

JUBILEE 2025 PILGRIMAGE

ROME, ASSISI, ORVIETO

Pilgrimage Leader: Stephen Binz

Chaplain: Fr. Joseph de Orbegozo, PhL

10 Days
April 21-30, 2025



For More Information Contact:

Select International Tours

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selectinternationaltours.com





Pilgrimage Leader: Stephen J. Binz

Stephen J. Binz is a Catholic biblical scholar, holding graduate degrees from the Pontifical Biblical Institute in Rome and Jerusalem, and award-winning author of dozens of books. As a popular speaker, he offers keynotes, missions, and retreats as well as education for pastoral ministers. He has developed Bible studies in the church for four decades and has offered numerous study trips and pilgrimages. His books have earned top publishing awards from the Association of Catholic Publishers and the Catholic Press Association. He lives with his wife Pamela in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. You may discover more about his work and contact him at Bridge-B.com.

Dear Friends,

I invite you to travel with me on our Jubilee 2025 Pilgrimage, a unique experience of the city of Rome, along with Assisi and Orvieto. Because 2025 is a Holy Year, we will pass through the Holy Door of each of the four major basilicas of Rome: St. Peter, St. John Lateran, St. Mary Major, and St. Paul Outside the Walls.

In addition, we will experience an audience with the Pope, explore the Vatican Museums, visit the underground excavations, discover the catacombs, see the earliest churches of the martyrs, venerate the tombs of beloved saints, view remarkable sculpture and paintings, as well as enjoy the street life, shopping, and restaurants of the city.

In Assisi, we will experience the remarkable lives of St. Francis and Clare while exploring the sites and churches that transformed the Middle Ages, and we will venerate one of the church's newest saints, the teenage Blessed Carlo Acutis. In Orvieto, we will see the most beautiful façade in Italy at the cathedral and venerate the Eucharistic miracle that inspired the hymns of St. Thomas Aquinas and initiated the Feast of Corpus Christi.

I am pleased to be joined by Father Joseph de Orbegozo, PhL, rector of the Cathedral of St. Andrew in Little Rock. In addition to enjoying the pilgrimage with us, he will be offering Mass and homily for us throughout our pilgrimage and blessing us with his insights and prayer.

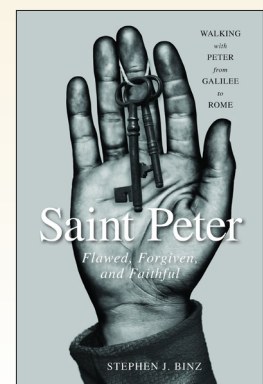
In addition to exploring the sacred sites, we will have time for quiet reflection, prayer, and certainly fun. We will stay in quality hotels and dine on a wonderful variety of delicious meals. I have used Select International as my travel company for many years and find their service outstanding. I have never had any concerns about safety, accommodations, or amenities in all my years of leading tours.

To prepare for your Jubilee Pilgrimage, you might enjoy reading my book, *Saint Peter: Flawed, Forgiven, and Faithful*, to explore the life and martyrdom of St. Peter in Rome as well as my experiences of living in Rome for six years and offering numerous pilgrimages there.

Please help us spread the word about this pilgrimage by sending this link to your friends, email lists, and social media. Space is limited to one coach, so please sign up soon by sending your registration and deposit soon. I sure hope you can be a part of this grace-filled pilgrimage.

There is no place like Rome!

In the Joy of the Gospel,
Stephen J. Binz



WHAT'S THE COST?

Land Only

\$4195.00

Group Air*

Will be available June 2024

Solo Traveler

(Additional Cost)

\$995.00

Prices are per person

**Group Air Price based on a minimum of 10 passengers*

Prices are valid only if the deposit is received no later than December 15, 2024

Final payment due February 21, 2025

Trip Code: 25RS04ITSB

TO BE A CHRISTIAN
IS TO BE A PILGRIM.



This active program

requires walking ten

to twelve thousand steps

daily, often on uneven

surfaces, cobblestones

and some stairs.



Daily Itinerary

✚ April 21, Monday, DAY 1: DEPART FROM USA

After celebrating Easter at home, we depart on our flights to Rome. Dinner and breakfast are served on the flight. Quotes for add-on domestic flights and optional Premium Economy or Business Class upgrades are available upon request.

✚ April 22, Tuesday, DAY 2: ARRIVAL IN ITALY

We arrive at Rome airport this morning, where our English-speaking Italian tour manager will meet us and help us board the bus which takes us to eternal Rome, bathed in its unique golden light with cypress and pine trees outlined against the blue sky. We arrive at the Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Walls for a visit and to celebrate Mass. Upon entering the welcoming courtyard, we are greeted by the famous statue of St. Paul holding the Scriptures and a sword. Passing through our first Holy Door of the Jubilee, we ponder the frescoes of Paul's life and the medallions of all the Popes from Peter to Francis. Under the main altar, we venerate the tomb of St. Paul. Nearby, we visit the Tre Fontane Convent to see where St. Paul was beheaded. In the afternoon, settle into our hotel to relax before dinner. Overnight in Rome. (D)

✚ April 23, Wednesday, DAY 3: AUDIENCE WITH THE POPE – TOUR OF THE SCAVI – BASILICA OF ST. MARY MAJOR - ST. PRADEXES

We begin early to get good seats at St. Peter's Square for the General Audience with the Holy Father. We then enjoy a tour of the Scavi, the underground burial tombs below the Basilica, leading to the tomb of St. Peter (TBC). Following the traditional Italian pranzo (lunch) in a local restaurant, we drive to St. Mary Major Basilica, pass through the Holy Door, and celebrate Mass. Built immediately after the Council of Ephesus (431), which declared the Virgin Mary to be the Theotokos, the Bearer of God, the Basilica is the principal church dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary, with relics of the Bethlehem crib. We then visit the early Christian "house church," St. Praxedes, which contains relics of thousands of early Christian martyrs, and the remarkable mosaic Chapel of St. Xenodochia. The rest of the afternoon and evening are yours to explore at your own pace or enjoy Rome's shopping streets. Dinner tonight is at leisure. Overnight in Rome. (B.L)

✚ April 24, Thursday, DAY 4: VATICAN GARDENS – VATICAN MUSEUMS – ST. PETER'S BASILICA – CATACOMBS OF ST. CALIXTUS

We start the day with a tour of the Vatican Gardens. Next, we tour the Vatican Museum where we see the works of Giotto, DaVinci, Raphael, Michelangelo, Bernini, Titian, Caravaggio and others. Discover the beautiful Raphael Stanzas, which lead to the Sistine Chapel, where the popes are elected. Here the cardinals in the conclave contemplate the history of salvation, culminating in the Last Judgment by Michelangelo. We pass through the Holy Door of St. Peter's Basilica and explore the church's history, art, theology, and architecture. We pray at the tombs of dozens of popes and saints, marveling at the expanse of the church, Michelangelo's Pieta, Bernini's Baldachino, and Michaelangelo's magnificent dome. You may wish to climb the many flights of stairs to the cupola dome of St. Peter's or shop for religious articles in the many shops around St. Peter's Square. Following lunch together, we travel to the ancient Appian Way to visit the Catacombs, where the early Christians prayed in secret. We visit the Catacombs of St. Callixtus, featuring the tombs of early popes, early frescoes, St. Cecilia's original burial place, and the site of Pope Sixtus II's martyrdom in 258 AD. We celebrate Mass at the Catacombs. Dinner and overnight at our hotel in Rome. (B.L.D)

✚ April 25, Friday, DAY 5: CITY OF CHURCHES, SAINTS, ART, AND FOUNTAINS

Our walking tour through Rome's historic center includes Chiesa Nuova with its tomb of St. Philip Neri; the beautiful fountains of Piazza Navona; Church of St. Agnes where St. Agnes was martyred and the relic of her head resides; Church of Sant'agostino with the tomb of St. Monica; Church of St. Luigi, with its famous paintings by Caravaggio including the favorite of Pope Francis, the Call of St. Matthew. After lunch on our own, we visit the Church of the Twelve Apostles with the tombs of the Apostles Philip and James the Less; the Church of the Gesu with the tomb of St. Ignatius of Loyola and the hand of St. Francis Xavier; and Santa Maria Sopra Minerva with the tomb of St. Catherine of Siena and Blessed Fra Angelico, the patron of artists. We also visit the amazing Pantheon and the memorable Trevi Fountain. Mass will be celebrated. Dinner and overnight at our hotel in Rome. (B.D)

✠ April 26, Saturday, DAY 6: COLISEUM – ARCHBASILICA OF ST. JOHN LATERAN – BASILICA OF SANTA CROCE

We visit the Coliseum and have a view of the ancient Roman Forum (TBC). We tour the Basilica of Santa Croce which houses relics of Christ's Passion and was built over soil from the Holy Land brought by St. Helen. Walk to the nearby Archbasilica of St. John Lateran, the cathedral of Rome and the mother church of the world, where the popes resided from the time of Constantine until the papacy moved to Avignon and then to St. Peter's in 1377. We pass through the Holy Door and marvel at the colossal marble statues of the apostles. Above the altar are reliquaries containing the heads of Sts. Peter and Paul. In the baptistry, converts were baptized by the pope in the early centuries. We then visit the Scala Sancta (The Holy Stairs) from Jerusalem, the blood-stained staircase where Jesus was presented to Pilate. Mass will be celebrated. Dinner and overnight at our hotel in Rome. (B.D)

April 27, Sunday DAY 7: SHRINE OF DIVINE MERCY – ASSISI – BASILICA OF SANTA MARIA DEGLI ANGELI

We begin Divine Mercy Sunday by celebrating Mass in Italian at the Santo Spirito Church, Rome's Shrine of Divine Mercy, and venerate relics of Saints Faustina and John Paul II. We then depart Rome and travel to Assisi, a medieval town perched on the slopes of Mount Subasio, the jewel of Umbria, the "Green Heart of Italy." The town is one of Italy's spiritual treasures and the home of the beloved Sts. Francis and Clare. Our first visit is to the Basilica of Santa Maria Degli Angeli (St. Mary of the Angels). This baroque basilica contains the Portiuncula, the heart of Franciscan spirituality, the chapel built by St. Francis for his community, and the place where he died. Dinner and overnight in Assisi. (B.D)

✠ April 28, Monday, DAY 8: BASILICA OF ST. FRANCIS – BASILICA OF ST. CLARE – TOMB OF BL. CARLO ACUTIS – CHURCH OF SAN DAMIANO

We start the day with a visit to the Church of San Damiano, just outside Assisi, the church where Jesus told St. Francis, "Rebuild my church." It was the first monastery of the Order of Saint Clare, where Saint Clare built her community and where she died. Our next stop is the Basilica of St. Clare. Here we pray at the original cross that spoke to St. Francis, see the preserved body of St. Clare, and venerate the relics of the saints. We then pray at Assisi's Sanctuary of the Renunciation, a part of the Church of St. Mary Major, where the young St. Francis cast off his rich clothes in favor of a poor habit. Here we venerate the tomb of Blessed Carlo Acutis, who died in 2006 at the age of 15, the first millennial to be beatified by the Catholic Church. He had a passionate devotion to the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist and an aptitude for website design. His holy body is dressed in jeans and tennis shoes. Next we proceed to the Basilica of St. Francis, where we celebrate Mass. We pray at the tomb of St. Francis and further explore the Upper Church and the Lower Church with our expert guide. Following lunch, enjoy time to explore Assisi on your own and do some last-minute shopping. Spend the rest of the day at leisure in this holy place before returning for dinner and overnight at our hotel. (B.D)

✠ April 29, Tuesday, DAY 9: MIRACLE OF BOLSENA – ORVIETO – CATTEDRALE DI SANTA MARIA ASSUNTA – WINE AND CHEESE TASTING – FAREWELL DINNER

After breakfast, we drive to the remarkable hilltop village of Orvieto, the place of refuge for five popes in the 13th century. When the miraculous Corporal was processed from Bolsena to Orvieto, Pope Urban IV met the procession at the cathedral and enshrined the blood-stained corporal in a golden reliquary where it is kept today in the Chapel of the Corporal. Pope Urban, deeply affected by this miracle, commissioned St. Thomas Aquinas to compose a Mass and Office honoring the Holy Eucharist. The hymns that St. Thomas wrote included the Pange Lingua, with its concluding verses, the Tantum Ergo, the Panis Angelicus, and O Salutaris Hostia. One year after the miracle, the pope introduced Aquinas' composition and instituted the Feast of Corpus Christi. The facade of the Orvieto Duomo, the Cattedrale di Santa Maria Assunta, is one of the most beautiful in all of Italy. We enjoy a tour of the exterior and interior of this remarkable church and celebrate Mass. Orvieto is also known for its prestigious white and red wines, produced in the area's rolling vineyards. Learn about the history and production of local vintages at a wine and cheese tasting with five wines of the region. After exploring the scenic village, we enjoy our final meal together in a local restaurant.. Overnight at our hotel in the Frascati wine region. (B. Lunch and wine tasting. Special dinner)

✠ April 30, Wednesday, DAY 10: RETURN HOME

After breakfast, we transfer from our hotel to the Rome airport and return home with memories to savor for a lifetime. (B)

YOUR COMPREHENSIVE TOUR INCLUDES

- Roundtrip airfare to Rome (TBC)
- Airport taxes and fuel surcharges (TBC)
- First-class hotels for 8 nights
- Service charges and hotel taxes
- Buffet breakfast daily
- 3 restaurant lunches
- 6 Hotel dinners (standard 3-course menu, beverages may be purchased at an additional cost)
- 1 restaurant dinner with wine
- All transfers with a private A/C motor coach as per itinerary
- Professional English-speaking Christian tour guide throughout
- Entrance fees are included to sites specifically listed (outside view means no entrance is included)
- Luggage handling at hotels (one piece per person in/out)
- Select International Tours Travel Portfolio
- Confirmation of daily private Mass
- Whisper sets

RATES DO NOT INCLUDE

- Travel Protection - we recommend you consider purchasing CFAR Travel Protection
- Personal expenses
- Medical Insurance
- Any items not explicitly mentioned in the listed inclusions
- Beverages at meals unless otherwise noted
- Gratuities for the guide(s), driver, and wait staff (please refer to the suggestions we will make available to you)
- Church donations

BAGGAGE CHARGES NOT INCLUDED IN TRIP COST:

- Any airline baggage charges
- Baggage handling at train stations, airports, and hotels in excess of one suitcase per person
- Any charges incurred due to excessive luggage including the cost of an additional baggage vehicle or portorage charges

Enroll online to guarantee your spot immediately. You can manage your trip, see your documents and itinerary, and view or pay your invoice, from any computer or mobile device.

DEPOSITS AND FINAL PAYMENT: A **deposit of \$500.00** per person by check should accompany the enrollment form and a copy of your passport picture page by **December 15, 2024. Final payment is due by February 21, 2025. A late payment fee of \$100 will be charged per person for all payments received after the final payment date. Please mail your payment to: Select International Tours, 85 Park Ave., Flemington, NJ 08822 Attn: Rebecca Stoker, 800-842-4842, rebecca@select-intl.com.**

Your passport must be valid through October 30, 2025. Reservations will not be processed until we have passport copies. Prices quoted are based on payments by check. Prices: **\$4,195.00** for land only (air not included); group air will be available in June 2024; **\$995.00** for solo traveler, additional cost, (in room by yourself). For credit card prices add 4%

PILGRIMAGE PRICES: Prices are based on minimum 20 passengers. Prices may be adjusted in the event of fewer than 20 passengers, changes in currency conversion rates, or amendments in local government taxes and/or fuel surcharges. Prices are in US dollars. For European travel an exchange rate of US \$1.15 per Euro is assumed.

SOLO TRAVEL: A limited number of single rooms are available. Prices are based on two people per room. We do not guarantee roommates but will do our best to connect you with a someone willing to share.

LAND ONLY OPTION: Land only services start and end at the hotels and do not include any airfare. You are welcome to transfer from the airport with the group if you arrive at the same time, otherwise, transfers are not included.

TOUR CANCELLATION POLICY: Individual deposits are refundable except for a **\$350.00 per person handling fee for cancellations made 91 days or more before departure. A \$500.00 non-refundable fee will be assessed if the reservation is canceled between 90 and 60 days prior to departure. Within 60 days of departure all payments are non-refundable regardless of reason for cancellations. All airline tickets are non-refundable once issued. All cancellations must be in writing. Unused portions of the trip are not refundable. If a roommate cancels, the cost of a solo supplement will be added to your invoice. You may be eligible for a refund through your travel protection. Refer to the U.S. Policy by State on our website.**

TRIP CANCELLATION PROTECTION: We strongly encourage you to purchase a **Travel Protection Plan**, for the protection of your travel investment. Please consider purchasing this plan at the time of initial deposit in order to be covered for pre-existing conditions.

Visit portal.trawickinternational.com/affiliate/home/18184 or call **888-681-6272** for details and costs for the Select International Travel Protection Plan with optional Cancel for any reason (CFAR). Please note that CFAR is not available in NY State. The plans contain insurance benefits underwritten by the United States Fire Insurance Company. The plans also contain non-insurance Travel Assistance Services that are provided by an independent organization.

AIRLINE, SEATING AND SPECIAL REQUESTS: To best accommodate our pilgrims, we often utilize Group Air Reservations. These allow more predictable transfer and tour schedules. However, when booking Group Air, the airline (not

Select International Tours) controls seating assignments. If you require very specific seats, we suggest that you book your own airfare and take advantage of our "Land Only" options. You may communicate directly with the airline to request seating changes, provide mileage program information, or change passenger contact information once you receive ticket numbers—approximately three (3) weeks prior to departure. We work with instant purchase airline tickets and or group rates. If you switch from air and land to land only within 90 days from departure you will be charged a **\$100 service fee in addition to any airline charges.** All special needs and requests due to medical or dietary restrictions must be requested in writing at least 60 days prior to departure. Quotes for Business class and Premium Coach seats are available upon written request; as are add-ons from your hometown airport. If you require very specific airlines or schedules, we suggest that you book your own airfare and take advantage of our "Land Only" options.

WALKING: Our trips require daily walking, sometimes up or down slopes, steps, and uneven terrain. We recommend preparing oneself, by walking before the trip. Anyone needing assistance is required to be accompanied by a qualified and physically-able travel companion. We are not responsible for any medical condition that occurs prior, during or after the trip.

SAFETY PROCEDURES: Select International Tours has undertaken a reasonable inquiry, with all the suppliers (including airlines, hotels, bus companies and other service providers) used on our trips to ensure they have instigated the best available procedures regarding the pandemic- protective policies advised by local government and health authorities. The client understands and agrees that the supplier(s) may not apply those policies as diligently as the policies suggest. In addition even if the supplier makes a good faith effort to enforce its good practices, some travelers may simply refuse to cooperate. Therefore the client agrees not to hold Select International Tours or group leaders responsible should they or anyone on the trip contract COVID-19 or any other illness during or after the trip

RESPONSIBILITY: By accepting this confirmation, you agree that the Group Leaders and Select International Tours, Inc. have no responsibility for any acts or omission of the travel suppliers in your itinerary and during your trip. We have no special knowledge regarding the financial conditions of the suppliers, unsafe travel conditions, health hazards, or weather hazards at locations traveled. We are not responsible for flight delays or cancellations or any charges incurred due to unforeseen circumstances. Unused portions of the trip are non-refundable. For information about destination climate, risks, and safety please consult the appropriate on-line resources. For health information consult the Center for Disease Control and Prevention. You are responsible for checking passport, visa, vaccination, or other entry requirements of your destinations. Itineraries are subject to change. We are not responsible for any damaged, lost, or stolen articles. We are not responsible for any sickness, injury, or death during or after the trip. Travel documents will be mailed out approximately three (3) weeks before departure. Please review them carefully for any errors.

SHIPPING & HANDLING: \$15.00 per person—not included in package price—will be added to each invoice. Your invoice will confirm the trip registration.

Jubilee 2025 Pilgrimage with Pilgrimage Leader Stephen Binz and Chaplain Fr. Joseph de Orbegozo, PhL

Trip Code: 24RS04ITSB

April 21-30, 2024

THE BENEFITS OF REGISTERING ONLINE FOR YOUR PILGRIMAGE:

Over the last several years, our clients have requested more control over the trip booking process, payments, and, most importantly, communication about the trips. Our response to these comments and requests had taken two years to implement, but we are happy with the results. Select has committed to a major financial and time investment in building an online reservation system that is easy to navigate using your home computer, tablet, or smartphone. We have addressed most of the requests and suggestions provided by clients. The benefits of the new system to you are a simplified registration process, the ability to access your information at your convenience, review your payment history and get trip information while easily communicating with your Account Manager and group leader.

When you register online, you will receive regular email updates about your trip and useful tips and tricks for making your international travel more comfortable and enjoyable. And best of all, you can register online even if you prefer to pay by check or wire transfer; just choose that option upon checkout.

We understand that some people are not comfortable with technology and prefer to register via mail-in paper registration, regardless of the many benefits of registering online. To make that easy, we have created a generic registration form on our website at <https://selectinternationaltours.com/register-online/>. You may download and print the form, fill it out and mail it with your check to Select International Tours. However, before you choose to register by mail, please know that we cannot communicate with people who do not register online as frequently and seamlessly. And you may miss some important communication regarding balances and trip preparation, as well as communication from your group leaders. We want you to be in charge and be comfortable with the registration process; our job is to inform you so you can choose the best system for you.

To learn how easy it is to register online, please view THIS SHORT 6-minute VIDEO that explains the process at <https://selectinternationaltours.com/register-online/>.

Secure Your Spot!

Register online* ✓

Pay the deposit ✓

Complete the tasks
in your online profile ✓

*See how easy it is to
register online:



selectinternationaltours.com/easy/