PILGRIMAGE TO ITALY

11 Days: November 7 - 17, 2022

Visiting
Venice * Florence * Assisi * Rome

Hosted by
Reverend Douglas J. Loecke

$3579 per person from Chicago
(Air/land tour price is $3029 plus $550 government taxes/airline surcharges)

Quality Tours Since 1949
**DAY-BY-DAY ITINERARY**

**CHICAGO/ACROSS THE ATLANTIC**

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 7**
Depart Chicago today on board your overnight transatlantic jet flight to Venice, arriving the following day.

**ARRIVE VENICE**

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8**
Your exciting pilgrimage begins as you arrive Venice today. Built on 118 small islands lying some four kilometers from the mainland, Venetian highways are made of water and the islands are linked by numerous picturesque bridges. Upon arrival in Venice, transfer to your hotel.

**VENICE**

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 9**
Enjoy your morning walking tour of Venice Island beginning with a visit of the Basilica San Marco. Other highlights include the Palace of the Doges, the Bridge of Sighs and the Rialto. The afternoon is at leisure to explore this captivating city on your own.

**VENICE/PADUA/FLORENCE**

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10**
Today drive to Padua where you will visit the Basilica of St. Anthony. Continue on through the serene Tuscan countryside to Florence, the cradle of Renaissance Art and former stronghold of the Medici family. From Botticelli to Da Vinci, the city is unsurpassed in art treasures and the glory of its history. Continue to your hotel for overnight.

**FLORENCE**

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11**
Highlights of this morning’s tour include the Piazza della Signoria, where the Neptune Fountain stands, the Church of Santa Croce, the Baptistry with its “Gates of Paradise” doors, and Giotto’s Bell Tower. To top it all, visit the Academy, which houses Michelangelo’s original statue of David. On to Piazzale Michelangelo for a panoramic view of the city and the Arno Valley. The afternoon is free in Florence to shop along the famous Ponte Vecchio and explore other Florentine delights.

**TOUR FEATURES:**
- Round trip airfare from Chicago
- $550 government taxes & airline surcharges
- Accommodations in first class/select hotels based on 2 persons sharing in twin-bedded rooms with private bath
- Most meals
- Services of a professional English-speaking tour director
- Comprehensive sightseeing throughout
- All admission fees, porterage and hotel service charges
- Transfers to/from airports by private motorcoach including meeting/assistance and porterage

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Dear Friends,

In 2022, St. Matthew Parish, Cedar Rapids, Iowa will mark its 100th anniversary. Part of our yearlong celebration includes a pilgrimage to Italy, the center of Roman Catholicism. You do not need to be a member of the parish to be part of the pilgrimage. So, I invite you to consider joining us for a spiritually inspiring journey to Italy! Italy’s timeless art and architecture, history and symbols representing two thousand years of Christian faith have fascinated travelers for centuries.

Our pilgrimage takes us to Venice, the city of waterways, gondolas and picturesque bridges where we will visit the Basilica of St. Mark with its magnificent mosaics expressing the story of faith, the Doges Palace and the Bridge of Sighs.

On to Florence, home to Michelangelo’s David and the finest collection of Renaissance art in the world. Next stop is the small hilltop city of Assisi, birthplace of St. Francis. Here we will visit the Basilica of St. Francis, the Church of St. Clare and Santa Maria degli Angeli with its ‘thornless rose bush’.

We’ll end our pilgrimage in Rome, the Eternal City, an artistic and historical gift to the world. We’ll visit Vatican City, St. Peter’s Basilica, and the Vatican Museums. See Michelangelo’s original frescoes in the Sistine Chapel including the famous Last Judgment and the Creation of Man. The highlight of our visit will be an Audience with Our Holy Father, Pope Francis, if available.

Come share in this time of prayerful celebration. I am sure you will be pleased with this tour for it is both high in value and low in cost. Our pilgrimage will be a joyful journey designed to highlight our Catholic faith, help us appreciate its historical past and view the art, which was inspired by our Church.

Please look over the brochure and you will see that this 11-day pilgrimage will be a lifelong dream come true. Act quickly! Simply complete the reservation form and forward your deposit to secure your place on this tour.

Sincerely,

Reverend Douglas J. Loecke
FLORENCE/ASSISI
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12
Drive south today through the mystical province of Umbria to Assisi, birthplace of St. Francis. Your walking tour includes the Basilica of St. Francis, still surrounded today by ancient walls, the Church of St. Clare and Santa Maria degli Angeli with its ‘thornless rose bush.’

ASSISI/ROME
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13
Today’s journey takes you to the Eternal City of Rome. Located in the center of the Region of Lazio, Rome is a reflection of every era. The wonders of Rome surround you...a world of art, history and culture that has been attracting visitors since the beginning of Western civilization.

ROME
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 14
Your sightseeing tour this morning takes you to Vatican City including visits to the Vatican Museum and Gallery and the Sistine Chapel with Michelangelo’s magnificent frescoes. End your morning tour at the Basilica of St. Peter. This afternoon tour the Basilicas of St. Mary Major, St. John Lateran and St. Paul’s outside the Walls.

ROME
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15
Enjoy a full day at leisure in fascinating Rome. You may venture to some of the city’s 400 churches, shop along the Via Veneto, people watch around the famous Spanish Steps, or relax at a trattoria.....the day is entirely yours to explore the city on your own.

ROME – PAPAL AUDIENCE
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16
This morning attend an Audience with Our Holy Father, Pope Francis. Afterwards tour the remnants of "Ancient" Rome. Visit the Catacombs and see the legendary Trevi Fountain and the mighty Colosseum.

ROME/CHICAGO
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17
All too soon your pilgrimage is over as you board your flight back to Chicago, arriving the same day.

Florence

Trevi Fountain

Basilica of St. Peter. This afternoon tour the Basilicas of St. Mary Major, St. John Lateran and St. Paul’s outside the Walls.

ROME

B
D

B ~ Breakfast
D ~ Dinner
Customer Reviews:

“It’s been my extreme pleasure to benefit from your invaluable assistance with my tours — 97 so far — for the past 28 years. I wouldn’t dream of letting anyone else handle the many details involved in making these difficult, exotic itineraries a success, as evidenced by my many repeat clients and their referrals. Your superb attention to detail, your honesty, and your friendship are greatly appreciated. You can count on Nawas being my 'one and only' for many years to come." --Ms. M.B., California

“As always, the arrangements for our pilgrimage by Nawas were excellent. To a person, those on the tour were filled with praise for the trip. Everything was A+.” --Monsignor R.S., Utah

"You people make this easy. Everything was out-standing. Those who have been on other trips have come to expect quality and they get it!” --Father P.T., Ohio

Family Owned for 72 Years:  Nawas International Travel was founded in 1949 by Mr. Yousef Nawas. He created our faith-based tour company with a vision of offering specially designed programs of spiritual enrichment and superior quality. Mr. Nawas made travel affordable so that the faithful of all walks of life could partake. Though Mr. Nawas has since passed on, Nawas International Travel remains under the guidance of his family and continues to serve thousands of travelers every year. With our global network, affordable prices and expert tour directors combined with years of group travel expertise, we guarantee the highest quality tour and services.
MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: NAWAS INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL

MAIL TO:
Rev. Douglas Loecke
St. Matthew Catholic Church
2310 First Avenue NE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52402
Tel: (563) 513-1894
Email: dbqcmt1@dbqarch.org

ACCOMMODATIONS DESIRED:
- □ double room sharing with __________________
- □ single room ($850 extra per person)

Enclosed is my check for $__________ as Deposit ($500 per person) for ___ person(s)

Passenger #1
Name: Title ______________________________
Last ______________________________
First ______________________________
Middle ______________________________
Gender: Please check □ Male □ Female
Address: ______________________________
City: __________ State: ____ Zip: ______
Home Phone: (____) __________
Cell Phone: (____) __________
E-mail address: __________________________
Passport #: __________________________
Date Issued: __________ Date Expires: __________
(day/month/year) (day/month/year)
Date of Birth: ____/____/____
Place __________ Country of Birth: __________
Citizenship __________________________

Passenger #2
Name: Title ______________________________
Last ______________________________
First ______________________________
Middle ______________________________
Gender: Please check □ Male □ Female
Address: ______________________________
City: __________ State: ____ Zip: ______
Home Phone: (____) __________
Cell Phone: (____) __________
E-mail address: __________________________
Passport #: __________________________
Date Issued: __________ Date Expires: __________
(day/month/year) (day/month/year)
Date of Birth: ____/____/____
Place __________ Country of Birth: __________
Citizenship __________________________

You understand that this reservation form serves as your acceptance of the policies of our Terms and Conditions including our cancellation policies, which can be found at www.nawas.com/terms-and-conditions. You should read our Terms and Conditions including our cancellation policies in their entirety before making any booking. If you are unable to access the Terms and Conditions on the NAWAS website, you must contact us in writing prior to booking the tour so that we may send you a copy by mail. You acknowledge that this tour has tour-specific conditions that are detailed in the "Tour-Specific Information" section of this brochure and that these details are hereby made a part of your agreement with us and with our Terms and Conditions. By signing this form, you acknowledge that you have visited the aforementioned web address where our Terms and Conditions are located and that you have read our Terms and Conditions in their entirety, fully understand them, and agree to them. If unable to access the NAWAS website, you acknowledge that you have contacted us prior to booking the tour, received a copy of our Terms and Conditions and read our Terms and Conditions in their entirety, fully understand them, and agree to them. You understand that the air-inclusive tour you are purchasing is subject to supplemental price increases that may be imposed after the date of purchase. Post-purchase price increases may be applied due to additional costs imposed by a supplier or government. You acknowledge that you may be charged additional sums by Nawas International Travel Service, Inc. to offset increased fees, taxes, airline imposed international surcharges, fluctuations in foreign exchange markets or any combination thereof along with any other items as outlined in our Terms and Conditions. You hereby consent to any post-purchase price increases and authorize Nawas International Travel Service, Inc. to charge yourself and all members of your traveling party for such additional amounts. For purchasers within CA: By signing this form you acknowledge that you have read the applicable California disclosures in our Terms and Conditions.

Signature Passenger # 1 ________________________________ Date ________________________________

Signature Passenger # 2 ________________________________ Date ________________________________

Please include a clear photocopy of your Passport with this Reservation Form. Clearly print your full name (last/first/middle) as it appears on your passport: