

CHELMSFORD DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE

# THE HOLY LAND

A Pilgrimage in the Footsteps of Jesus

Led by

**The Rt Rev'd Dr Guli Francis-Dehqani**

*- Bishop of Chelmsford -*

**& The Very Rev'd Paul Kennington**

*- Interim Dean of Chelmsford -*

26 January to 4 February, 2024

*The Church of the Primacy of St. Peter, Tabgha*

**LIGHTLINE  
PILGRIMAGES**

*- The official and preferred Pilgrimage partner for the Diocese of Jerusalem -*



*This pilgrimage will help us to prepare for keeping Lent as a time in which we seek to draw closer to Jesus Christ. We shall hear his words with greater clarity and so be able to enter more fully into the mystery of his death and resurrection*

*The encounter with him in word and sacrament will shape each day of this pilgrimage, as we celebrate the Eucharist in one of the holy sites and align ourselves with the ancient Christian community that still lives where he taught and ministered.*

*The journey will be undertaken with the advantages of modern travel and communication. But the purpose of our journeying has motivated Christians across nearly two thousand years: it is an encounter with the living God, seen in the face of Jesus of Nazareth.*

*This pilgrimage offers us an opportunity to let the pages of scripture come alive, as we sit where the crowds listened to Jesus preaching and witnessed his healing miracles, as we trace the steps of shepherds who sought the new-born prince of Peace, and as we walk the ancient streets of Jerusalem, the setting of his passion, his resurrection and the empowering gift of the Holy Spirit.*

***You can book your place online by visiting:  
[www.lightline.org.uk/online-booking/](http://www.lightline.org.uk/online-booking/)***

**Lightline Pilgrimages support the work of Friends of The Holy Land**



**FRIENDS OF THE HOLY LAND**  
GIVING HOPE TO VULNERABLE CHRISTIANS



## Our Itinerary

### Day 1, Friday 26<sup>th</sup> January

Journeying to the Holy Land We meet at Heathrow Airport for our flight to Tel Aviv. On arrival in Tel Aviv we will be met by our guide and then driven north to the Sisters of Nazareth Guest House for dinner and overnight stay.



### Day 2, Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> January

After breakfast we walk to Christ Church, Nazareth for an opening celebration of the Eucharist and to learn about the Anglican Community in Nazareth. After the Eucharist we walk through the narrow winding market streets of the souk to an old Synagogue Church and then visit the Basilica of the Annunciation and the traditional site of Mary's Well. We will then proceed to the village of Cana, the site of Jesus's first sign before breaking for lunch. In the afternoon we drive to Mount Tabor, traditionally associated with the Transfiguration, to spend time on the summit overlooking the wonderful views of the Jezreel Valley (the



plains of Armageddon). On the way home we visit the exciting excavations at Magdala, the home town of Jesus' close friend and follower Mary Magdalene (Mary of Magdala). It was a major first-century port and specialised in salted and smoked fish and exported its products all over the Mediterranean. Dinner and overnight stay in the German Benedictine Guest house on the shores of the Sea of Galilee.



### Day 3, Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> January

Today will be devoted to a leisurely exploration of the area that was the base for Jesus' ministry by the northern shore of the Sea of Galilee. We begin our day with the Eucharist at Tabgha, and visit the Church of the Loaves and Fishes. We will then visit sites associated with the call of the first disciples, the beautiful Church and garden of the Beatitudes, the Primacy Church of St Peter, the ancient fishing village of Capernaum, the centre of Jesus' Galilean Ministry, to view the house of Peter and a





## Day 3 continued



partially rebuilt 4th century synagogue, built over the site where Jesus often preached. After a break for lunch we will sail on a modern day version of the boat used for fishing at the time of Jesus, and also see the remains of a similar boat which dates back to the early First Century. Return early to our Guest House for dinner and overnight stay.



## Day 4, Monday 29<sup>th</sup> January

This morning we bid farewell to the Galilee and begin our journey south if possible driving through the heart of the West Bank. Entering the Palestinian Territories near Jenin, our first stop is at the city of Nablus in which is found Jacob's Well a site which Jesus himself visited on a journey to Jerusalem. From here we drive through the heart of the Israeli Occupation where we will see settlements as we make our way down to the Jordan valley to Qasr al Yahud, the traditional site near where John baptised Jesus, which reopened after been closed for decades and where we will have an opportunity to renew our own Baptism

vows. After a break for lunch in the oasis city of Jericho, the city of palms we will have an opportunity for a view of Mount of Temptation and Qarantal Monastery which clings precariously to the side of the mountain. We then proceed up through the hills of the Judean wilderness towards Bethlehem for the first of two nights stay in



a Christian Hotel in the city in which Christ was born. Dinner and overnight stay in Bethlehem.



## Day 5, Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> January

Today will be devoted to discovering more about incarnation and the gift of life in all its abundance. After breakfast we drive to the Shepherd's fields before visiting the Orphanage / Creche of the Sisters of St Vincent de Paul where we will celebrate the Eucharist. It is the only facility of its kind in the West Bank offering Christian love and compassion for over forty abandoned babies and small children. We hope to be able to visit Bethlehem University before lunch and then we will visit the historic Basilica of the Nativity and the grotto where Jesus is said to have been born. Dinner and overnight stay in Bethlehem.





### **Day 6, Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> January**

We will leave our hotel and subject to local conditions drive south to Hebron, to the Oaks of Mamre where Abraham, Sarah, Jacob and Rebecca and Leah are buried. We will see how Hebron has been divided by the Occupation and will have the chance to visit both the mosque and the synagogue. We will then continue to Jerusalem and a break for lunch. In the afternoon we drive back to recall the Palm Sunday route as we slowly make our way downhill. We start at Bethphage, the traditional starting point of the procession of palms and in the course of our journey will visit the church of the Pater Noster, where we recall Jesus' teaching of the Lord's Prayer to his disciples and the church of Dominus Flevit, where Jesus wept



over the fate of the city. Finally, we reach the Garden of Gethsemane and the dark and brooding Church of All Nations where we recall Jesus' agonized prayers prior to his arrest and reflect on the failure of his closest friends to keep awake and watch with him. We then proceed to check-in to our hotel situated within the Old Walled City. Dinner and overnight stay in Jerusalem.



### **Day 7, Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February**

We begin our morning programmed by driving round to the Dung Gate to visit the Western Wall and if permitted to ascend the Temple Mount to view from outside the Dome of the Rock and the Al Aqsa Mosque. We then visit holy sites located on Mount Zion, where the earliest Christian community lived in the days following the resurrection. Here we will find a site commemorating both the Upper Room used for the Last Supper as well as the descent of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost and a striking abbey in honour of the Dormition of the Virgin Mary where we hope to celebrate the Eucharist. We will then visit the church of St Peter in Gallicantu, built at the top of an ancient set of steps which leads up from the City of David to what is believed to have been the residence of the High Priest. Many believe that Jesus himself was led up these steps to his trial by the Jewish authorities after his arrest. After a break for lunch we will visit the Israel Museum to view the Shrine of the Book and the model of Jerusalem based on the time of Jesus. There will be an optional visit of the Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial Museum and Park. Dinner and overnight stay in Jerusalem.





**Day 8, Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February**

After breakfast we proceed to Lions Gate and make our way to the beautiful Crusader Church of St. Anne overlooking the Pools of Bethesda before visiting the Convent of the Sisters of Zion, built on the foundations of the Antonia Fortress, the Roman Garrison of Jerusalem. After celebrating the Eucharist we will view the recently excavated first century stone pavement (Gabbatha in the gospels) and then follow the Way of the Cross along the Via Dolorosa to Calvary enshrined within the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. After a break for a late lunch we drive to the village of Ein Karem, venerated as the birthplace of John the Baptist and the



church associated with Mary's meeting with her cousin Elizabeth. We will bring our day to a close with worship here, before returning to Jerusalem and our hotel for dinner and overnight stay.

**Day 9, Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> February**

After breakfast we leave Jerusalem and drive to the village of Abu Ghosh, one of the sites associated with the village of Emmaus in the gospels, where we will celebrate the



Eucharist together at the Convent of the Sisters of the Ark. Late morning we will drive down towards the Dead Sea to visit Qumran to view the site where the Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered by a Bedouin shepherd and to view the excavated monastery of the Essene Community which may have produced the famous scrolls. After lunch there will be an opportunity to bathe in the unique mineral laden waters of the Dead Sea before returning to Jerusalem. Farewell dinner and overnight stay in Jerusalem.



**Day 10, Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> February**

After breakfast and packing our bags we will make our way to St George's Cathedral and join with the local Christian community for our final Eucharist. After a short break for lunch we proceed to Tel Aviv airport for our journey home to tell all those whom we meet about what has happened to us on the Way....

*Please note this touring programme may be subject to minor local amendments*

## HOLY LAND TOUR COST:

**Twin Room per person - £2995**

**Twin Room Share per person - £2995**

**Single Room (very limited) per person - £3620**

*This tour is carefully calculated to include all items necessary to complete your tour at the advertised price.*

✓ **Return flights on the scheduled British Airways from London Heathrow**

London Heathrow / Tel Aviv      BA165      07:50/14:35

Tel Aviv / London Heathrow      BA164      16:25/19:45

*Please note the above flights and time are approximate and subject to change*

✓ **All airport departure & passenger taxes (UK & Israel)**

✓ **Accommodation at the following selected guest houses & hotels:**

*All hotels and guest houses are fully air-conditioned with en-suite facilities*

**Nazareth - Sisters of Nazareth Guest House**

**Galilee - Pilgerhaus** (*Benedictine guest house by the Sea of Galilee*)

**Bethlehem - Innovation** (*centrally located hotel*)

**Jerusalem - Gloria Hotel** (*within the walls of the Old City, Jaffa Gate*)

✓ **Full board basis throughout (breakfast, snack lunches & dinner)**

✓ **All entrance fees and local government taxes**

✓ **All gratuities to guides, drivers and hotel staff.**

✓ **Qualified English speaking guide throughout the tour**

✓ **All touring in modern air-conditioned tourist coaches**

**The only items not included in the price are:**

Travel insurance and any items of a personal nature (*laundry & drinks etc*).

### TRAVELLING ON YOUR OWN

A large proportion of our passengers travel alone and object to expensive "single room" supplements. Please indicate this on your booking form (share twin-bedded room) and we will accommodate you with a person of the same sex also travelling alone and would also like to share a room. If we are unable to accommodate you in a shared twin, we will place you in single room at a cost of £3307. If you require single accommodation (limited available) you should request this when booking and the appropriate price will apply.

### PASSPORTS, VISAS & HEALTH

A full valid 10 year passport is necessary for all our tours. Check **NOW** that it is valid for the duration of your tour and validity runs for a further 6 months after your return to the UK. British passport holders will be issued a visa free of charge on arrival in the Holy Land. Holders of other passports please contact Lightline Pilgrimages for advice. No inoculations are required, however we advise you to consult your doctor regarding your own personal requirements.

### TRAVEL INSURANCE

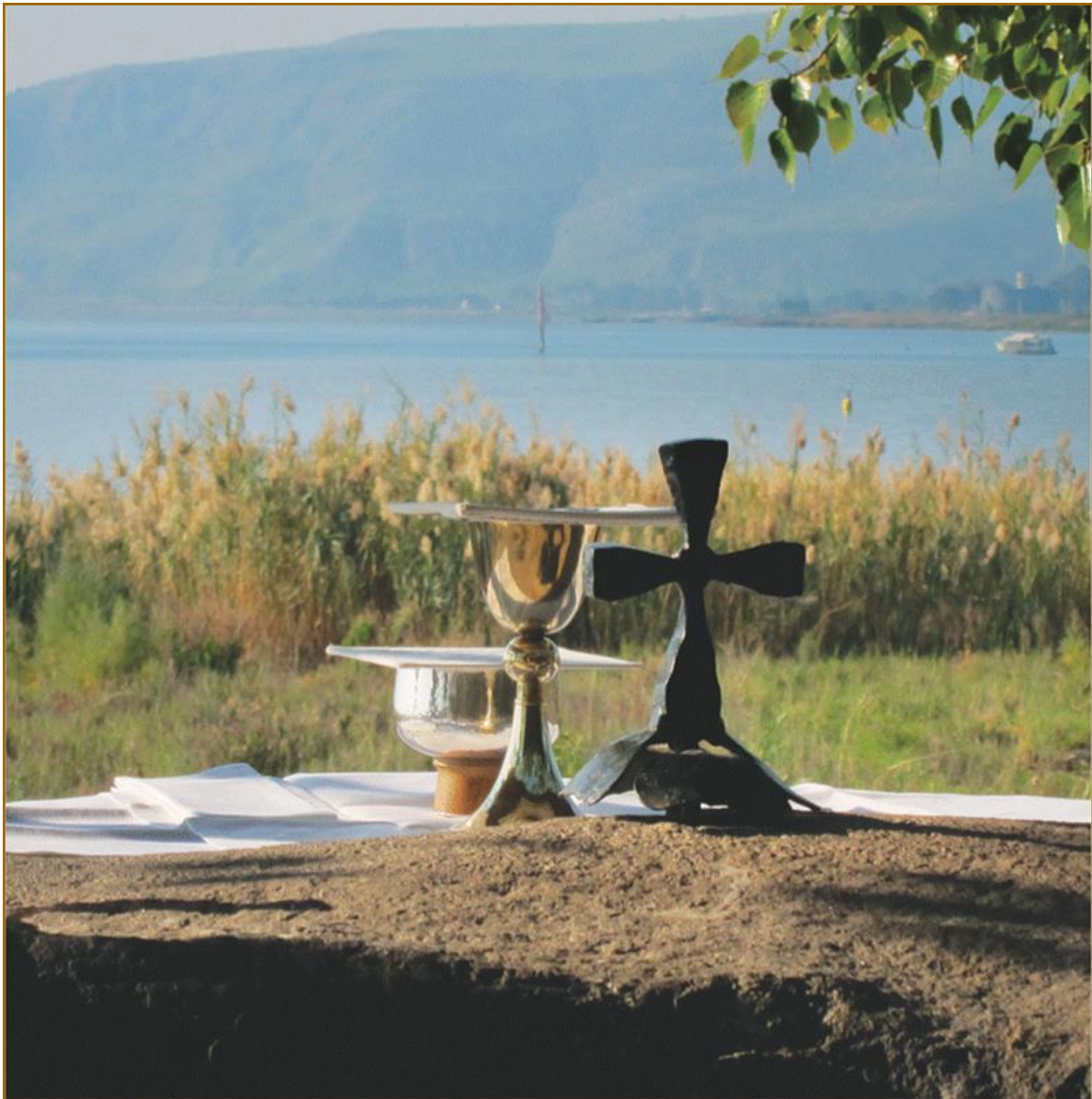
Medical Travel Insurance is mandatory and is a condition of travel to Israel and the policy should include coverage for Covid-19 treatment.

### TO RESERVE YOUR PLACE ON THIS TOUR

Please read the booking conditions and complete the enclosed booking form and send it, with a deposit of £250 per person to: Lightline Pilgrimages Ltd

***You can also book online by visiting [www.lightline.org.uk/online-booking/](http://www.lightline.org.uk/online-booking/)***





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**[www.atol.org.uk/ATOLCertificate](http://www.atol.org.uk/ATOLCertificate).**







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**Led by The Rt Revd Dr Guli Francis-Dehqani & The Very Revd Paul Kennington**  
**26 January to 4 February, 2024**

Tour Ref:  
**CHEL4HLHR**

**PASSENGER DETAILS. Please insert Lead Passenger details in the BLUE BOX SECTION.**

Title Mr/Mrs	Given Names as Appears in passport	Surname	Nationality	Date of Birth DD/MM/YYYY	Passport Number	Expiry Date DD/MM/YYYY

**LEAD PASSENGER DETAILS (All correspondence is sent to the lead passenger)**

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Post Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel: \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please tick this box to confirm that you have read and agree to the bookings terms and conditions on behalf of all the passengers that are named above and at the time of booking no circumstances are known which are likely to lead to cancellation or the curtailment of the pilgrimage by any passenger. I understand all correspondence will be sent to my address.

Please tick this box if you would like to receive the occasional Newsletter by email.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**ACCOMMODATION (Please tick appropriate box)**

- Twin Bed Room
- Shared Twin Room
- Single Room

**REMARKS / SPECIAL DIET / ETC**

*We will ensure that our hotels and restaurants are advised, but special diets of any kind (including vegetarian, vegan, coeliac etc ) can seldom be catered for adequately and we cannot guarantee we will be able to meet your requests.*

**TOUR PAYMENT**

Deposit per person  @ £250 = £

Total Enclosed = £

Please send the completed booking form together with your cheque to:

**LIGHTLINE PILGRIMAGES LTD**  
**Unit 10, Coopersale Hall Farm,**  
**Epping CM16 7PE**

Tel: 01992 576065 E-mail: info@lightline.org.uk

We accept Visa Debit Cards



Bank Transfer Details:

A/c Name: Lightline Pilgrimages Ltd  
 A/c No: 26082543  
 Sort Code: 50-30-25

*Please state your name on the transfer*



All bookings are subject to our full booking conditions which appear on our website at:

<https://www.lightline.org.uk/booking-conditions-2023/>

**A copy of these can be posted to you on request. By asking us to make your booking, please make sure you tick the appropriate box confirming you have read our booking conditions.**

The booking conditions provide for the payment of cancellation charges if you cancel or fail to make payment when due. They also include limitations and exclusions of our liability to you. For international travel by air, sea or rail, our liabilities are limited and excluded as if we were a carrier within the applicable international convention or EU regulation (for example, the Montreal Convention, the EC Regulation on Air Carrier Liability and the Athens Convention). A surcharge may be payable in limited circumstances where certain costs increase after booking.

Your contract will be with Lightline Pilgrimages Limited. This contract comes into existence when we dispatch our confirmation invoice to the person who makes your booking.

All Lightline flight and flight-inclusive holidays are financially protected by the ATOL scheme. When you pay, you will be supplied with an ATOL certificate. Please check and ensure that everything you booked is listed correctly.

For more information about the ATOL certificate please visit: [www.atol.org.uk/atolcertificate](http://www.atol.org.uk/atolcertificate)  
Or see our full booking conditions.

British citizens require a British passport in order to travel to the destinations we feature. This usually takes less than six weeks to obtain, unless you are over 16 and have not held a passport previously, in which case you need to allow a minimum of at least six weeks. **Please ensure you have at least six months validity on your passport from the date of your return journey to the UK.**

The Foreign and Commonwealth Office publishes regularly updated travel information on its website: <https://www.fco.gov.uk/knowbeforeyougo> which you are recommended to consult.

In the event of any flight delay or cancellation at your UK or overseas point of departure, the airline is responsible for providing such assistance as is legally required by the Denied Boarding Regulations. The ferry, tunnel or rail operator is similarly responsible in relation to any delayed or cancelled sea crossing or international rail departure. Except where otherwise stated in our brochure or on our website, we regret we cannot provide any assistance in such circumstances other than information and advice to the extent we are in a position to do so.

### **Travel Insurance**

Medical Travel Insurance is mandatory and is a condition of travel to Israel and the policy should include coverage for Covid-19 treatment.

### **Data Protection**

Please be assured that we have measures in place to protect the personal booking information held by us. This information will be passed on to the principal and to the relevant suppliers of your travel arrangements. The information may also be provided to public authorities such as customs or immigration if required by them, or as required by law. Certain information may also be passed on to security or credit checking companies. If you travel outside the European Economic Area, controls on data protection may not be as strong as the legal requirements in this country. We will only pass your information on to persons responsible for your tour travel arrangements. This applies to any sensitive information that you give to us such as any disabilities, dietary or religious requirements. (If we cannot pass this information to the relevant suppliers, whether in the EEA or not, we will be unable to accept your booking. In making this booking, you consent to this information being passed on to the relevant persons).

### **Cancellation**

Should you or any member of your party need to cancel their booking once it has been confirmed, the party leader must immediately advise us in writing. The notice of cancellation will only be effective when it is received in writing by us at our offices. As we incur costs from the time we confirm your booking, the cancellation charges as displayed in our full booking conditions will apply.