

OCTOBER 2026 PILGRIMAGE

12
DAYS

Eucharistic Miracles of Italy

Prepare for your faith to come alive, as we set out on a Eucharistic journey together through the sacred villages of the saints and shrines of Italy. What better way to celebrate and renew our love for Jesus in the Eucharist, as we "taste and see that the Lord is good" and travel on pilgrimage.

COMMENCES MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2026 • 12 DAYS / 11 NIGHTS

Rome (1 night) • Orvieto • Assisi (3 nights) • Siena • Cascia (1) • Lancia (1) • San Giovanni Rotondo (2) • Monte Sant' Angelo • Montecassino • Rome (3)



Accompanied by

**Fr Mark Mary, MFVA
& Deacon Harold**



As seen on
EWTV
GLOBAL CATHOLIC NETWORK



Franciscan Missionaries
of the Eternal Word

the genuine pilgrim experience

harvest
journeys

Assisi



Orvieto



FR MARK MARY, MFVA

Fr Mark Mary, MFVA grew up in Huntsville Alabama. After attending a prominent engineering school in Colorado he worked as an engineer. Following his return to Church, he entered the Franciscan Missionaries of the Eternal Word in 1994 and spent the early years of formation assisting with studio production at EWTN. Fr Mark was ordained to the priesthood on October 4, 2003. Fr Mark was elected Community Servant (Superior) on June 21, 2016. He also co-hosts "Life on the Rock," and serves on the EWTN review board. His hobbies are reading, biking and swimming.



DEACON HAROLD BURKE-SIVERS

Deacon Harold Burke-Sivers – known around the world as the "Dynamic Deacon" – is one of the most sought-after speakers in the Church today. He is a powerful and passionate evangelist and preacher, whose no-nonsense approach to living and proclaiming the Catholic faith is sure to challenge and inspire those who hear him. In this exclusive collaboration with Harvest Journeys, we offer you a range of pilgrimages, traveling alongside Deacon Harold to some of the most beautiful sacred sights in the world, and experiencing life-changing encounters.



Meal Guide: (B) = Breakfast (L) = Lunch (D) = Dinner

Itinerary

DAY 1: MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2026 - ARRIVE ROME

Check into your centrally located hotel. Tonight meet your fellow pilgrims for your first group dinner.

Rome overnight (D)

DAY 2: TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20 - ROME TO ASSISI (VIA ORVIETO)

We depart Rome for the amazing medieval town of **Orvieto** with its **Duomo** (Cathedral), which has one of the world's most famous facades. The feast of the Body of Christ (Corpus Christi) was first proclaimed here in 1263 following the **Eucharistic Miracle of Bolsena**. We celebrate Mass in the chapel where the sacred cloth from that event is preserved and where the stained corporal bearing the spots of blood is still on display for our extraordinary viewing. A symbol of the city itself, the Orvieto Cathedral is one of the most beautiful in Italy.

We continue today through scenic Umbrian countryside to the pilgrimage center of **Assisi**, where St Francis tended the poor and sick and founded the Franciscan Order.

On arrival, we visit the **Basilica of St Mary of the Angels** down on the plains where St Francis spent most of his life. Here we will see the **Portiuncula** (meaning 'small portion of land') where St Francis returned for prayer, the thornless rose bush, and the chapel where he died in 1226. On Palm Sunday 1211, Francis received in this church Clare of Assisi and dedicated her to the Lord.

Assisi overnight (BD)

DAY 3: WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21 - ASSISI

This morning, we awake to the sound of chapel bells, cobblestone footsteps and the tangible spirit of St Francis preserved within the medieval walls of this holy town.

Our day begins with Mass and a guided exploration of the buzzing **Basilica of St Francis** which

occupies the entire western end of the upper town. Construction began in 1228, just two years after the death of Francis and was finally completed in 1250. The Upper Basilica houses the famous fresco cycle of the life of St Francis, historically attributed to Giotto. Wander through the marvels of the Upper Basilica before our tour descends to the crypt of the Lower Basilica where Francis was laid in 1230 and where we will take some time to seek the intercession of this spiritual legend.

We then walk to the **Church of Santa Maria Maggiore - Sanctuary of the Spogliazione**, where we are blessed with the opportunity to visit and pray at the tomb of **St Carlo Acutis** – a young Catholic from Italy with a passionate devotion to the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist and an aptitude for computer programming. From the ages of 12 to 14, he designed a website cataloguing Eucharistic miracles that have occurred around the world, which he launched in 2005. He died of leukemia a year later at the age of 15, offering his suffering for the pope and for the Church.

Onto the **Church of San Damiano** and the actual chapel where it all began when the voice of Christ spoke to Francis in the year 1205 (some may prefer to approach by foot down the hillside path in the spirit of St Francis). Adjacent to the chapel we find the first monastery of the Order of St Clare where Clare built her community in close friendship with Francis. Here too we remember the **Eucharistic Miracle of St Clare**, who turned away an army attack on the monastery by holding high the Monstrance after hearing the voice of the Lord say "I will protect you!"

Our day concludes with a visit to the **Hermitage** (Eremo delle Carceri), an oasis of peace and tranquility in the woods built on the site of a simple cave where St Francis often withdrew to spend many hours in prayer. The cave and the Chapel of Our Lady are preserved in the Hermitage grounds.

Assisi overnight (BD)

DAY 4: THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22 - SIENA DAY

This morning, we depart for the beautiful medieval city of **Siena**, nestled among the rolling hills of Tuscany. Upon arrival, we begin our day with a visit to the **Basilica of St Francis of Siena**, a place of deep spiritual significance and quiet

Lanciano





St John Paul II



St Francis



St Clare



St Catherine



St Paul



St Peter



St Carlo Acutis



St Padre Pio



reverence. Here we will spend time in **prayer and reflection**, venerating the **Eucharistic Miracle of Siena**, one of the Church's most remarkable and enduring miracles. The atmosphere of the basilica offers a peaceful setting to pause, reflect, and deepen our faith.

Following our time of personal prayer, we will come together to celebrate **Holy Mass**, allowing us to fully enter into the spiritual heart of the day.

Afterwards, we transition into discovering Siena's rich history and artistic heritage with a **guided walking tour of the historic centre**. As we stroll through narrow cobblestone streets, our guide will bring to life the city's medieval past, traditions, and culture. We will visit the iconic **Piazza del Campo**, one of Europe's most beautiful public squares, famous for its unique shell shape and as the setting of the historic Palio horse race.

Our walk continues to the magnificent **Siena Cathedral (Duomo di Siena)**, an architectural masterpiece of Italian Gothic design. Here we will admire its striking façade, intricate marble floors, and richly decorated interior, a testament to Siena's artistic and spiritual legacy.

Following our guided visit, there will be a short opportunity to enjoy the ambiance of the city before we depart. In the early afternoon, we leave Siena and return to **Assisi**, carrying with us the spiritual insights and cultural memories of a meaningful day.

Assisi overnight (BD)

DAY 5: FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23 - ASSISI TO CASCIA

After breakfast, we continue our journey through the scenic Umbrian countryside to the **remote hilltop village of Cascia**, a place of deep devotion and quiet beauty. Cascia is best known as the home of **St Rita**, the beloved patron saint of impossible and hopeless cases, whose life of faith, suffering, and perseverance continues to inspire pilgrims from around the world.

Upon arrival, we will visit the magnificent **Basilica**

of **St Rita**, a place of profound reverence. Here we will have the opportunity to venerate the **incorrupt body of St Rita**, preserved as a powerful sign of her holiness and God's grace. Time will be provided for **personal prayer and reflection**, allowing pilgrims to entrust their own intentions to the intercession of this remarkable saint.

We then walk through the **ancient Monastery of St Rita**, gaining insight into her religious life and spiritual journey. During our visit, we will see **St Rita's cell**, where she lived in humility and obedience, and the **crucifix from which she received the stigmata**, marking a pivotal moment in her life of suffering united to Christ.

Our time in Cascia also includes a visit to the **lower chapel**, where we will view the **exposed Eucharistic Miracle of 1330**. Displayed within a special **Monstrance**, the sacred relic consists of pages bearing bloodstains that remarkably form the **perfect outline of Christ's face**, offering a powerful and moving testimony to the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist.

This visit to Cascia provides a deeply spiritual encounter, inviting us to reflect on faith, perseverance, and trust in God even in the most difficult circumstances.

Cascia overnight (BD)

DAY 6: SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24 - CASCIA TO LANCIANO

After breakfast we depart Cascia and journey south to **Lanciano**, scene of the **Eucharistic miracle** in the 8th century where, during Mass and moments after consecration, the Basilian monk (who doubted the real presence of Our Lord in the Eucharist) found himself holding a host that had changed to flesh and the wine to blood. To this day the **sacred relics** have remained incorrupt while recent scientific examinations have confirmed that the "flesh is real flesh, the blood is real blood". Here we will celebrate a special Mass. We will have some free time before we check into our hotel.

Lanciano overnight (BD)

DAY 7: SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25 - LANCIANO TO SAN GIOVANNI ROTONDO

We leave Lanciano today and continue our pilgrimage to **San Giovanni Rotondo** where St Padre Pio spent a lifetime of prayer, penance, self-denial. His list of supernatural gifts is overwhelming - reading of souls, prophecy, miraculous healings, spiritual direction, etc. while spending extraordinarily long hours in the confessional and often sleeping very little. Throughout his life he received visits from Jesus and Mary and had regular communication with his guardian angel.

San Giovanni Rotondo overnight (BD)

DAY 8: MONDAY, OCTOBER 26 - SAN GIOVANNI ROTONDO

This morning, we take a tour of the shrine including **Tomb and cell of St Padre Pio; his Confessional**; and the **Crucifix** from which he received the stigmata. We visit the English-speaking office for an inspirational talk by one of the friars and to view a special rare film showing highlights of St Padre Pio's daily life in the Monastery.

Travel out by coach to **Monte Sant' Angelo** to visit the hilltop **Sanctuary of St Michael the Archangel** and celebrate Mass in the Grotto Cave. The Archangel is said to have made four separate appearances here mostly during the 5th century, making the sanctuary here one of the earliest Christian sites in Europe and visited by thousands of pilgrims every year. St Francis also visited the sanctuary but feeling unworthy to enter the grotto, stopped in prayer at the entrance, kissed a stone and carved on it the sign of the Tau cross.

San Giovanni Rotondo overnight (BD)

DAY 9: TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27 - SAN GIOVANNI ROTONDO TO ROME (VIA MONTE CASSINO)

Today we depart **San Giovanni Rotondo** and



Abbey of Monte Cassino



journey north toward **Monte Cassino**, one of the most important monastic sites in Christian history. Perched high above the Liri Valley, we arrive at the **Abbey of Monte Cassino**, founded in **529 AD by St Benedict**, the father of Western monasticism and author of the Rule that shaped religious life throughout Europe.

During our visit, we will explore this remarkable abbey, a place long associated with prayer, learning, and stability. Its history reflects both the endurance and fragility of human achievement: the monastery has been **destroyed and rebuilt multiple times**, most notably during the fierce fighting of **World War II**, when it was almost completely reduced to rubble. Faithfully reconstructed stone by stone, the abbey stands today as a powerful symbol of **resilience, renewal, and the triumph of faith over destruction**.

Following our visit to Monte Cassino, we continue our journey onward to **Rome**, the Eternal City. We arrive in the late afternoon, settling in and preparing for the next chapter of our pilgrimage.

Rome overnight (BD)

DAY 10: WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28 – PAPAL EVENT, ROME & VATICAN VISIT

We make our way to **St Peter's Square** this morning for a memorable **General Audience** with the Holy Father, as we join with pilgrims from around the world. *(Subject to the Pope's presence in Rome)*

We then continue onto the nearby **Vatican Museums**. Wander the spectacular chambers leading to the **Sistine Chapel** to view Michelangelo's masterpieces, including the magnificent fresco of the Last Judgment.

Continue through to the awe-inspiring St Peter's Basilica, the largest church in the world for an informative exploration. Our guided tour will feature among other highlights Michelangelo's stunning **Pieta**, the **tomb of Pope St John Paul II**, the **great Confessional** and the **Crypt** containing the tombs of several Popes.

Then we visit the **Basilica of St Pudenziana**, one of the oldest churches in Rome and a **Eucharistic Miracle** highlight. According to a great number of historians, the Roman Senator Pudente gave hospitality to the Apostle Peter in his home, which stood exactly where the church's foundation lies. The church is adorned by numerous Roman mosaics from the early Christian era and was constructed in 145 A.D. on the site where there stood the house of Senator Pudente. On the altar steps of the Caetani Chapel, constructed by the Caetani family, to this day there is the imprint and the stain of Blood left by a Host which fell from the hands of a priest while celebrating the Mass. The man was overtaken by doubts about the Real Presence of Jesus in consecrated Host, and immediately after the consecration, he inadvertently let the Host fall to the ground, where the imprinted mark is still visible today. We will celebrate Mass here.

Rome overnight (BD)

DAY 11: THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29 – THE BASILICAS AND CATACOMBS

This morning, we visit the impressive **St Mary Major Basilica** and the **Basilica of St John in Lateran**, First Papal residence. Adjacent to the Basilica we view the **Holy Stairs**, brought from Jerusalem to Rome in 326AD by St Helena.

Journey this afternoon out to the majestic **Basilica of St Paul Outside the Walls**. Originally consecrated in 324, the saint's tomb is visible now under the Papal Altar. We will celebrate a wonderful Mass here as a special tribute to the Church's greatest evangelist.

Continue then along the ancient **Appian Way**, the oldest road from Roman times to the **ancient Catacombs** for a memorable guided tour to marvel at these underground burial tunnels for Christians and Hebrews. On the way, drive by **Domine Quo Vadis** – the chapel that stands at the site where, according to tradition, St Peter met Christ when he fled from Rome to escape martyrdom.

Rome overnight (BD)

DAY 12: FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30 - DEPART ROME

(B)

PILGRIMAGE DETAILS

TOUR CODE	PV2638
STARTS	Monday, October 19, 2026
FINISHES	Friday, October 30, 2026
LAND COST	USD \$5250 <i>(Twin Share) *</i>
SINGLE ROOM	USD \$1340 <i>Supplement</i>
PREPAID TIPS	USD \$180 <i>Per Person</i>

** Costs have been based on prices as at January 2026 and must remain subject to possible change in the event of significant exchange rate variations or airline tax & levy increases beyond Harvest's control. Price based on minimum groups size of 30 paying pilgrims. Refer to Harvest Booking Terms & Conditions for more details.*

INCLUDED

ACCOMMODATION & MEALS: Based on reputable local 3-4 star superior hotels or quality religious houses as applicable • Meals as specified in Itinerary

TOURING & TRANSPORTATION: Deluxe Air Conditioned Coach touring • Professional Local Guides • Sightseeing and Entrance Fees.

OTHER: Fully Escorted by Priest Chaplain • Porterage at hotels (where available) • Harvest Backpack, Pilgrim Journal and Travel Wallet.

NOT INCLUDED

International Airfares • Other meals not listed • Passport and Visa Costs (if applicable) • Items of a personal nature including phone calls, laundry, beverages, etc. • Travel insurance • Prepaid Tipping



BOOKINGS & INQUIRIES

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