MANCHESTER DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE

THE HOLY LAND

In the footsteps of Jesus

with an option to visit amazing Petra

Led by

Rt Revd Prof. David Walker
Bishop of Manchester

2 November - 9 November, 2023

The Mount of Beatitudes

LIGHTLINE PILGRIMAGES

Coopersale Hall Farm, Epping, CM16 7PE, England
Tel: 01992 576 065 Email: info@lightline.org.uk web:www.lightline.org.uk

Following the immense success of our 2017 pilgrimage I have been asked to lead another in 2023 and this booklet gives you materials to enrich the eight days we will be spending in the Holy Land. I urge you to read it as you prepare for this trip. But no amount of literature will fully prepare you for what this visit hopes to achieve. We will travel together as pilgrims, building understanding and friendships across our Diocese and beyond our local experience of the Church. Our travels through the Holy Land will introduce us to the landscape that shaped Jesus, and teach us to read the Gospels with fresh eyes as we stand on the shore of Lake Galilee, or the Mount of the Transfiguration, or walk through the streets of Jerusalem. They will also reveal the impact of 2000 years of struggle and conflict. We will meet Christians, Jews and Muslims who live in a constant climate of rivalry and fear.

I invite you to come prepared to be changed by what you see, and what you will discuss with fellow pilgrims and local people. Expect to be inspired and angered by the situations and contrasts that confront you. But travel in the spirit of the disciples on the Emmaus Road, whose lives were turned around by their encounter with the risen Christ.

We will meet Palestinian Christians who trace their ancestry back in time and continue to follow the teachings of Jesus; Muslims and Jews who are trying to make sense of living in a region awash with difficulties and begin to understand what it means to be 'people of the book' in the harsh realities of the 21st century.

There will be time for worship and reflection.

Lightline Pilgrimages support the work of Friends of The Holy Land and a contribution is made on behalf of each and every pilgrim that travels to the Holy Land with Lightline

FHL FRIENDS OF THE HOLY LAND
GIVING HOPE TO VULNERABLE CHRISTIANS

Our Itinerary

Day 1, Thursday 2 November
Journeying to the Holy Land

We meet at Manchester Airport for our non-stop flight to Tel Aviv, arriving in the early evening. On arrival we will be met by our guide and driver and then driven north to Galilee and our hotel on the shores of the Sea of Galilee which will be our home for the next three nights. Dinner and overnight stay by the Sea of Galilee.

Day 2, Friday 3 November
Annunciation and Revelation

We start our pilgrimage by driving to Nazareth, the town where Jesus grew up, to, visit the Basilica of the Annunciation, the largest Christian church in Israel, believed to have been built on the house in which the Holy Family lived and an old synagogue church. We then proceed to the village of Cana, the site of Jesus' first sign, for a brief visit before breaking for lunch. After lunch we drive across the fertile Jezreel Valley, the plains of Armageddon to visit Mount Tabor and the Basilica of the Transfiguration on the summit, where we will celebrate the Eucharist. On descending Mount Tabor we return to our hotel in good time to freshen up before dinner. Overnight stay by the Sea of Galilee.

Day 3, Saturday 4 November
Teaching and Feeding

Today we will focus on the principal sites of Jesus' ministry around the home he made for himself by the Sea of Galilee. After commemorating the call of the first disciples in a Eucharist by the Sea itself, as well as sites associated with the Feeding of the 5000, the recommissioning of Peter and the giving of the Sermon on the Mount. We will sail on the Sea of Galilee and then break for lunch. In the afternoon we will visit the excavated ruins of Capernaum and the ruins of Kursi, the site associated with the Gadarene swine. We will have time to reflect before returning to our hotel in good time to relax before dinner. Overnight stay by the Sea of Galilee.

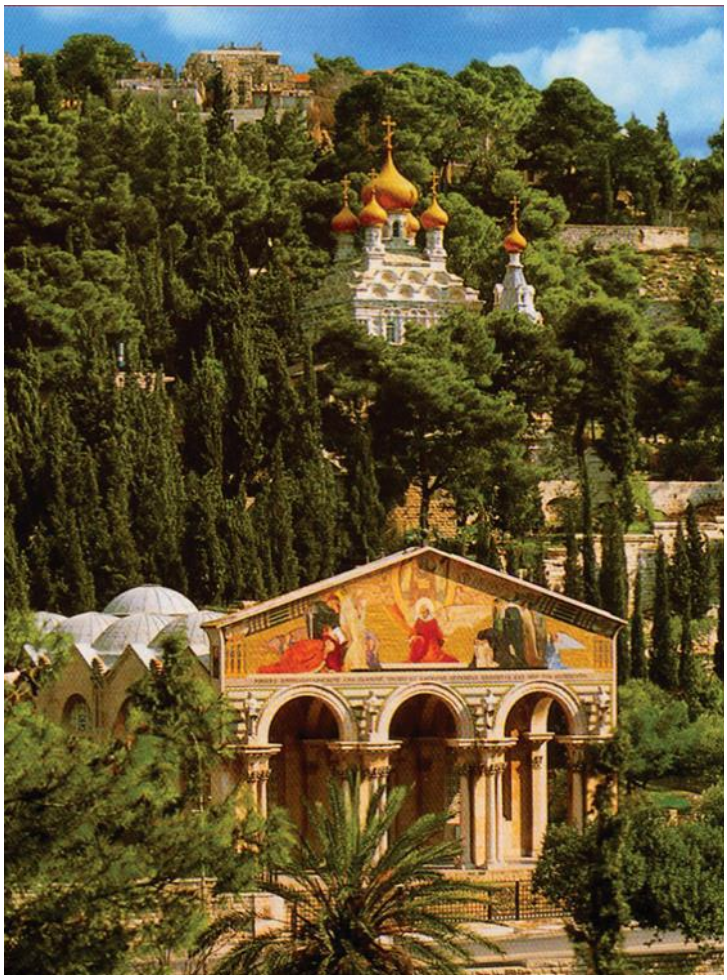
Day 4, Sunday, 5 November
An Ancient Route & Bethlehem

This morning we leave Galilee after an early breakfast and drive south through the heart of the West Bank to the city of Nablus to

Day 4, continued

visit Jacob's Well, where the Fourth Gospel tells us of Jesus' encounter with the woman drawing water. We will continue through the beautiful hills of Samaria and on to the town of Bethlehem where we will break for lunch. In the afternoon we begin by visiting the Shepherds Fields and the Church of the Nativity, one of the oldest churches in Christendom, as well as seeing the work of a remarkable Christian institution endeavouring to bring something of the abundant life promised in the gospel to those living under the restrictions of the Occupation. St Vincent Creche/Orphanage is the only facility of its kind in the West Bank, offering Christian love and compassion to over forty abandoned babies and small children. Leaving Bethlehem we continue to

Jerusalem and check-in to our hotel situated within the walls of the Old City. Dinner and overnight stay in Jerusalem.



Day 5, Monday 6 November

I do not know the man

After an early breakfast we leave our hotel and drive to the summit of the Mount of Olives for a breathtaking view of the Old Walled City and its beautiful medieval walls before we trace our way from Bethphage, the traditional starting point of the procession of palms, to 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' agonised prayers prior to His arrest and reflect on the failure of His closest friends to keep awake and watch with him. We then break for lunch and in the afternoon we drive to Mount Zion, where the earliest Christian community lived in the days following the resurrection. Here we will find a site commemorating both the traditional site of the Upper Room used for

Day 5 continued

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. The principal focus of the afternoon, however, will be a visit to 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 Jewish High Priest. Many believe that Jesus himself was led up these steps to his trial by the authorities after his arrest. Here we recall not only Jesus' incarceration over the last night of his life but, also, Peter's faithless threefold denial of Jesus. We will celebrate the Eucharist here before returning to our hotel for dinner and overnight stay.

Day 6, Tuesday 7 November

Taking up the cross

We begin our day by driving around to St Stephen's (Lion) Gate and then make our way to the remarkable church of St Anne and the Pools of Bethesda, which we will visit, before coming to the start of the Via Dolorosa. Here we will celebrate the Eucharist and then wind our way through the narrow alleys of the Old City following the traditional Way of the Cross, culminating in the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. After time to reflect we will leave Jerusalem and drive down to the oasis city of Jericho and break for lunch. In the afternoon we will drive down to Qasr al Yehud on the River Jordan, probably the very site where John

baptised Jesus, where we will have an opportunity of renewing our baptismal vows. Leaving the River Jordan we will stop briefly for a view of the Mount of Temptation before driving to the Dead Sea where we will have an option of bathing in it's unique mineral laden waters. Late afternoon we drive up through the hills of the Judean Wilderness back towards Jerusalem and our hotel. Dinner and overnight stay in Jerusalem.

Day 7, Wednesday 8 November

Sunday in Jerusalem

There will be an early morning opportunity to revisit the Church of the Holy Sepulchure to see it in use on Sunday morning, as the different denominations celebrate their liturgies alongside each other. Later in the morning we will visit the Anglican Cathedral to worship alongside our Palestinian sisters and brothers. After a break for lunch we drive over to west Jerusalem to visit Yad Vashem, the deeply moving Holocaust Museum and park and the Israel Museum to view the Dead Sea Scrolls and model of

Day 7 continued

Jerusalem based around the time of Jesus. Return to our hotel. Farewell dinner and overnight stay in Jerusalem.

Day 8, Thursday 9 November

Our journey home or Jordan

After packing our bags and breakfast we drive to Abu Ghosh, one of the traditional sites associated with the Emmaus story

where we will celebrate our final Eucharist in the Holy Land. We say goodbye to our friends continuing on the **Jordan optional Extension (See extension)** before heading towards our flight home and the chance to tell others what has happened to us on the road…

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

HOLY LAND TOUR COST:

Twin Room per person - £1995 **Twin Room Share per person - £1995**

Single Room (very limited) per person - £2545

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

- ✓ **Return flights on the scheduled services of Easyjet from Manchester**
  Manchester / Tel Aviv EZY1827 07:15/14:15
  Tel Aviv / Manchester EZY1828 18:55/22:30
  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
  Galilee - Hotel Nof Ginosar *(situated on the shores of the Sea of Galilee)*
  Jerusalem - Gloria Hotel *(Hotel within the walls of the Old City by Jaffa Gate)*
- ✓ **Half board basis throughout (breakfast & dinner)**
- ✓ **All entrance fees and local government taxes**
- ✓ **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, lunches, gratuities (£75), and any items of a personal nature *(laundry & drinks etc)*.

You can also book online by visiting www.lightline.org.uk/online-booking/

OPTIONAL JORDAN EXTENSION
Visiting The Rose-red city of Petra, Mount Nebo, Madada & Jerash

Day 8, Thursday 9 November

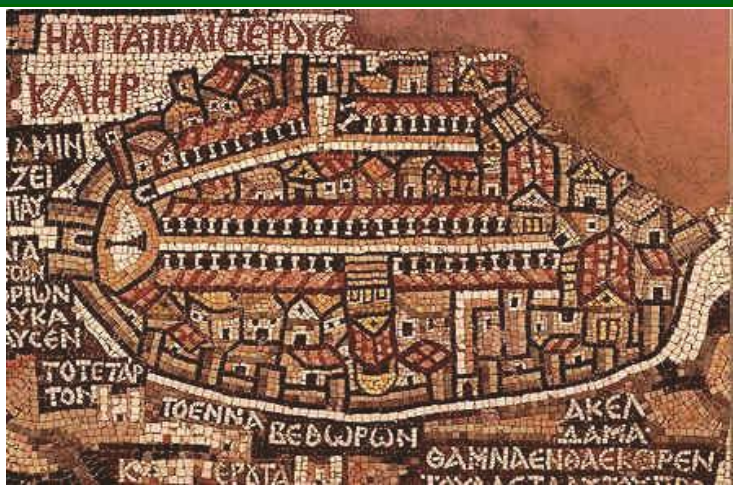
We say goodbye to our friends returning home and drive down to the Jericho and after lunch we drive to the border and on completion of formalities we cross the River Jordan where we meet our guide and drive to Madaba (Medba in the Bible), the city of mosaics and our hotel. Dinner and overnight stay in Madaba.

Day 9, Friday 10 November

This morning after an early start we drive south down the Desert Highway to spend the day in the ancient city of Petra - "a rose-red city half as old as time" to learn about the legacy of the Nabataeans who settled in South Jordan over 2,000 years ago and embraced Christianity. From the main entrance we will travel on foot through the awesome 'Siq', an immense crack in the sandstone that winds for 1 km between overhanging cliffs. At the end of the Siq is Petra's most famous monument, the Treasury, and literally hundreds of buildings, facades, tombs, baths, funerary halls, temples and a 3000 seat Roman theatre. Late afternoon we return to Madaba for dinner and overnight stay.

Day 10, Saturday 11 November

After breakfast we drive to the remarkable ruins of Jerash, where there are substantial remains of the vast Roman city that was one of the ten cities of the Decapolis at the time of Jesus. We



will have a thorough tour of this breath-taking site. After a break for lunch we drive to Mount Nebo to stand on the site where Moses gazed across to the Promised Land and finally we return to Madaba to visit St George's Greek Orthodox Church to see the 6th Century mosaic map showing Jerusalem as the centre of the world. Dinner and overnight stay in Madaba. Early night!

Day 11, Sunday 12 November

After an early breakfast we leave Madaba and drive back to the Allenby Bridge to cross back over the River Jordan into the Promised Land and after a break for lunch proceed to Tel Aviv's Ben Gurion airport for our journey home.

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

JORDAN EXTENSION COST:

Twin Room per person - £775

Twin Room Share per person - £775

Single Room (limited) per person - £875

- ✓ 3 nights stay at 3/4star hotels
- ✓ Half Board (Breakfast & Dinner)
- ✓ All entrance fees and local taxes
- ✓ All International border taxes
- ✓ Licensed guide & a/c coach throughout
- ✓ All border taxes (Israel & Jordan)
- ✓ Jordan Visa procurement fees

Items NOT included -

Gratuities (£25), lunches 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 £2270. If you require Single accommodation (if available) you should request this when booking.

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 on 01992 576065 for advice. At present proof of Covid vaccination is not necessary No other inoculations are required, however we advise you to consult your doctor regarding your own personal requirements.

TO RESERVE YOUR PLACE ON THIS TOUR

You can either book this tour online by visiting: www.lightline.org.uk/online-booking/ or by reading the booking conditions and completing the enclosed booking form and send it, with a deposit of £250 per person to:

Lightline Pilgrimages Ltd

Coopersale Hall Farm Epping CM16 7PE

Tel: 01992 576 065 Email: info@lightline.org.uk

LIGHTLINE PILGRIMAGES

FOR YOUR PROTECTION AND PEACE OF MIND

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LIGHTLINE PILGRIMAGES

Booking Form

Please complete in BLOCK CAPITALS

MANCHESTER DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE **In the footsteps of Jesus led by Bishop of Manchester, The Rt Revd David Walker** **2 November - 9 November, 2023**	Tour Ref: **MANC3HMAN**

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 booking 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 = £

JORDAN EXTENSION (Please tick box if applicable)

I/We would like to take up the Jordan extension from 9 to 12 November, 2023. ☐

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:
www.lightline.org.uk

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
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.

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.