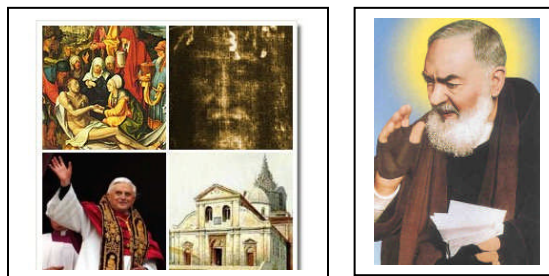


**PILGRIMAGE TO ITALY ~
HOLY SHROUD OF TURIN**

APRIL 19 – 29, 2010

\$2,799 PER PERSON* (ADD \$119 DEPARTURE
TAXES, \$224 FUEL SURCHARGES AND \$239 FOR
OPTIONAL TRAVEL INSURANCE)

DEPART NEW YORK AREA AIRPORT



ITINERARY

Day 1: April 19 - Turin

Depart on our international overnight flight to Italy. Meals will be served on board.

Day 2: April 20 - Turin

Upon arrival at the airport you will be met by your driver and Tour Escort and transferred to your hotel in Turin. Balance of the day is at leisure. Dinner and overnight. **(D)**

Day 3: April 21 - Turin

After breakfast, enjoy a full day tour of Turin and visit to the Holy Shroud. During our tour of Turin we will see Piazza San Carlo, Po Street, and Mount of the Capuchin Monks. We then have the opportunity to view the Shroud of Turin in the St. John the Baptist Cathedral. Reputed to be the burial cloth of Christ, it is an amazing sight. It is a linen cloth 14 feet, 3 inches long by 3 feet, 7 inches wide bearing the distinct image of a crucified man. The last time the shroud was displayed publicly was during the Jubilee Year of 2000 and was not originally due to be displayed again until 2025. Our Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI, has authorized it to be displayed for a brief period in 2010. We will have what is perhaps a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to view the Shroud. Return to the hotel in the late afternoon. Dinner and overnight. **(B,D)**

Day 4: April 22 – Turin / Assisi

Early departure for Assisi, home to St. Francis and St. Clare. At the foot of the town, we will stop at St. Mary of the Angels Basilica which encloses the small chapel that St. Francis built (the Portiuncula, or "little portion") and celebrate our Mass together. We also visit the Basilica of St. Francis, which also houses the Cappella del Transito that contains the cell where St. Francis died in 1226. Flanking the cell is the Thornless Rose Garden. Dinner and overnight. **(B,D)**

Day 5: April 23 - Assisi

Celebrate Mass at St. Clare. Guided visits today of St. Francis, San Rufino where St. Francis and St. Clare were both baptized and St. Clare to see the cross that spoke to St. Francis and led him to a life of piety. Balance of the day is at leisure. Dinner and overnight. **(B,D)**

Day 6: April 24 – Assisi / Loreto / Lanciano / San Giovanni Rotondo

After breakfast we depart to the great Marian shrine of Loreto to visit the Holy House of Nazareth and the beautiful Madonna of Loreto. More than 50 Popes have made a pilgrimage to the house transported by angels to this hill in central Italy in 1294. Tradition has it that this is the house in which Mary first prayed the Magnificat, in which Jesus grew to manhood, and in which the Holy Family lived. Continue to Lanciano where we will celebrate Mass. Later this evening we will arrive in San Giovanni Rotondo. Dinner and overnight. **(B,D)**

Day 7: April 25 - San Giovanni Rotondo

After celebrating Mass at the tomb of San Pio, we tour the sanctuary; see the old church and the crucifix from which he

received the stigmata in 1918. You will see the confessional where Padre Pio spent innumerable hours with a multitude of pilgrims, directing them on their journey toward God. Enjoy a breathtaking view of the Gargano Peninsula and a visit to the Grotto of Michael the Archangel. Six different popes, St. Francis and at least four other saints have knelt in prayer at this grotto, seeking the protection of St. Michael. Return to the hotel for dinner and overnight. **(B,D)**

Day 8: April 26 - San Giovanni Rotondo / Rome

Depart for Rome. Upon your arrival enjoy a visit of the catacombs of St. Callixtus, which are among the greatest and most important of Rome. They originated about the middle of the 2nd century and are part of a cemeteries complex which occupies an area of 90 acres, with a network of galleries about 12 miles long, in four levels, more than twenty meters deep. Dinner at a local restaurant. Overnight. **(B,D)**

Day 9: April 27 - Rome

This morning we depart for a sightseeing tour with focus on "Christian Rome" Touring we will see many important cultural and monumental sights around Rome. Stop for a visit at three major Basilicas: St. Mary Major, one of the oldest shrines dedicated to the Blessed Virgin, a shrine that contains a relic from the manger of the infant Jesus. The Basilica of the St. John in Lateran is the former residence of the popes prior to their return to Rome in 1377. St. Paul Outside the Walls, which houses the remains of St. Paul under its main altar. Dinner and overnight in Rome. **(B,D)**

Day 10: April 28 – Rome (Papal Audience)

Attendance at the weekly **Papal Audience** this morning (pending the Holy Father's schedule). Visit of **St. Peter's Basilica** (subject to confirmation.) Enjoy a guided tour of the Vatican, including the Vatican Museum, and the Sistine Chapel, where you will view some of the most inspiring works of art, including Michelangelo's magnificent fresco of the Last Judgment. Visit of St. Peter's Basilica. Farewell dinner at a local restaurant. Overnight Rome. **(B,D)**

Day 11: April 29 – Rome / USA

Depart for Rome Airport. Arrive home same day. **(B)**

Included Highlights:

- * **Air:** Roundtrip from New York area airport
- * **Hotels:** 9 nights in Three and Four Star hotels
- * **Meals:** Continental Breakfast Daily (B), and 9 Dinners (D)
- * **Sightseeing:** As indicated in the itinerary, including entrance fees;
- * **Also Included:** Daily Mass, Touring by Private Air-Conditioned Motorcoach, Services of a Professional English-speaking Tour Director; airport-hotel transfers; hotel tips and taxes; and baggage handling.
- * Price is per person, based on double occupancy. Add \$119 departure taxes, \$224 fuel surcharges and \$239 for optional travel insurance. Departure taxes and fuel surcharges are subject to change up until the time the group seats are purchased by The Catholic Tour, typically 60-30 days prior to departure. There are a limited number of single rooms available. Single Supplement: \$500.

Price is based on a minimum of 25 passengers.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT THE
CATHOLIC TOUR TOLL FREE AT 877-627-4268
Or email: info@thecatholictour.com