Faith Journeys 10 Day Itinerary

Day 1: Toronto/Tel Aviv
“Leave your country...for the land I will show you” Ger 12:1.
Today is taken up with our physical journey to the Bible lands. This pilgrimage reminds us of our own continuous journey towards God. Today we step forward with the same kind of faith lived by Abraham and Sarah as they set our on their journey. The road to Jerusalem is in the heart – every place is holy ground.

Day 2: Israel – Nazareth
Shalom! Arrival at Ben Gurion Airport and travel via the Plain of Sharon and Caesarea with its theatre and aqueducts to overnight in Nazareth, the home town of the Holy Family.

Day 3: Lower Galilee
“The people walking in darkness have seen a great light” Isaiah 9:2.
Our first day in Galilee begins in Nazareth, Jesus’ home. We celebrate Eucharist in the Church of the Annunciation and visit Cana, place of Jesus’ first public ministry. Then we renew our Baptismal promises at Yardenit on the River Jordan before going to our hotel on the Sea of Galilee.

Day 4: The Sea of Galilee
“Jesus left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea” Matt 4:13.
We cross the Sea of Galilee by boat and arrive in Capernaum, where Jesus began his ministry of healing and teaching. We spend some reflective time sitting on the Mount of Beatitudes, where Jesus taught the qualities of the Kingdom of God. Then we visit Bethsaida, the home of many of the first disciples of Jesus and drive to Mount Tabor, site of the Transfiguration.

Day 5: Around the Lake
“He took pity on them and healed their sick” Mathew 14:14.
We begin our final morning in Galilee with Mass on the seashore at Tabgha, site of the feeding of the 5,000 and complete the morning at the church of the Primacy. Here the Risen Christ cooked breakfast for his disciples and reinstated Peter as leader of the group.

Day 6: Galilee/Jerusalem via Jericho
“I will lead her into the desert and speak to her heart” Hos 2:14.
We drive by Qumran along the Jordan valley to the Dead Sea and visit Jericho, the oldest known city. After lunch we drive eastward into the Judean wilderness and commemorate deceased loved ones overlooking the Valley of the Shadow of Death. We enter Jerusalem by the Mount of Olives and celebrate mass in Dominus Flevit Church overlooking the city of Jerusalem. “I rejoiced when I heard them say: Let us go the house of the Lord” Psalm 122.

Day 7: Bethlehem and the Old City
“Let’s go to Bethlehem” Luke 2:15.
We begin our final morning in Galilee with Mass on the seashore at Tabgha, site of the feeding of the 5,000 and complete the morning at the church of the Primacy. Here the Risen Christ cooked breakfast for his disciples and reinstated Peter as leader of the group.

Day 8: The Last Days of Jesus
We begin our journey in the last days of Jesus with mass in the Upper Room, followed by an hour of watching in the Garden of Gethsemane. We then visit the church of St Peter in Gallicantu.

Day 9: From the Upper Room to Calvary
“Having loved his own who were in the world, Jesus loved them to the end” John 13:1.
We begin the day on the Via Dolorosa and complete the Cross, finishing in the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. After lunch we travel towards Emmaus and reflect on our journey in the Holy Land. We then return to Jerusalem for our final celebration of Pentecost in the Upper Room.

Day 10: Tel Aviv/Toronto
We take an early morning flight back home returning filled with the Holy Spirit – renewed and recharged to tell everyone “all the things that happened on the road and how we recognized him in the breaking of the Bread”.