

Color Codes

Religious Sites **Churches & Chapels** **Secular Sites**

May 22, 2011 (Sunday): Our overnight flight departs for France from JFK International Airport in New York.

May 23: Upon arrival in Paris, we will make a connecting flight for **Lourdes**. There we'll be met by our motor coach and tour escort, who will transfer us to our hotel for check-in. Before dinner, we'll visit the **Grotto of Massabielle** and bathe in its healing waters, and after dinner, we will participate in a **candlelight procession**, followed by Mass. **Overnight Lourdes.**

May 24: We'll first attend an International Mass concelebrated by Fr. Coughlin in the underground **Basilica of St. Pius X**. Next, we'll take a tour of **St. Bernadette's home**, the Basilica, and their environs in order to give us a deeper understanding of St. Bernadette's life and her relationship with Mary the Immaculate before boarding our motor coach for the journey to Toulouse. **Overnight Toulouse.**

May 25: We will attend Mass at the **Basilica of St. Sernin**, the largest and finest Romanesque church in Europe, where we'll also visit the **tomb of St. Thomas Aquinas**. We'll then travel northwest to a **winery and vineyard** owned by a deaf couple near the village of Pomport, just southwest of Bergerac. After settling back into our motor coach, we'll view the beautiful French countryside while riding to the city of Tours, which is located in the heart of the Loire Valley. If we have time, we'll also visit the breathtaking **Villandry castle and gardens** before checking into our hotel. **Overnight Tours.**

May 26: Our morning Mass will be celebrated in Tours at the **Basilica of St. Martin**, after which we will see **this saint's relics and shrine** in the church's crypt. We'll also visit Villandry castle if we didn't have the time

to do so the previous day, and then we'll journey to **Amboise**, making stops there at the **castle** which bears its name as well as at **St. Hubert's Chapel** to view the **tomb of Leonardo da Vinci**. Finally, our motor coach will transport us to Nevers, where we'll pray before the **incorrupt body of St. Bernadette** in the convent where she lived. **Overnight Nevers.**

May 27: After attending Mass at the **Saint-Cyr-et-Sainte-Julitte de Nevers Cathedral**, which is a French national monument, we'll board our motor coach and travel to the spectacular **Palace of Versailles**, the official residence of French Kings from 1682 to 1790. We will view the Hall of Mirrors, apartments, gardens, and lavish furnishings at the Palace before boarding our motor coach and heading for Lisieux, where we'll check into our hotel and then visit the **home and Carmel of St. Therese, the "Little Flower"**. **Overnight Lisieux.**

May 28: Fr. Coughlin will celebrate morning Mass for us at the **Basilica Cathedral of St. Peter**. We'll then depart for a full-day excursion to both **Omaha Beach**, where thousands of Allied troops landed on D-Day, and the island town of Mont St. Michel, where we will visit the famous **medieval Benedictine Abbey** that rises from a clump of rocks in the waters of the English Channel. **Overnight Lisieux.**

May 29: After breakfast, we'll board our motor coach and travel east to Paris. On the way, we'll stop in Rouen to see **where St. Joan of Ark was martyred**. Next, we will visit the **Cathedral of Our Lady of the Assumption** in Chartres, where Fr. Coughlin will celebrate Mass. We'll then tour the cathedral, one of the greatest examples of French Gothic architecture, and see its most cherished treasure --- **Mary's veil**. We'll arrive in Paris in time for dinner. **Overnight Paris.**

May 30: We'll begin our day by attending Mass at **Notre Dame Cathedral**, followed by a tour of Paris. Highlights will include stops, as time allows, at the **Arc**

de Triomphe; the **Eiffel Tower**, where those who are willing can view the City of Light from atop this famous structure; **Sainte-Chapelle** ("Holy Chapel"), renowned for its stained-glass windows; and **Les Invalides**, a museum dedicated to preserving the military history of France. **Overnight Paris.**

May 31: Following breakfast, we'll attend morning Mass at the **Shrine of the Miraculous Medal** on the Rue de Bac, where Our Lady appeared to St. Catherine Laboure and asked her to have a medal made with the inscription: "O Mary conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee." Next we'll visit the **Shrine of St. Vincent de Paul**, and, in the afternoon, the **Louvre Museum**, where such admired works as the Mona Lisa, the Venus de Milo, and the Victory of Samothrace are exhibited. After dinner, we'll see Paris from a different perspective as we ride down the River Seine on the glass-covered deck of a **Bateaux Mouches longboat**. **Overnight Paris.**

June 1: Our motor coach will first take us to the **Basilica of the Sacred Heart**, where we'll attend a morning Mass and tour this famous landmark built on the site **where St. Denis was martyred**. We will then visit the **Orsay Museum**, which houses the largest collection of paintings, sculpture, and decorative objects produced between 1848 and 1914. For an afternoon destination, each of us can choose either a fun-filled **Cirque d'Hiver Bouglione** performance, which includes internationally famous circus acts of incredible human daring and animal antics, or a visit to the **Pompidou Centre**, which is the third most visited Paris attraction and is devoted to all forms of modern and contemporary creations. After our motor coach driver picks us up at these two locations later in the day, we will all enjoy a "Farewell to France" banquet together. **Overnight Paris.**

June 2: With a renewed sense of pilgrimage and an invigorated love of our Catholic faith, we'll board our plane for the return flight to the United States.