100th Anniversary of Fatima Apparitions

Fatima, Lourdes and the Shrines of Spain

14-day Pilgrimage under the spiritual guidance of Fr Todd Arsenault LC

Please join us as we celebrate the 100th anniversary of the apparitions at Fatima, the site of the events of 1917 in which three shepherd children, Lúcia Santos and her cousins, Jacinta and Francisco, witnessed apparitions of the Blessed Virgin Mary on 13 May 1917 and on the 13th day of the following five months.

The sanctuary built to commemorate these events is dominated by the Basilica of Our Lady of the Rosary, a magnificent church that overlooks a large open plaza where millions of pilgrims gather throughout the year.

In addition, we visit and explore many magnificent and captivating historic towns and cities throughout Catholic Spain and southern France. This is a unique pilgrimage not to be missed!

Mass is celebrated, often privately with our group, each day of our pilgrimage.

Pope Francis has confirmed that he will be visiting Fatima too!

Reaffirm and rejoice in your faith on this Portugal, Spain, and France pilgrimage with overnights in Fátima, Santiago de Compostela, Madrid, Lourdes, and Barcelona.
Along the way we’ll visit some of the world's most famous Spanish shrines and spiritual places. **Santiago de Compostela, the Way of St James**, has been well-known as a pilgrimage site since the 9th century. We'll spend two nights here and visit St. James’ Cathedral, home to the remains of the Apostle James, and Cabo Finisterre (end of the known earth in the 9th century) where pilgrims traditionally burn their robes after the long walking pilgrimage.

Travelling over the ancient Pyrenees Mountains to the foothills of France, we will visit **Lourdes**, the most famous healing shrine in the world, and one of the world’s most-visited pilgrimage places.

We'll spend two nights, joining the Rosary and candlelight procession, and a guided walking tour that includes the grotto where the Virgin Mary appeared a young servant girl named Bernadette Soubirous in 1858. There will be an opportunity to drink, or to bathe in the healing waters if you wish.

**INCLUDED in our Pilgrimage:**
- Air transportation from Toronto to Lisbon, Portugal and return from Barcelona, Spain.
- Airport taxes.
- 14-nights accommodation first class/superior tourist class hotels.
- Two meals daily - breakfast and dinner.
- All sightseeing as per itinerary with English speaking guides.

**NOT INCLUDED:**
- Travel/medical insurance; excess baggage; lunches; all items of a personal nature.
- Beverages including tea and coffee (except at breakfast), wines, soft drinks, etc.
- Single supplement. if required.
- Tips to bus driver and guides, restaurants and hotels.

CAN$3450 plus flights. For more information please contact:

**RC Pilgrimages coordinator:** Jennifer Downs 1-905-466-8396  
rcpilgrimages@gmail.com

**Celebrating the Centenary of the Fatima Apparitions**

Day 1 - Sunday, Oct 15  
Depart from Toronto for Lisbon.  
(Tentatively: 15 Oct AC 1916 dep 11:10 pm arrival 11:10 am in Lisbon on Oct 16 direct)

Day 2 - Monday, Oct 16  
Arrival in Lisbon. Panoramic tour of the city, including visit to Santo Antônio Church. According to tradition, the church was built on the site where Saint Anthony of Padua was born in 1195. Transfer to our hotel in
Fatima, time for rest, dinner, procession with candles and overnight.

Day 3 - Tuesday, Oct 17
Full day in Fatima, famous for the apparitions of our Lady of the Rosary to three shepherd children: Lucia dos Santos and her two cousins. We are going to visit the Apparition Chapel, the Basilica that contains the tombs of Francisco, Jacinta and Lucia. Later we visit the village of Aljustrel and the houses where children used to live. Some free time in the afternoon. Dinner, candlelight procession and overnight.

Day 4 - Wednesday, Oct 18
After breakfast we visit Nazaré. According to the Legend of Nazaré the town derives its name from a small wooden statue of the Virgin Mary, a Black Madonna brought by a monk in the 4th century from Nazareth in the Holy Land to a monastery near the city of Merida, Spain, and was brought to its current place in 711 by another monk. Return to Fatima for dinner, procession with candles and overnight.

Day 5 - Thursday, Oct 19
After breakfast depart for Santiago de Compostela. En route we visit Braga, one of the oldest Christian cities in the world, nicknamed the “Portuguese Rome”. We visit the Bom Jesus Do Monte Sanctuary. Mass. Continue into Spain and head for Santiago de Compostela, one of the top pilgrimage destinations since the Middle Ages. Dinner and overnight in Santiago de Compostela.

Day 6 - Friday, Oct 20
Full day in Santiago de Compostela where the remains of Saint James, one of the apostles of Jesus Christ, is buried. We celebrate a private Mass at the Cathedral, and then take a walking tour of the city. Afternoon excursion to Cabo Finisterre where pilgrims have traditionally completed their walk and burned their robes. Dinner and overnight in Santiago de Compostela.

Day 7 - Saturday, Oct 21
Drive to Salamanca. Sightseeing tour of the best known for having and one of the oldest in declared the “World Heritage Site” by UNESCO. Seminary if time allows. Visit the Legion of Christ. Dinner and overnight in Salamanca.

Day 8 - Sunday, Oct 22
After breakfast we drive to Avila, stopping en route in Alba de Tormes. Walking tour of the town of St. Teresa and St. John of the Cross. Churches, convents, beautiful palaces and the impressive cathedral provide Avila’s character and identity, in which the spirit of Santa Theresa of Jesus and of Saint John of the Cross still vibrate. Continue to Madrid for dinner and overnight.

Day 9 - Monday, Oct 23  
Our of Madrid takes us to Plaza Espana, Puerta del Sol, Cibeles Fountain, Gran Via, Royal Palace and Almudena Cathedral. In the afternoon we take a half day excursion to Toledo. Situated on the granite hill, surrounded on three sides by river Tagus, this ancient capital of Castille attracts more sightseers than any other Spanish town. We visit the 13th century Cathedral and Moorish bridge. Mass. Dinner and overnight in Madrid.

Day 10 - Tuesday, Oct 24  
Today we travel from Madrid to Zaragoza. Afternoon walking tour of Zaragoza including the magnificent Our Lady of Pilar Basilica – “Santa Maria del Pilar. The Virgin Mary appeared here to Apostle James in 40AD. Of all the apparitions of Our Lady reported over the centuries, this is perhaps the most unique, since it is said to have happened before her Assumption into Heaven, while she was still on this earth and living in Jerusalem. Mass. Dinner and overnight in Zaragoza.

Day 11 - Wednesday, Oct 25  
Today we travel to Lourdes. Enroute we stop in Torreciudad, Marian shrine of Our Lady of Aragon. Devotion to Our Lady of Torreciudad dates back to the eleventh century. The new Shrine, built under the guidance of the founder of Opus Dei, Saint Josemaria Escriva, was inaugurated on 7 July 1975. Dinner, procession with candles and overnight in Lourdes.

Day 12 - Thursday, Oct 26  
Lourdes breakfast we start the day attending mass in one of the chapels in the Basilica. Next, visit the Grotto de Massabielle where the Virgin Mary appeared to St. Bernadette in 1858. Your walking tour includes two Basilicas, St. Bernadette’s birthplace and the “Cachot” where Bernadette lived with her family in great poverty at the time of apparitions. Balance of the day is at leisure. You may wish to bathe in the healing waters or attend the “Blessing of the Sick”. After dinner candlelight procession. Overnight in Lourdes.

Day 13 - Friday, Oct 27  
Today we travel to Barcelona, stopping
en route to Carcassone, inhabited since the Neolithic period and today a UNESCO World Heritage site. We see the old city, which is an entirely enclosed medieval fortress, and the Basilica of St Nazaire. Dinner and overnight in Barcelona.

Day 14 - Saturday, Oct 28
Full day in Barcelona visiting the Holy Christ of Lepanto and Santa Eulalia's Crypt. Next we see The Sagrada Familia Basilica designed by the architect Antoni Gaudí. Dinner and overnight in Barcelona.

Day 15 - Sunday, Oct 29
We take an excursion to the mystical monastery of Monserrat, famous for the “Black Madonna”, patron Saint of Catalonia. Mass in the monastery. Afternoon at leisure. Dinner and overnight in Barcelona.

Day 16 - Monday, Oct 30
Morning transfer to the airport for a flight back to Toronto

(Tentatively: 30 Oct AC1915 from Barcelona at 12:30 pm arrival in Toronto at 3:40 pm)

(Changes may be made to this itinerary if deemed necessary at the time.)

Our spiritual guide is Father Todd Arsenault who is a Legionary of Christ priest based in the Hamilton Diocese. Here is his biography:

Father Todd Arsenault, LC is a priest with the religious congregation “Legionaries of Christ”. He was raised the son of a RCMP (Royal Canadian Mounted Police) in Nova Scotia and then, later in his mid-teens, moved to his parents birthplace of Prince Edward Island where his father is now a dairy farmer. His parents are both very active members in the Church. He also has 2 younger sisters. He entered the Legionaries of Christ in the summer of 1994 at the noviciate in Cheshire, Connecticut and did his first 8 years of seminary training in the USA and Canada before completing his final 3 years of theology studies in Rome at Regina Apostolorum University in preparation for priestly ordination.
ordination. He was ordained on December 24, 2005 in Rome, Italy at the Legionaries of Christ Seminary Chapel by Cardinal Norberto Rivera, Archbishop of Mexico City. In 2006 Fr Todd was assigned to both the GTA and Syracuse, NY to do youth work and help with the spiritual formation of men in the Regnum Christi Movement. In 2009 he began full time ministry in the GTA assisting with the Regnum Christi Movement’s development as a spiritual director, retreat master, assisting with couple’s groups through Familia Canada and offering spiritual assistance to young adults. On weekends he ministers at various parishes throughout the Hamilton diocese.

### HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Nights</th>
<th>Hotel Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oct 16 - Oct 19</td>
<td>3 nights</td>
<td>Hotel Santa Maria in Fátima, a prime location 2 minutes walk from the Sanctuary of Fatima.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 19 - Oct 21</td>
<td>2 nights</td>
<td>Hotel Compostela in the centre.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 21 - Oct 22</td>
<td>1 night</td>
<td>Hotel Eurostars Las Claras, just 7 minutes' walk from the Cathedral and Plaza Mayor Square.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 22 - Oct 24</td>
<td>2 nights</td>
<td>Courtyard Madrid Princesa, centrally located in a lively cosmopolitan and entertainment area where you can enjoy coffee shops and tapas bars.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 24 - Oct 25</td>
<td>1 night</td>
<td>The Hotel Alfonso is located on the corner of Calle Alfonso and El Coso, a privileged position in the old part and main shopping area of Zaragoza.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 25 - Oct 27</td>
<td>2 nights</td>
<td>La Solitude Hotel Lourdes is a 4-star hotel uniquely located on the banks of the River Gave close to the entrance to the shrines.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 27- Oct 30</td>
<td>3 nights</td>
<td>Spa Senator Hotel Barcelona is a little way out of town, but it's worth staying there for the ambience and facilities of the hotel itself.</td>
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