

FULL ITINERARY

National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington DC

Day 01 Tuesday, October 14, 2003

Arrive and check in to Hotel Washington, 15th and Pennsylvania Ave., Washington, DC. Take a leisurely stroll in the neighborhood with photo opportunity of the White House. Dinner at the rooftop restaurant at Hotel Washington. **D**

Day 02 Wednesday, October 15

Morning sightseeing tour of the Capitol Hill area, **Library of Congress, Botanical Gardens, the National Building Museum, and the Law Enforcement Officers Memorial**. Lunch at Union Station (on your own). Afternoon visit the **Supreme Court, Ford's Theatre** where Abraham Lincoln was assassinated on April 14, 1865, and later the **Petersen House**, where President Lincoln died the morning after he was shot at Ford's Theatre. Dinner at **Old Ebbitt's**. After dinner, an evening sightseeing tour featuring our nation's most beloved memorials and monuments illuminated. **BD**

Day 03 Thursday, October 16

Morning departure for Gettysburg, PA. Visit National Parks Visitors Center and **Civil War Museum**. Journey through the **Gettysburg Battlefield** with a licensed battlefield guide. Events of Robert E. Lee's advancing army attacking General Meade's Union stronghold dramatically unfold. Experience the battle's dramatic climax by retracing the steps of Pickett's Charge. After lunch, visit **National Shrine of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton**. 1:30 p.m. Celebrate Mass at the Shrine. After Mass, time to tour the Museum and Shrine honoring the first American-born saint, Elizabeth Ann Seton. Upon departure from Emmitsburg we will visit the **National Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes**. The Shrine is a replica of the Grotto of Lourdes in France. Evening at leisure to relax and have dinner on your own. **B**

Day 04 Friday, October 17

Our day begins with a visit to the **White House Visitors' Center**, including a short video of the interior of the White House, narrated by Laura Bush. Visit **St. Matthew's Cathedral**, mother church of the Archdiocese of Washington. President Kennedy's funeral Mass was celebrated here on Nov. 25, 1963. Continue along Massachusetts Avenue, nicknamed **Embassy Row**, home to the greatest concentration of Washington's 150 Embassies and Chanceries. Lunch (on your own) in Georgetown. Later, visit **Arlington National Cemetery**, where you'll witness the Changing of the Guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and the Eternal Flame marking John F. Kennedy's Grave, the **Iwo Jima** memorial depicting the flag being raised on Mount Suribachi during World War II is dedicated to all Marines who have served our country since 1775. Walk through the **Hall of Nations** and Hall of State at the **Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts**. Dinner at Clyde's Restaurant in Alexandria. After dinner, an opportunity to shop or browse in Old Town Alexandria. **BD**

Day 05 Saturday October 18

Today is the highlight of our Pilgrimage, the Basilica of the **National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception**, the largest Roman Catholic church in the United States. Artworks include Vatican Studio mosaic reproductions of Bartolome Esteban Murillo's "**Immaculate Conception**" and **Titan's "Assumption."** Visit the Franciscan Monastery called **Mount St. Sepulcher**, the Holy Land of America. See replicas of Holy Land shrines including the **Grotto of Bethlehem, Nazareth**, the Holy Sepulcher in Jerusalem and the Roman Catacombs. Continue our tour to the Pope John Paul II Cultural Center, a museum that explores the Pope's inspirational teachings. Vatican Museum Art is regularly displayed here. 5:00 pm **Mass at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception** with special performance by the De La Salle Choir. Dinner and the remainder of evening at leisure. **B**

Day 06 Sunday October 19

Morning departure for **Mount Vernon**, historic home of President George Washington. Tour this exquisite mansion along with 12 structures on 30 acres of scenic grounds. This restored 18th century dwelling was George Washington's home both before and after his Presidency until his death. Also on the grounds, the ivy-covered tomb where George and Martha Washington are buried. This afternoon visit the International **Spy Museum**, the first public museum in the United States solely dedicated to espionage. It features the largest collection of international spy-related artifacts ever displayed. Remainder of day at leisure to enjoy any of the **Smithsonian Museums** and the **National Gallery of Art**. Tonight special Farewell Dinner: 7:00 p.m. Set sail on the **Potomac River** for a scrumptious Dinner Cruise on *The Dandy*. **BD**

Day 07 Monday October 20

Transfer to airport with fond memories of our Nation's Capital, and shared experiences of our Parish Jubilee.

Included features:

Roundtrip air from LAX (other gateways available)
Private Deluxe Motorcoach w/AC
First Class Hotel with private facilities
Breakfast & most Dinners daily
Deluxe Carry-on Travel Bag and Document carrier
All sightseeing and admissions as indicated in itinerary
Professional Tour Manager - Fully Escorted
Local step-on guides
Porterage at hotels (one bag per person)
All local taxes, service charges and road tolls.