wept over the city. It is known as *Dominus Flevit* [Latin for "The Lord wept"]. Afterward, we will walk to the Garden of Gethsemane and the Church of All Nations

Dinner at the Qumris in Jericho. Overnight at Saint George's Guest House

#### **TUESDAY, MAY 29, DAY 12: WAY OF THE CROSS / EMMAUS**

Stations of the Cross, **Silent reflections at the Empty Tomb**, Later in the morning we will depart for Emmaus Nicopolis. We celebrate the Eucharist at the ruins of the Byzantine Church

Transfer to the Tel Aviv airport

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### **Guides**

The Rev. Canon Mark Stanger has visited Jerusalem numerous times since 1976 and began leading Grace Cathedral pilgrimages there in 2002. Recently he spent two and a half years working side-by-side with our guide Iyad, serving about 40 pilgrimage groups.

Our guide, Iyad Qumri, Honorary Canon of the Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles and St. George's Cathedral, Jerusalem. [iyadqumripilgrimages.com](http://iyadqumripilgrimages.com)

### **Arrival and Departure Dates**

You will need to leave the United States on Friday, May 18<sup>th</sup> thus arriving at Ben Gurion in Tel Aviv on Saturday, May 19<sup>th</sup>. Your departure flight from Ben Gurion will need to be scheduled for Tuesday, May 29<sup>th</sup>.

### **Extremely Important**

Your Passport must be valid for at least 6 months *after your arrival date*. If it is not, you will not be allowed into Israel.

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### Land Trip Cost

Excellent price for the land trip (airfare is not included) \$1925+150 in tips (total \$2075), based on double occupancy. There are a limited number of single rooms and there is a \$520 supplement charged for these rooms (total \$2595).

The land cost price includes the following:

- Accommodation on full board basis (includes Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner)
- Transportation in comfortable deluxe bus
- Guiding Fee
- All entrance fees on your itinerary
- Israeli and Palestinian Speakers
- Portage at all hotels
- Tips for restaurant and hotel staff
- Bus Driver tips
- Farewell Dinner at Iyad's home
- *Personal expenses such as phone calls, alcoholic and most nonalcoholic drinks, laundry, and medical insurance are not covered.*

### Group Size

Iyad and Mark Stanger concur that the ideal number for travel is 35 with a minimum of 20 people. We are not comfortable with more than 45 in one group. Hoping for a perfect 35, no more than 40.

### Group Deposit and Cancellations

Since our agent and guide Iyad has groups booked 18 months or more in advance, to be fair to everyone involved (mostly other Episcopalians!), Grace Cathedral has paid a group deposit of \$1500 to hold our dates. Please talk up the pilgrimage and encourage family members, friends, work colleagues, and other church members.

### Payment Schedule

- A deposit of \$500.00 per person is due on February 18, 2018.
- A final payment of \$1,575 for double occupancy and an additional \$520 for single occupancy will be due by April 18, 2018.



### **Individual Cancellations**

There is a \$500 non-refundable deposit paid by each pilgrim. After full payment the cancellation policy is:

- 120 days before departure: full refund (minus deposit)
- 90 days before departure: half refund (minus deposit)
- 60 days before departure: one/quarter refund (minus deposit)
- There will be no refunds within 60 days of departure.
- If Iyad cancels the trip due to safety concerns, there is a full refund. (In 20 years of leading pilgrimages, Iyad has never had to cancel because of safety concerns).

### **Travel and Medical Insurance**

Pilgrims must have international medical insurance. Also pilgrims are expected to have travel insurance to cover the cost of flight cancellations and trip cancellations for personal reasons. **This is extremely important.** Good trip insurance policy should cover the pilgrim's expenses.

### **Accommodations**

Clean, comfortable, traditional pilgrim houses yet fully updated (A/C; bathrooms en suite; wifi; local staff and close to local culture)

#### **Saint George's Guest House**

Nablus Road 20

P.O.Box 19018

Jerusalem 91190

Email: [sghostel@bezeqint.net](mailto:sghostel@bezeqint.net)

++972 2-6282627

++972 2-6283302

++972 2-6282253 (fax)

May 19-24 (5 nights)

May 27-29 (2 nights)

#### **Sisters of Nazareth**

Casa Nova Street

P.O. Box 50274

Nazareth

Tel: 972-4-6553400 Sisters of Nazareth

[Go to Sisters of Nazareth on Trip Advisor for more information.](#)

May 24-27 (3 nights)