

Casa per I Bambini
presents a
10 Day Pilgrimage to Italy
visiting **Rome, San Giovanni Rotondo, St. Michael's Cave, Bari,**
Lecce, Santa Maria di Leuca, Matera, Alberobello & Pietrelcina

Group Leader: Giacomo Piraino
Mr. Piraino will be traveling with the
True Wood of the Cross and Padre Pio's Relics

March 9 – 18, 2009

Special departure from Louisiana

Due to the popularity of this pilgrimage it is important that you book early!

Mon, March 9th: Lafayette/Rome - Depart Lafayette airport on your overnight, connecting, flight to Rome. Dinner served in flight.

Tue, March 10th: Rome - Upon arrival in **Rome** we are transferred to our hotel. En route we stop at St. Paul Outside the Walls. **During the Pauline Year, you will receive a Plenary Indulgence for visiting places associated with St. Paul.** This evening we have a "Rome by Night Tour." (D)

Wed, March 11th: Papal Audience/San Giovanni Rotondo - This morning we go to St. Peter's Square to attend the Papal Audience (*provided the Holy Father is in residence*). After our audience, we depart to **San Giovanni Rotondo** to visit the Basilica of Our Lady of Grace. **During our stay in San Giovanni Rotondo we will visit Padre Pio's Tomb where we will see his exhumed body.** (B,D)

Thu, March 12th: St. Michael's Cave - This morning we visit **St. Michael's Cave** where St. Michael the Archangel appeared. After our visit, we return to San Giovanni Rotondo for a day of private devotion. (B,D)

Fri, March 13th: San Giovanni Rotondo/Bari/Lecce - This morning we depart to the **Lecce**. En route we stop in **Bari** where we visit the Basilica of St. Nicholas of Bari to see the relics of St. Nicholas. The remains of St. Nicholas were taken from southern Turkey in 1087. They lie in the crypt and are the source of pilgrimage for Catholic and Orthodox Christians. After our visit, we continue to Lecce. (B,D)

Sat, March 14th: Lecce/Santa Maria di Leuca/Lecce - Today we visit **Santa Maria di Leuca** which is best known for its lighthouse. It is the most important lighthouse in Italy. Next to the lighthouse is the large Basilica "De Finibus Terrae" ("End of the Land"), built to commemorate the passage of St. Peter here during his travel to Italy. It lies on the former site of a Roman temple dedicated to Minerva. After St. Peter landed here on his way to Rome, the people converted and turned the Temple of Minerva into a Christian Shrine. The edifice has a fortified structure, and during its existence it sustained several assault by Turk pirates. The basilica is connected to the port through a 184-step staircase. (B,D)

Sun, March 15th: Lecce/Matera/Alberobello - The area of what is now **Matera** has been settled since Palaeolithic times. The city was allegedly founded by the Romans in the 3rd century BC, with the name of Metheola after the consul Lucius Caecilius Metellus. In 664 AD Matera was conquered by the Lombards and became part of the Duchy of Benevento. In the 7th and 8th centuries the nearby grottos were colonized by both Benedictine and Greek-Orthodox monastic institutions. **Matera became a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1993.** One of the benefits of the ancient city, is that there is a great similarity in the look of the Sassi with that of ancient sites in and around Jerusalem. This has caught the eye of film directors and movie studios. Forty years ago, Pier Paolo Pasolini shot "The Gospel According to St. Matthew" here. When Mel Gibson first saw Matera he envisioned the sassi caves as the perfect backdrop for his Jerusalem sets. In fact, Gibson used some of the same locations as Pasolini when filming "The Passion of The Christ." After our visit, we continue to Alberobello. (B,D)

Mon, March 16th: Alberobello - Today we visit **Alberobello** to see the world famous *trulli* buildings which can only be found in this area. Their origin is obscure. It is suggested that these buildings, dating from the med-14th century, evolved to provide a rustic building that could be quickly erected and dismantled in order to avoid punitive taxes on permanent houses. A *trullo* is made of limestone blocks and mortar-less or dry-stone construction. Many of the inhabited ones have added mortar in recent years. **Alberobello became a UNESCO World Heritage site in 1996.** (B,D)

Tue, March 17th: Alberobello/Pietrelcina/Rome - Morning departure to Rome. En route we stop at **Pietrelcina**, birthplace of Padre Pio. We visit his home, the Church of Santa Ana, where he was baptized and we have Mass at Santa Maria degli Angeli. After our visit, we continue to Rome. (B,D)

Wed, March 18th: Rome/USA - Morning departure to Rome airport for our return flight to the USA.

Pilgrimage Price: \$ 2,699.00 Double per person Single Supplement \$ 700.00

Pilgrimage Includes: Air Fare from Lafayette, Louisiana, Three & Four Star Hotels, Deluxe Motorcoach, Sightseeing as per itinerary, Continental Breakfast & Dinner Daily, Daily Mass and Rosary, Porterage (one piece of luggage) at hotels, Taxes and Service Charges. **Due to the recent increase in Fuel it may become necessary to increase our rate by the Fuel Surcharge.**

Tour No. SAS0309		
Name (as it appears on your passport):		
Address:		
City:	State:	Zip:
Telephone:	Email address:	
Will your room be a: <input type="checkbox"/> single (limited) <input type="checkbox"/> double <input type="checkbox"/> triple		
Name of Roommate:		
Are you a US citizen? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
<p>Please return this form with your check to: LITTLE FLOWER TOURS & TRAVEL, LTD. 145 Fieldstone Road, Staten Island, New York 10314 ☎ 718-761-1251 or outside NY call 888-843-7373 A \$500.00 DEPOSIT IS DUE AT TIME OF BOOKING FINAL PAYMENT IS DUE January 1, 2009</p>		
<p>TERMS AND CONDITIONS: Cancellation made by passengers. Of the \$500.00 deposit, \$200.00 is non-refundable in case of cancellation. 70 days to 46 days a \$500.00 penalty is imposed. 45 days to 16 days a \$500.00 penalty PLUS any penalty imposed by the airlines and hotels. 15 days or less may result in loss of entire cost, depending on what we can recover. Once travel has commenced, no refunds for unused portions can be made. TRAVEL INSURANCE IS AVAILABLE AND ADVISABLE</p> <p style="text-align: center;">If you have a pre-existing condition, it is important that you take Travel Insurance within 10 days of booking. Insurance on this group is \$ 185.00</p>		

“EVERYONE MUST FILL OUT THIS FORM AND SIGN IT BELOW.” If you are NOT taking the Travel Insurance you must still fill out the Insurance form below and indicate NO in the premium box and return it with your reservation form.

Please note that insurance is strongly recommended but is optional. If you want to receive a waiver for pre-existing conditions, your premium must be received by Little Flower Tours within 14 days of your initial trip deposit/payment, provided you are not disabled from travel at the time of your premium payment. Insurance payments are non-refundable.

Tour Number	Tour Name	Premium
SAS0309	10 Day Italy Pilgrimage	\$ 185.00

Insurance Form		Tour Number PIO0417	
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Address:			
City:		State:	Zip:
Telephone:		Are you a US citizen? () Yes () No	
Additional Family Names			
I will take the Insurance () Yes () No			
Premium \$ 185.00 per person			
<p>Please make your Insurance Premium check payable to Little Flower Tours & Travel Ltd.: LITTLE FLOWER TOURS & TRAVEL, LTD. 145 Fieldstone Road, Staten Island, New York 10314 ☎ 718-761-1251 or outside NY call 888-843-7373</p> <p>If you want to receive a waiver for a pre-existing condition, your premium must be received by Little Flower Tours within 14 days of your initial trip deposit</p>			
Signature		Date	