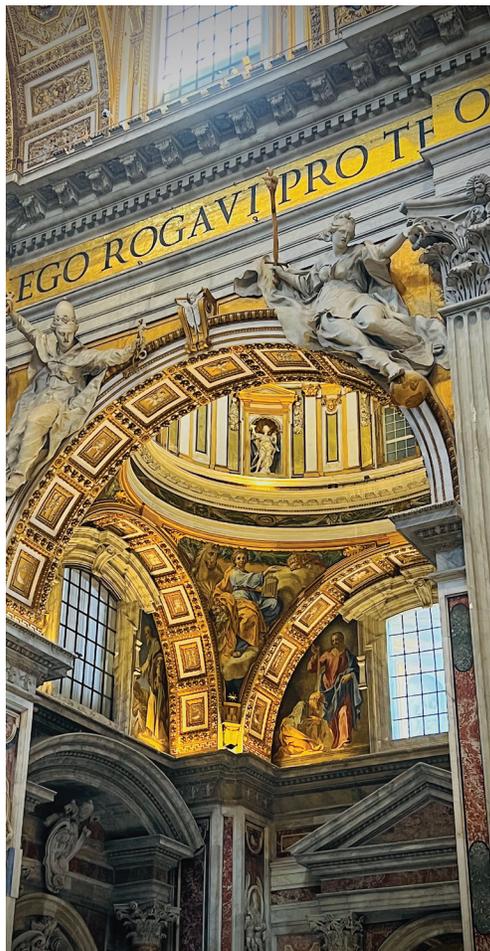


A 10-Day "Sister Annella Guild" Pilgrimage to

ITALY

*with Msgr. David Baumgartner, JCL,
Fr. Cyril Gorman, OSB, & Amanda Zurface, JCL*

November 15-24, 2026



ST. CHARLES 
Catholic Pilgrimages

Register at www.stcharlespilgrimages.com/sister-annella



The goal of this pilgrimage is “to put people in communion, in intimacy, with Jesus Christ: only he can lead us to the love of the Father in the Spirit and make us share in the life of the Holy Trinity.”

- POPE SAINT JOHN PAUL II, *CATECHESI TRADENDAE*

DAY-BY-DAY ITINERARY

DAY 1: NOVEMBER 15 — ACROSS THE ATLANTIC

Depart the USA today on board our overnight transatlantic jet flights to Rome, arriving the following day. Enjoy a full meal service as well as in-flight entertainment such as movies, music, etc.

DAY 2: NOVEMBER 16 — ARRIVAL IN ROME / MASS AT THE BENEDICTINE ABBEY OF SANT'ANSELMO / MALTESE KEYHOLE

Upon arrival at the Rome International Airport (FCO), we will collect our luggage at baggage claim and continue to the arrivals hall to meet our pilgrimage guide. We will then be escorted by motorcoach to the top of the Aventine Hill in Rome to celebrate our welcome Mass at the Benedictine Abbey of Sant'Anselmo. Afterwards, we will visit their wonderful gift shop with time to look through the nearby “Maltese Keyhole,” where three countries can be seen in one famous vista: the Sovereign Order of Malta territory, the Republic of Italy, and the Vatican City State. This will be followed by lunch on our own. Next, we will check-in to our hotel with time to unpack with free time for rest. In the evening, we will gather for our celebratory welcome dinner (included), served with local wine. Overnight in Rome. (B, D)

DAY 3: NOVEMBER 17 — SCAVI TOUR & TOMB OF ST. PETER / ST. PETER'S BASILICA / FREE AFTERNOON

After breakfast, we make our way to the side entrance of the Vatican where the Swiss Guard will permit us to enter and participate in one of Rome and the Vatican's best kept secrets: the “Scavi Tour” (pending permission and availability). This is a privately guided tour of the Necropolis underneath the Basilica of St. Peter. The tour culminates with the veneration of the bones of the Blessed Apostle Peter, our first Pope. This affords us the prime opportunity to visit the tomb of Pope Benedict XVI in the crypt and then to “skip the line” to enter the main Basilica above. We will have designated free time to explore the magnificent Basilica and pray inside the Blessed Sacrament Chapel. Afterwards, we will exit and explore Piazza San Pietro, seeing the exact location of the attempted assassination of Pope John Paul II in 1981. Lunch on our own in the neighborhood of the Vatican, with free time to purchase religious souvenirs. The remainder of the day is free for rest and relaxation. We will gather in the evening for our group dinner (included). Overnight in Rome. (B, D)

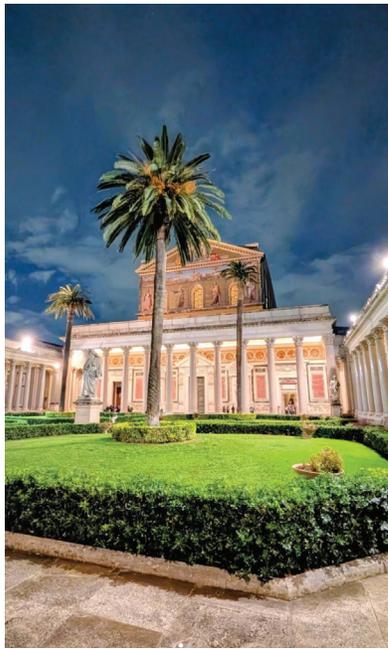
DAY 4: NOVEMBER 18 — PAPAL AUDIENCE / WALKING TOUR OF HISTORIC CITY CENTER

After an early rise and quick breakfast at our hotel, we will depart early to get ahead of the crowds for the Wednesday General Audience with the Pope. At the conclusion of the audience, Pope Leo will lead us in praying the “Our Father” in Latin before giving his Apostolic Blessing to us and our loved ones at home. Be sure to bring your religious items to be blessed! Afterwards, we will take a leisurely guided walking tour in the heart of downtown Rome with lunch in the historic city center. During our afternoon stroll, we will visit some of Rome's most beloved sites, including Piazza Navona, St. Agnes in Agone, the Pantheon (exterior view), Santa Maria Sopra Minerva, and the Gesu. We will have our Mass at the Benedictine church of Sant'Ambrogio della Massima, home of the General Curia of the Subiaco Cassinese Congregation. We will then transfer back to our hotel for a relaxed group dinner (included), served with local wine. Overnight in Rome. (B, D)

DAY 5: NOVEMBER 19 — SUBIACO / SACRO SPECO / MONASTERY OF ST. BENEDICT / ABBEY OF MONTE CASSINO / TOMBS OF ST. BENEDICT & ST. SCHOLASTICA

Following an early breakfast, we will board our motorcoach for a day trip from Rome to visit Subiaco and Monte Cassino. First, we will begin with a visit to the Sacro Speco (the holy cave) where St. Benedict lived as a hermit. For hundreds of years pilgrims have been coming here to pray. It was at this location that Benedict brought to maturity his developing charism and spirituality that would lead him shortly afterwards to found other monastic communities. After, we will continue our scenic drive to the famous Monte Cassino Abbey, located 80 miles southeast of Rome. Lunch on our way at an Autogrill rest-stop. Upon our arrival we will





have Mass at the Abbey, with time to visit the tombs of St. Benedict and St. Scholastica in the crypt. The Abbey of Monte Cassino was the location of the first house of the Benedictine Order, founded by Benedict in about 529. Sadly, on Feb. 15, 1944, the Abbey was destroyed by Allied bombing during the Second World War. It was rebuilt with donations from America and reconsecrated in 1964. Lastly, we will board our motorcoach for our return drive to Rome. Arrival at our hotel. Group dinner (*included*), served with local cuisine and wine. Overnight in Rome. (B, D)

DAY 6: NOVEMBER 20 — SACRED RELICS TOUR: THE MAJOR BASILICAS & NEARBY CHURCHES

After breakfast we will board our bus for a tour of Catholic Rome with stops at some of the major religious sites of the city. We will first visit St. Mary Major, the largest church in Rome dedicated to Our Lady, where the crib from Bethlehem is kept. We will then cross the street to visit Santa Prassede, where the pillar that Christ was scourged upon is today kept. Afterwards, we will visit the nearby miraculous icon of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, kept at the church of Sant'Alfonso. Then we will transfer on our motorcoach to the Basilica of Santa Croce to see the relics of the Passion of Christ, taken from Jerusalem to Rome by the Empress Helena. Next we will walk to the Scala Santa to ascend the Holy Steps on our knees (optional), the very staircase that Christ ascended to meet Pontius Pilate in Jerusalem. Following lunch, we will enter the Archbasilica of St. John Lateran, the cathedral church of Rome. After, we will board our bus and transfer to the Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Walls. Here we will pray before the tomb of St. Paul, with time to visit the gift shop. We will also have Mass here in the chapel of St. Benedict. After, we will transfer back to our hotel for our group dinner (*included*), served with local wine. Overnight in Rome. (B, D)



DAY 7: NOVEMBER 21 — MASS AT ST. PETER'S BASILICA / THE VATICAN MUSEUMS & SISTINE CHAPEL

Following an early breakfast, we will make our way to the Vatican for morning Mass at St. Peter's Basilica. Afterwards, we will have time to pray in the Basilica and tour it before the crowds arrive. The remainder of the morning is free time before lunch to pray in the basilica and for those who wish to climb the magnificent dome (optional, additional cost). Following lunch on our own, we will enter the Vatican Museums, enjoying special "VIP" skip the line privileges. Inside, we will meet one of the local guides of the Vatican Museums and participate in a special "pilgrimage" tour, specially designed for pilgrims. Our tour will include the magnificent Sistine Chapel and the sublime Raphael Rooms. After the tour, we will gather for a relaxed dinner together (*included*) at one of Pope Leo's favorite restaurants. Overnight in Rome. (B, D)

DAY 8: NOVEMBER 22 — NORCIA / BIRTHPLACE OF ST. BENEDICT & ST. SCHOLASTICA

After breakfast, we will board our motorcoach and depart for the picturesque drive to Norcia, the birthplace of St. Benedict and his twin sister St. Scholastica. While here, we will have free time for lunch and time to explore the center of the town. First we will walk to the Piazza San Benedetto, the heart of the community, to enter and pray inside the Basilica of San Benedetto (*sadly, heavily damaged by earthquakes in recent years, but thankfully rebuilt*). In the crypt we will see the site where Benedict and his sister were born, the location of their childhood home. Our Mass will be here in the Basilica. Afterwards, we will have free time to visit some of the local boutique and food shops that line the streets. We will conclude the day with a late afternoon return to Rome. In the evening, we will meet for our group dinner (*included*), served with local cuisine and wine. Overnight in Rome. (B, D)

DAY 9: NOVEMBER 23 — TRE FONTANE ABBEY / FREE AFTERNOON

Following breakfast, we will board our motorcoach and depart for the Tre Fontane Abbey, a quiet monastery on the outskirts of Rome. This is a Trappist abbey that follows the Rule of St. Benedict. The site is historically significant as the location of the martyrdom of St. Paul. It is believed St. Paul died here in circa 68 AD under the reign of the Emperor Nero. The day was June 29, later designated the Feast of Ss. Peter and Paul. The monks who live here have a small farm and raise lambs. The wool is then taken to create the "pallium" vestment that is worn by metropolitan archbishops. We will visit the three chapels situated on the monastic grounds and have Mass. We will also take time to visit the gift shop to see the various items made by the monks. Return transfer to our hotel in Rome for a free afternoon for lunch, rest, and exploring on our own. Time to pack for our early departure tomorrow morning. In the evening we will gather for our final farewell group dinner (*included*), served with local cuisine. Overnight in Rome. (B, D)

DAY 10: NOVEMBER 24 — OUR JOURNEY HOME

Following an early breakfast and guesthouse check-out, with warm memories of our time in Italy, we will board our motorcoach and transfer to the Rome International Airport (FCO) for our return flights home. (B)



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INCLUSIONS

- Lodging in a centrally located four-star hotel in Rome
- All tours and transfers in an air-conditioned motorcoach
- All breakfasts and dinners
 - Wine and bottled water at all included dinners
- Tips for hotel staff and restaurants (for included meals)
- Admission tickets and private tours through all shrines, monasteries, abbeys, and historical sites on our itinerary
- Tickets to the Wednesday audience with the Holy Father
- Whisper headsets
- A dedicated pilgrimage guide for the entire duration of the pilgrimage
- Pilgrimage accompaniment with Amanda Zurface, JCL
- Daily Mass, confessions, and spiritual guidance with Msgr. Baumgartner, JCL, and Fr. Gorman, OSB
- Two pre-departure information meetings
- A custom neck wallet and luggage tag for each pilgrim

Not included:

- Airfare (*airfare from your airport of choice is available upon request*)
- Lunches
- Tips for the guide & driver (*estimated €120 total*)
- ETIAS “electronic travel authorization” fees (*estimated \$7/pilgrim*)
- Travel insurance (*optional, but highly recommended*)

PAYMENT SCHEDULE

- A non-refundable deposit of **\$500** per person is due upon registration.
- Final payment/remainder of balance is due **90 days** prior to departure.
- Late bookings after 90 days prior to departure require payment-in-full at time of booking.

CANCELLATION POLICY

- With the exception of the deposit, all payments are 100% refundable if a cancellation request is received before 90 days prior to departure.
- With the exception of the deposit, all payments are 50% refundable if a cancellation request is received from 90 days to 31 days prior to departure.
- There are no refunds for cancellation requests received after 30 days prior to departure.

By registering for this pilgrimage you understand and agree to the terms and conditions of St. Charles Pilgrimages LLC:
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**DOUBLE OCCUPANCY
PRICE: \$4,750**

**SINGLE OCCUPANCY
PRICE: \$5,750**

Pricing is listed per person and does not include airfare. The number of single rooms are limited. Rates assume a minimum of 20 full-paying pilgrims. Rates include a cash discount.

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(Revised 1/2026)