



Notre Dame Basilica, Paris / Henry Marion



Sacre Coeur Basilica, Paris / Sean MacEntee



American Military Cemetery in Normandy / Casper Moller

# Journey to the Shrines of France

Join *Arkansas Catholic* and Father Tony Robbins, pastor of St. Joseph Church in Conway, for a 12-day Lenten journey across France. See sites of some of the world's most revered saints and apparitions: Our Lady of Lourdes • St. Bernadette • St. Therese of Lisieux • St. Mary Margaret Alacoque • St. Vincent de Paul • St. John Vianney • St. Catherine Laboure

**A prayerful Lenten pilgrimage to France's holiest places**

**April 1-12, 2019**

**\$4,959**

per person, double occupancy • Daily Mass • Includes lodging, airfare, breakfast, dinners and entrance fees to scheduled sites • Tips, beverages and insurance not included • A \$600 deposit is required at the time of registration • Final payment is due by February 1, 2019.

## INFORMATIONAL MEETING

Sunday, May 6, 2018 • 3-4:30 p.m.

St. John Center, Fitzgerald Hall, Little Rock

To register for the meeting, visit

<https://frenchpilgrimage2019.eventbrite.com>

**\$100 discount for reservations placed by May 14**  
**Details and registration form inside**

We will start in Toulouse and then spend two days in Lourdes, where we will participate in the Candlelight Procession if available and see where many miracles have been attributed. We will tour Paris to see some of the most famous churches in the world, including the Sacre Coeur and Notre Dame. We will also honor those who died during World War II with a stop at the Normandy landing beach. Other stops include Ars, Nevers, Lisieux, Paray-le-Monial, Mont St. Michel and Pontmain.

# Journey to the Shrines of France • April 1-12, 2019

## YOUR DAY-BY-DAY ITINERARY

### Day 1, April 1

We depart Little Rock to connect with our overnight flight to France. Enjoy dinner and breakfast served on board our international flight.

### Day 2, April 2: LOURDES

Today we arrive in Toulouse and transfer to Lourdes. Upon our arrival we will visit the grotto and basilica with its magnificent and breath-taking Decades of the Rosary Walls where we will celebrate Mass before checking into our hotel. We will have some leisure time before dinner and overnight in Lourdes. (We may take part in the evening Candlelight Procession if it is available)

### Day 3, April 3: LOURDES

After breakfast in the hotel, we will have an early Mass and then enjoy a guided tour of Lourdes. Our walking tour will include visits to the Boly Mill where St. Bernadette was born; the Locale Mill, residence of her parents; the "Cachot," formerly used as a jail where she lived at the time of the apparitions; the chapel where she received her First Holy Communion; and the parish church containing the font, where she was baptized. In the afternoon, we will have time to walk the life-sized Stations of the Cross and submerge ourselves in the healing

baths. This evening, we have the chance to join the Rosary Candlelight Procession, if available. Dinner and overnight in Lourdes.

### Day 4, April 4: LOURDES/ ROCAMADOUR/ARS

After breakfast, we depart Lourdes for Rocamadour, a medieval village of religious, historical and architectural significance, and spectacular views. Our time here will be spent visiting the Shrine of Our Lady of Rocamadour where Mass will be celebrated. The shrine is made up of numerous religious buildings and chapels that center on a statue of the Virgin Mary and Zaccheus' tomb. We then head toward Ars, home of St. Jean-Marie Vianney (St. John Vianney in English), patron saint of priests. Dinner and overnight in Lyon.

### Day 5, April 5: ARS/PARAY-LE-MONIAL (First Friday)

After breakfast in the hotel, we will visit the 12th century church where the saint preached, the basilica built next to the church that displays the saint's incorrupt body; Heart Chapel, which contains the saint's heart; the home of St. John Vianney, preserved the way he left it; and the orphanage founded by the saint. Mass will be celebrated before we continue on to Paray-le-Monial where on December 27, 1673, Jesus mourned the world's ingratitude, indifference and cold-

**To reserve your place, please complete this form and mail with payment and a copy of the photo page of your passport to the Sue Smith Vacations address at the bottom of the form.**

Enclosed is my payment for the Journey to the Shrines of France 2019 Tour • BN:55201

PASSENGER #1 NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

*Clearly print name as it appears on your passport: (Last, First, Middle)*

PASSENGER #1 Name desired for nametag: \_\_\_\_\_ Rooming With: \_\_\_\_\_ Single Room (\$770 Additional Cost): Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

PASSENGER #1 Passport No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

PASSENGER #2 NAME (if residing in same household as Passenger 1): \_\_\_\_\_

*Clearly print name as it appears on your passport: (Last, First, Middle)*

PASSENGER #1 Name desired for nametag: \_\_\_\_\_

PASSENGER #2 Passport No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact Information: Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ \$600 per person reservation deposit plus applicable optional insurance (see terms and conditions on last page for price). Initial deposit is non-refundable.

\_\_\_\_\_ \$600 per person reservation deposit (if insurance is declined). Initial deposit is non-refundable.

\_\_\_\_\_ I am paying my deposit with a check made payable to Sue Smith Vacations. Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I am paying my deposit with a credit/debit card.

Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_ \* Security Code \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*(We accept: Visa, Mastercard, American Express and Discover.) (\*3 or 4 digit number on back of Card) 3% processing fee will be added to your payment*

Name that appears on credit card: \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Allergies/dietary restrictions/health issues (like medicine that needs to be refrigerated or special medical equipment you are bringing) we should be aware of: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of passenger(s): \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Enrollment in and payment for the tour constitutes your acceptance of the program conditions.

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ness. We will visit the Chapel of the Visitation where Jesus exposed his Sacred Heart to St. Margaret Mary Alacoque during many apparitions. Jesus asked St. Margaret Mary for a Communion of Reparation on the First Friday of each month. We will visit the reliquary of St. Margaret Mary located underneath the wax figure of the saint. Dinner and overnight in Paray-le-Monial.

**Day 6, April 6: PARAY-LE-MONIAL/NEVERS/LISIEUX**

After breakfast we head for Lisieux via Nevers to visit the Convent of St. Gildard where we see the incorrupt body of St. Bernadette. We will see where St. Bernadette lived for 12 years as a member of the Sisters of Nevers. St. Bernadette was very ill and received the sacrament of healing three times before her death at age 35 in 1879. Mass will be celebrated before we continue to Lisieux for dinner and overnight.

**Day 7, April 7: LISIEUX/NORMANDY LANDING BEACHES**

After an early breakfast we will enjoy a sightseeing tour of Lisieux, home of St. Therese. We will visit Les Buissonnets, St. Therese' family home, which displays relics, clothing and personal objects belonging to the "Little Flower"; the Carmelite convent where St. Therese spent her short but holy life as a nun; and the Basilica of St. Therese of the Infant Jesus and St. Peter's Cathedral where St. Therese received the sacraments. As we tour the places that have touched the life of St. Therese, we can see and feel the extraordinary love she had for God and her service to humanity come alive. Pope Pius X called St. Therese "the greatest saint of modern times." Mass will be celebrated at the Basilica of St. Therese. We will also have the opportunity to pray at the tombs of Sts. Louis and Zelig Martin, parents of St. Therese, located in the basilica. After lunch, we visit the Beaches of Normandy, Omaha, Gold, Juno, Utah, where many Americans gave their lives in World War II during the Allied invasion known as D-Day. Our guide will give us the history of what took place before we visit the American Cemetery at Laurent, which is the largest cemetery in Europe containing the graves of 9,387 American soldiers and a Memorial to 1,557 soldiers whose remains were never found. We will have a prayer service at the chapel to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the Allies invasion. As we walk around and look out over the cemetery we will be reminded that the white headstones are engraved with crosses and the Star of David, all Americans who fought and died for freedom. We return to Lisieux for dinner and overnight.

**Day 8, April 8: LISIEUX/MONT ST. MICHEL/PONTMAIN**

After breakfast we make our way to Mont St. Michel, which is known as the "Marvel of the West." Mont St. Michel is a Benedictine abbey perched on a rocky islet in the midst of vast sandbanks dedicated to the Archangel Michael. The twin abbeys were built by William and his wife Matilda of Flanders, as a condition the pope's raising the excommunication given to them. After our tour escort gives us the history of the abbey, we will have time to explore the abbey on our own and for the truly ambitious you can climb the 1,000 steps to the top of the abbey. For those of us who are less ambitious, we can walk along the beach and bay. Mont St. Michel was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1979. We continue on to Pontmain where on the evening of Jan. 17, 1871, the people were anxious about the advancing troops during the Franco/Prussian War, but everyone went about their

work as usual. In a barn in the middle of town two boys were helping their father. Just before six in the evening they took a break and saw in the sky a lady dressed in a dark blue robe sprinkled with stars. She spread her hands in a gesture of welcome and smiled. Father Guerin, pastor of Pontmain for 35 years, was called and a prayer vigil began a veritable dialogue with the Virgin. After the rosary, the Magnificat was sung. A white banner appeared in the sky with gold letters on it. Two little boys deciphered it. "Pray, My Children God will answer before long." As a result the troops never reached Pontmain. We will celebrate Mass before returning to Lisieux. Dinner and overnight in Lisieux.

**Day 9, April 9: LISIEUX/PARIS**

We will depart Lisieux after an early breakfast. We arrive in Paris for a tour of "the City of Lights." The panorama city tour will include the Champs-Élysées and Arc de Triomphe. We will visit the Eiffel Tower, with entrance to the second floor. We will also stop at the Basilica of Notre Dame with its magnificent spires and world-famous stained-glass rose windows. Many kings have been crowned at the basilica and many famous artists and poets are buried inside this 12th century basilica. Victor Hugo immortalized the basilica with his "Hunchback of Notre Dame." Dinner and overnight.

**Day 10, April 10: PARIS**

After breakfast we will visit the Chapel of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal and celebrate Mass there. The convent is where the Blessed Virgin Mary revealed two of the greatest treasures of the world, the Miraculous Medal and the Green Scapular. In the chapel we see the incorrupt body of St. Catherine Laboure and the incorrupt heart of St. Vincent de Paul. Next we visit the Basilica of Sacre Coeur (Sacred Heart), located on the top of Montmartre Hill, which offers a magnificent sweeping view of Paris. After dinner at the hotel we board our bus to the Seine River for a lovely cruise. Not many cities are as beautiful as Paris at night especially from the river cruise. Overnight.

**Day 11, April 11: PARIS**

After breakfast, you will have a free day to tour in Paris to visit other churches such as the Saint-Chapelle, tour a museum like the Cluny, d'Orsay or Louvre or you can take a short trip to Versailles, the Cathedral of Notre Dame in Chartres or the Champagne region. A farewell dinner in a Parisian restaurant with wine will end our journey together. Overnight.

**Day 12, April 12: PARIS/USA**

After breakfast we transfer to the airport for our flight home arriving home the same day. We will take with us many memories and blessings to last us a lifetime.

**For more information, contact Kathy Primm  
at Sue Smith Vacations, (501) 771-0987 or  
kathy@suesmithvacations.com  
or visit suesmithvacations.com**

## TERMS AND CONDITIONS

**Tour Prices:** All prices in this brochure are based on land and air rates and exchange rates in effect at the time of printing and on group rates of 40 passengers per bus. Tours may depart with less than the required number of passengers, at the discretion of Group IST, LLC (doing business and referred to herein as “Regina Tours”), but an additional charge may apply. Passengers will be advised about such surcharges 60 days before departure. All prices are subject to change without notice prior to departure due to major currency fluctuations and/or unforeseen economic circumstances.

**Reservations, Deposits and Final Payments:** Please complete the Participant Agreement, with full names as they appear on passports, and mail it to us with the required per-person deposit. Deposit of \$600 is required to hold your spot on the tour. Deposits must be received before May 31, 2018. A second deposit of \$600 is due by July 31, 2018. A third deposit of \$600 is due by October 31, 2018. The final balance is due by February 1, 2019. If final payment is received after February 1, 2019, a late fee will be assessed in the amount of \$50 per late payment. All payments made by check should be made payable to Sue Smith Vacations (referred to herein as SSV). Credit card payments will be subject to a 3% processing fee.

**Late Reservations:** If a booking is made within 60 days of departure, full payment is due at the time of booking. There will be a \$50 late processing fee applicable plus cost of any express or overnight mail services.

**Travel Documents:** A valid passport (valid for six months after the return date of the trip) is required to travel. Visa is required for U.S. passport holders traveling to some destinations; please contact our office for details. All non-U.S. citizens must contact the appropriate consular office for entry visa requirements pertaining to their trip. In addition non-U.S. citizens are responsible for complying with requirements for re-entry into the U.S. SSV/Regina Tours assumes no responsibility for procurement of passport or visas. Obtaining and carrying these documents is the sole responsibility of passengers. SSV/Regina Tours will not be responsible for any delays, damages and/or losses, including missed portions of your trip due to improper travel documentation.

**Final Documents:** All documents and tickets are only issued upon receipt of final payment and are sent within three weeks of departure. Documents are not guaranteed if final payment and booking form are not received on time.

**Air from Home City:** Air from LIT is included in the package. All other gateway options are considered on a case-by-case basis. Sue Smith Vacations

is providing air travel for the people traveling on *Arkansas Catholic's* pilgrimage to France in April 2019.

**Rooms:** Prices are per person, based on two persons sharing a hotel room. A limited number of single rooms are available for an additional \$770. Triple rooms may be available in hotels for family or friends traveling together. There are no discounts for triple rooms.

**Medical Conditions:** While we endeavor to provide the highest level of service to all our passengers, we cannot guarantee special facilities or assistance for disabled passengers and it is your responsibility to arrange for such assistance as required. We regret that we cannot provide individual assistance. SSV/Regina Tours is not responsible for any medical conditions that may occur prior, during, or after the tour.

**Responsibility:** The tour member understands that he or she has no claim against Sue Smith Vacations, Regina Tours, *Arkansas Catholic* and the Diocese of Little Rock and its affiliates, for any delay or damage to or loss of property or baggage or injury to or death of persons due to any neglect or willful act of a direct air carrier, hotel, bus company, steamship or cruise company, railroad, transportation company or service company of any kind, or any other person or persons rendering any of the services being offered in connections with these tours. Further, SSV and Regina Tours advises that it has no ownership interest whatsoever in any hotel, restaurant, bus company or transportation or service company of any kind outside the USA, nor does it have any employee outside of the USA. You may see the name Regina Tours affixed to motor vehicles, on signs around the hotel or elsewhere. This use of our name is purely for reasons of identification and does not denote ownership, supervision or control by Regina Tours in any way. Regina Tours, a brand of Group IST, LLC, and its overseas representatives reserve the right without notice to change, amend or cancel any part or all of the tour and to make such changes as may be necessary. Regina Tours acts only as an agent in securing hotels, transportation and other travel services from suppliers, and in no event shall Regina Tours be liable in the event of any failure by any person or company to render any transportation, lodging or other travel services to be provided on the tour. The acceptance of the initial service to be provided under the tour shall be considered an acceptance by the tour member of these conditions. If there is a difference between the conditions of Regina Tours and those published by suppliers, the conditions of suppliers shall apply. Regina Tours reserves the right to substitute hotel of similar quality and reserves the right to vary

the sequence of sightseeing and/ or to re-route the order of cities. In calculating the cost of the trip, Regina Tours has relied on your consent to these terms and in the absence of this release, the cost of the trip would be higher. A contract is made when your reservation and payment are accepted by SSV. We reserve the right to decline to accept a person or remove a person from a tour, if such person presents a significant risk to the health or safety of himself or the group and the person cannot otherwise be reasonably accommodated.

**Cancellation Policy and Refunds:** We hope that nothing will prevent you from taking your pilgrimage. However, should you need to cancel, your cancellation must be received in writing, via e-mail, fax or by letter. It will be effective on the date of receipt. SSV and Regina Tours will apply the following cancellation fees per person:

Days Prior to Departure	
90 to 61	..... \$450 cancellation fee
60 to 46	..... 50% of tour cost
45 to 31	..... 75% of tour cost
30 to 1 or no show	... No refund

Once the tours commence, there will be no refunds on missed or unused portions of the tour programs. Purchase of Travel Insurance, at the time of deposit, is strongly recommended.

**Not Included in the Published Price:** Cost of items not listed on each program such as meals, beverages and items of personal nature, excess luggage allowance, laundry, room service, travel insurance, passport and visas costs, expenses for additional sightseeing not specified in the itinerary, any incurred medical costs and replacement of items forgotten or stolen while on the tour, and gratuities (\$144 for tips will be added to your final invoice).

**Important:** For security reasons Sue Smith Vacations requests a copy of your passport picture page to ensure correct name on reservations. Purchase of travel insurance, at the time of deposit, is strongly recommended.

Travel insurance, per person: \$385

**For more information, contact Kathy Primm at Sue Smith Vacations, (501) 771-0987 or [kathy@suesmithvacations.com](mailto:kathy@suesmithvacations.com) or visit [suesmithvacations.com](http://suesmithvacations.com)**