



A Journey to the Holy Land

## *Episcopal Diocese of Western Massachusetts*

### *A Journey to The Holy Land*

Led by The Very Rev. Jim Munroe & The Rev. Dr. Richard Simpson

Local Guide Canon Iyad Qumri & Rami Qumri

**12-Days: September 29-October 10, 2025**

*Updated February 7, 2025*

<b>Sep 30- Oct 4</b>	<b>Saint George's Guest House</b>
<b>Oct 4-7</b>	<b>Sisters of Nazareth</b>
<b>Oct 7-10</b>	<b>Saint George's Guest House</b>

#### **MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, DAY 1: DEPART USA**

On our way to the Holy Land

#### **TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, DAY 2: ARRIVE TEL AVIV / TRANSFER TO JERUSALEM**

We arrive in Tel Aviv, met by our guide, Canon Iyad Qumri. We are transferred to Jerusalem.

Dinner and overnight at Saint George's Guest House  
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#### **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1, DAY 3: HORIZONS OF JERUSALEM / HERODIUM**

**GROUP PHOTO.** Introductions, In the morning we will drive to Mt. Scopus where we will look at the different dramatic settings of the Scripture. Then we will look at the many different Jerusalem. Lunch. Visit Herodium some 12 km. south of Jerusalem, on a hill shaped like a truncated cone that rises 758 m. above sea level, stood Herodium, the

palace-fortress built by King Herod It had a breathtaking view, overlooking the Judean Desert and the mountains of Moab to the east, and the Judean Hills to the west.  
Dinner and overnight at Saint George's Guest House

**Guest Speaker: Lecture on Islam**

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2, DAY 4: WESTERN WALL / DOME OF THE ROCK / ISRAEL MUSEUM**

We depart for the Western Wall near Elharam Esh Sharif (The Dome of The Rock and the Al-Aqsa Mosque). St. Anne's Church and the pools of Bethesda. Lunch. Israel Museum and the Shrine of the Book, where the *Dead Sea Scrolls* are housed. We will also visit a scale model of the Old City of Jerusalem, describing the city as it would have been during Jesus' time

Dinner and overnight at Saint George's Guest House

**Guest Speaker: Contemporary Issues – A Palestinian Perspective**

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3, DAY 5: EIN KEREM / OLD CITY / CHURCH OF THE HOLY SEPULCHER**

Depart for Ein Kerem to visit church of the visitation and St. John's church.

Walk the Cardo to the Constantinian Entrance to the Church of the Resurrection to the Holy Sepulcher. Lunch. Continue Holy Sepulcher

Dinner and overnight at Saint George's Guest House

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4, DAY 6: JERICHO / NAZARETH**

Wadi Qelt early morning to get the feel for the desert, depart for Jericho to hike up Mt. of Temptation and view Tell Jericho, 20 minute meditation on Mt of Temptation. Drive through the Rift Valley to Nazareth. Lunch. In Nazareth we will visit Mary's Well, the site of the only spring-fed fountain in the city, and most likely the place where Mary would have gone to draw water. We then visit the Greek Orthodox Church of the Annunciation where we will have an opportunity to have an introduction to the Icon, we then follow on foot the path to the Latin Church of the Annunciation, the traditional site of the Angel Gabriel's appearance to Mary, telling her she would conceive Jesus, the Emmanuel  
Dinner and Overnight at the Sisters of Nazareth

Tel: 972-4-6554304

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5, DAY 7: CHRIST CHURCH / SEPPHORIS**

Sunday Eucharist at Christ Church in Nazareth, the liturgy will be celebrated in English and Arabic, the language of our Arabic Palestinian Christians in the Holy Land and the whole Middle East. Lunch. Depart for Zippori, Sepphoris, where we explore the excavations of the Roman/Byzantine city. "

Dinner and Overnight at the Sisters of Nazareth

**A treat you will not want to miss!!!!**

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 6, DAY 8: JORDAN RIVER / CAPERNAUM / BEATITUDES / TABGHA**

Today we depart for the Sea of Galilee-Lake Kinnereth. Stop at the Jordan River for the renewal of Baptismal vows, we then visit Capernaum where we see the Ancient

Synagogue and St. Peter's House. We continue to the Mount of Beatitudes. Lunch. Visit to Tabgha (Heptapegon), The Loaves and Fishes Church and the Chapel of St. Peter's Primacy, Boat ride on the Sea of Galilee  
Dinner and Overnight at the Sisters of Nazareth

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 7, DAY 9: BURQIN / NABLUS / TAYBEH**

Depart for Burqin. Jesus had passed through Burqin on his way to Jerusalem from Nazareth, and as he was passing by the village he heard cries for help from ten lepers who were isolated in quarantine in a cave, Nablus to visit (St. Photini the Greek Orthodox Monastery), St. Photini lived in first century Palestine, she was the Samaritan woman who Christ visited at the well asking her for water, the church built over Jacob's well where we will tour the church and drink from the Well, Lunch in Taybeh, visit Taybeh, the only 100% Christian town in the Palestinian Authority, in the fourth century the Emperor Constantine and his mother St. Helena built the church of St. George in the village, the ruins of the Church are still found on a hill in the town. Taybeh is also the home of the only Palestinian brewery in the Middle East.

Dinner and overnight at Saint George's Guest House

**Guest Speaker: Contemporary Issues – An Israeli Perspective**

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8, DAY 10: SHEPHERD'S FIELD / BETHLEHEM**

We depart Jerusalem for Bethlehem and the Shepherds' Field, visit a 1<sup>st</sup> century cave dwelling, Lunch is in Beit Sahour (Shepherds' Field), 'And in that region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night' Lunch, Church of the Nativity located in Manger Square. It is the Oldest Church in Christendom, constructed by Constantine in AD 326 and the traditional site of the Nativity

Dinner and overnight at Saint George's Guest House

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9, DAY 11: BETH-PHAGE / DOMINUS FLEVIT / GETHSEMANE**

Walk the Palm Sunday Procession. We will stop at Pater Noster and Dominus Flevit, where Jesus wept over the city. It is known as *Dominus Flevit* [ Latin for "The Lord wept"]. Afterward, we will walk to the Garden of Gethsemane and the Church of All Nations, Lunch, Dead Sea, where you will have the option to swim – or really, float (Rocky Beach)

Dinner at the Qumris in Jericho

Overnight at Saint George's Guest House

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10, DAY 12: WAY OF THE CROSS / EMMAUS**

Stations of the Cross, **Silent reflections at the Empty Tomb**, later in the morning we will depart for Emmaus Nicopolis. We celebrate the Eucharist at the ruins of the Byzantine Church. Lunch. **FREE AFTERNOON**

**Transfer to Ben Gurion Airport for our return flight**

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**For More Information**

please contact our coordinators:



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