

### **Day 1: Arrive in Montreal, Canada**

Make your way to your local airport to board your flight(s) to Montreal International Airport. Arrive in Montreal, the second largest French-speaking city in the world. Upon your arrival you will be greeted by your tour escort and driver, and then transferred to your hotel. Enjoy free time before celebrating Mass and dinner. Overnight in Montreal.

### **Day 2: Montreal**

The morning begins with a continental breakfast at your hotel. We will drive to the top of Mount Royal for a spectacular panoramic view of the city of Montreal. Your day will include a visit at St. Joseph's Oratory, the world's largest shrine dedicated to St. Joseph; which was founded by St. Brother André in 1904 as a modest chapel. Annually, this pilgrimage center receives over two million visitors who come to meditate and pray in this peace-filled setting. St. Joseph's Oratory grew from a small chapel on beautiful Mount Royal to the premier Shrine of today. The Basilica's dome reaches 97 meters and is second only in height to St. Peter's Basilica in Rome. The primitive chapel, votive chapel, crypt and Basilica presents a variety of architectural styles as the construction began in 1904 and finished in 1966 with a number of architects over the decades. During our tour we will visit the reliquary where the relics of St. Brother André are displayed and view the two great pipe organs along with the carillon of 56 bronze bells that are played often throughout the week. We will celebrate Mass and you may participate in the Way of the Cross on the mountainside before we continue our journey. Next, we will visit the seat of the Archdiocese of Montreal, the Basilica Marie-Reine-du-Monde (Mary, Queen of the World Cathedral), the third largest church in Montreal after St. Joseph's Oratory and the Basilica of Sainte-Anne-de-Beaupré. This Basilica was visited in 1951 by Monsignor Giovanni Battista Montini, the future Pope Paul VI and in August of 1969 Cardinal Karol Wojtyła, the future Pope John Paul II visited. He returned in 1984 as the first pope to visit Canada. Our next stop will be the 350 year old Notre Dame de Bon Secours Chapel and Marquerite Bouygeoy's Museum. The chapel built in 1771 over the site of the original stone chapel was often visited by sailors to pray before they were shipped out for duty. The story of Marguerite-Bourgeoy's exceptional life as a woman of action along with the early settlers who built Montreal is beautifully presented as we visit the museum named after her. The tower offers a spectacular view of Old Montreal and the Old Port. This evening relax with dinner on your own and stroll through the city. Overnight in Montreal.

### **Day 3: Montreal – Our Lady of the Cape Shrine**

Wake to a continental breakfast at your hotel. Our day begins with a guided tour of Montreal. Visit the Notre Dame Basilica, which plays a significant part in Montreal's religious heritage. Constructed from 1824 to 1829; it dominates Old Montréal with its imposing size. The neo-gothic architecture and richness of its decoration inside and out – make it shine like a jewel in comparison to the modern buildings nearby. Special attention should be given to the magnificent pipe organ, the largest in North America and the French stained glass windows, modeled after Sainte Chapelle Cathedral in Paris, France. We will continue to the Shawinigan region to visit the Ozias Luduc Church. Ozias Luduc (1864-1955), a Canadian artist painted murals and masterpieces for more than 30 churches during his career. You may wish to enjoy a relaxing break with a musician here before we continue to the Pilgrim House at Our Lady of the Cape Shrine. This shrine is located in the majestic region of Mauricie and is Canada's National Shrine to Our Blessed Mother. Standing on the shore of the St. Lawrence River, Our Lady of the Cape Shrine welcomes pilgrims annually to pray at the oldest standing Canadian chapel built in 1714 or the large modern Basilica which was inaugurated in 1964. The Basilica is adorned with magnificent stained glass windows and a Casavant organ with 5425 pipes, one of the largest in Canada. With its beautiful gardens overlooking the river, the shrine reveals an oasis of greenery and inspires peace and tranquility. The atmosphere of this Shrine and surrounding landscape invites you to spend time in spiritual reflection. The Way of the Cross, Adoration, prayer walk and a torch-lit procession (weather permitting) will all be available to you while you relax in this serene setting.

Dinner and Mass included, overnight at Pilgrim House.

#### **Day 4: Our Lady of the Cape Shrine - Quebec**

After morning breakfast we will depart for Quebec City, the cradle of French culture in North America. Today enjoy a city tour with the theme of “The Three Founders of Québec City”; where you will learn more about the role of religion in the history of Quebec. Our exploring will include the basilica-Cathedral Notre-Dame de Québec with a visit to the crypt and the François de Laval Center; the Ursulines Monastery, which was started by a missionary group of Ursuline nuns in 1639 (the oldest institution of learning for women in North America); followed by a visit of the Marie-de-l’Incarnation Center. Our journey will take us to the St. Augustine’s Monastery and the Catherine de Saint-Augustin Center – dedicated to the co-founder of the Canadian Church who also dedicated her life to caring for the sick and destitute. We will celebrate Mass at the Basilica Notre Dame de Quebec. You are free to enjoy the remainder of the day to explore this beautiful city and have dinner at one of the many wonderful restaurants you will find in Quebec! Overnight in Quebec.

#### **Day 5: Quebec**

After continental breakfast at your hotel we will visit the National Shrine of Sainte Anne-de-Beaupre, which welcomes over a million visitors from all over the world annually. Learn the fascinating history through artistic masterpieces such as beautiful mosaics, stained-glass windows, stone and wood sculptures throughout its many chapels. Enjoy a visit to the St. Anne museum. There will be free time to explore the Shrine with its old stone Church, outdoor Way of the Cross, and Scala Santa. We will celebrate Mass at the Shrine before visiting the Albert Gilles Copper Art & Museum nearby. View exclusive pieces and learn about the art of embossing copper, how it is extracted and used around the world. Our travels today will take us to Montmorency Falls Park where the waterfalls are 272 feet tall, that is 100 feet higher than Niagara Falls! You may admire the view from the cable car, suspended bridge, lookout points, or climbing stairs up the side of the cliff. Return to Quebec for your farewell dinner and overnight.

#### **Day 6: Quebec – Mexico City**

**Continental breakfast at your hotel before check-out. Transfer to the airport for your departure to Mexico City with wonderful memories of new friends and renewed spirit from your Canadian Pilgrimage.**

Upon arrival in Mexico City, you will collect your luggage in the baggage claim area, and continue to the Arrival’s Hall where you will be greeted by a tour guide and/or driver. Transfer to your hotel. Enjoy free time before celebrating Mass and dinner. Overnight in Mexico City.

#### **Day 7: Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe - Teotihuacan**

Today we will proceed to the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe, the Patroness of the Americas. This Shrine was built in response to Our Lady’s request to the visionary, St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin. Upon arrival at the Shrine, you will celebrate Mass as you marvel at the brilliantly colored Basilica. Following Mass, you will have the opportunity to kneel in front of the “Tilma”, where Our Lady’s image was miraculously imprinted. We will continue to San Juan Teotihuacan, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. According to mythology, this site was chosen to be the center of the universe, and from then it became a prominent political and religious center from the second century until the ninth century. While in San Juan Teotihuacan, you will enjoy lunch at a nearby restaurant, followed by a guided tour of the Archaeological zone. While on this tour, you will view the pyramids of the Sun and Moon, the Temple of Quetzalcoatl, and local art markets. Your fun-filled busy day will culminate with a delicious dinner and overnight at your hotel.

### **Day 8: Mexico City - Blessed Miguel Pro – Santo Domingo - El Altillo**

This morning after breakfast we depart to the Holy Family Church, where you will view the tomb of Bl. Miguel Agustin Pro, the Jesuit martyr. In the Mexican Revolution, a time of great religious persecution occurred in Mexico and Fr. Pro was exiled from Mexico. However, he returned to Mexico and was aided by a clandestine group who helped him hide from authorities. During the persecution, he assisted many individuals in their spiritual, as well as temporal needs. Although he helped many, he was eventually arrested and killed. His final words before the firing squad were “Viva Cristo Rey! (Long Live Christ the King!)” At this Church, you can pray to this great martyr and venerate his relics. We will celebrate Mass here and visit the small, but very inspiring, Museum dedicated to his life, mission, and sacrifice. We will continue to the Plaza of Santo Domingo where the “evangelists” court (wage writers) that in the past wrote letters for the illiterate. The Church of Santo Domingo stands on the same site where the first temple was built after the conquest the Dominicans. The current construction dates to the 18th century and was designed by the same architect (Pedro de Arrieta) who built the old Basilica at the Shrine of our Lady of Guadalupe. Inside the temple you will see several chapels one of which is dedicated to the Virgin of the Rosary where you will have the opportunity to pray the rosary. Another chapel is dedicated to the Spanish Virgin of Covadonga, patroness of the Asturian Immigrants and another Chapel dedicated to the “Lord of the Rebozo”. This temple is also important for its historical personalities buried in here. One of them is Francisco Vazquez de Coronado who in the 1540-42 years beginning in Mexico, started the journey of exploitation to the territories that today form the South and Midwest of the United States. We will have lunch near the city center before continuing to the Church of San José del Altillo to see the crypt where Blessed Conchita Cabrera is buried. María Concepción Cabrera Arias de Armida, known as Conchita, was a model of holiness as a wife, mother, widow, grandmother and founder. Because of the depth of her writings, Conchita is recognized as a great mystic of the 20th century. In addition to her voluminous writings, Conchita founded several apostolates under the banner of “Works of the Cross”. Pope John Paul II declared her Venerable on December 20, 1999, and Pope Francis confirmed a miracle that was attributed to Conchita on June 8, 2018. She was beatified in Mexico City on May 4, 2019. Time for prayers and personal devotions will be provided. This evening enjoy dinner and overnight at your Hotel.

### **Day 9: Excursion to Puebla**

A fun-filled day is ahead of you. Enjoy a spectacular drive to what is known as Mexico’s most beautiful city – Puebla. Our ride will climb to over 10,000 feet above sea level, where we will view two magnificent peaks; one that is covered with snow and the other that is an active volcano. On our sightseeing tour we will visit the Cathedral dedicated to the Immaculate Conception, and a treasure of colonial art, the Church of St. Dominic to admire the Chapel of Our Lady of the Rosary built in 1690. This is an outstanding example of Mexican Baroque, with dazzling use of gilded stucco and onyx stonework. Then we will see the Church of St. Francis of Assisi, where you will view the incorrupt body of Blessed Sebastian of Aparicio. This afternoon we will have time for shopping at the local Parian market with its colorful, glazed pottery. Enjoy a typical poblano lunch and mole tasting at a local restaurant. Return to Mexico City for dinner and an overnight.

### **Day 10: Church of Tlaxpetlac - Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe**

After breakfast, we will head to Church of the 5th Apparition, where the Blessed Virgin Maria de Guadalupe appeared to Juan Bernardino, Juan Diego’s uncle. Here you can find a well of healing water which locals drink from. We will celebrate Mass here before returning to the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe and bid farewell to Mary the Mother of God. Our final afternoon will be free to enjoy at leisure before dinner out with Mariachis entertainment.

**Day 11: Return Home**

This morning, make your way to the airport for your return flight(s) from Mexico City to your final destination.

**\*206 Tours Disclaimer:**

Occasionally local religious and national holidays, weather, traffic conditions and other events may necessitate changes in the sequence of events or the missing of certain events/places. Though every effort will be made to follow the itinerary, it should be considered as an indication, rather than a contract of events and places to be visited.