

# Syro Malabar Catholic Church

Dublin - Ireland

## Holy Land Tour 2020

(Israel | Palestine | Egypt)

March 21 to March 30, 2020

**Spiritual Leadership:** Rev. Dr. Clement Padathiparambil, Fr. Roy Vattakattu,

Fr. Rajesh Mechiraketh

### Tour Highlights

Mt. Tabor, Nazareth, Cana, Galilee, Capernaum, Tabgha – Church of the multiplication, St. Peters House, Joran River, Haifa, Jaffa, Ein Karem- Birthplace of John the Baptist, Church of Visitation, Bethany, Mt. Olives, Garden of Gethsemane, Room of the Last Supper, pool of Bethesda, Via Dolorosa (Way of the Cross), Church of the Holy Sepulcher, Calvary, Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Mt. of Temptation, Taba, St. Catherine, Sinai, Cairo & Pyramids.

### Price (Excluding Flight)

Group Size	Price Per Adult	Price per Child (2-10 yrs)*	Insurance Cost (if required)
40 paying adults	€800	€400	€25 to €35 depending on cover
35 paying adults	€830	€430	Same as above
30 paying adults	€860	€460	Same as above

### Inclusions:

- 3\* or 4\* Hotel Accommodation with Breakfast +Lunch + Dinner
- All Sight-seeing as per itinerary with guide & Entrance fees as per program.
- Egypt Visa & Israel Border Tax
- Spiritual Leader and Tour manager expenses

\* Child rate is applicable for children upto the age of 10. (ie. Those who have not celebrated their 11<sup>th</sup> birthday by March 31<sup>st</sup> 2020.)

### **Exclusions**

- Gratuities (tips) & Porterage
- Additional meal, drinks, tea or coffee etc.
- Travel Insurance
- Telephone calls, Laundry or any other expenses of personal nature.

### **Terms & Conditions**

- All bookings must be done through PMS on our website [www.syromalabar.ie](http://www.syromalabar.ie)
- Booking deposit of 50% of the tour price (€400) is required to confirm your place. This price is based on 40 adults travelling. If it falls below 40 nos. the price will rise as mentioned above in the table.
- Tour will be confirmed once we have a minimum of 30 adult passengers.
- Bookings will be closed by 15 January 2020.
- If you need to cancel for any reason should do so latest by 15 January for a refund provided the ticket is not purchased. Booking deposit is nonrefundable after 15 January.
- Balance of the payment is payable 60 days prior to the departure date.
- Flights are to be booked individually. This should be booked only once the group is confirmed. Flight details will be informed once the group is confirmed.
- Upon confirmation of the group, a copy of the passport for all the passengers are required.
- Arranging own travel insurance is advisable.

### **Visa Requirements**

Indian Citizens will require to obtain a visa for Israel in advance. This needs to be applied approximately, 6-7 weeks in advance. Each applicant needs to send an email to the Israel Embassy in Dublin with filled application form and required documents. Once they go through the application, an appointment will be given for the interview. Visa fees is currently €21.

Please see the requirements on the below link. Please refer to B/2 Visitors Visa.

<https://embassies.gov.il/dublin/ConsularServices/Pages/local-visa-information.aspx>

Visa for Egypt can be obtained at the border and we do not have to submit a separate application in advance.

All the Irish or EU passport holders can obtain a visa at the Tel Aviv airport on arrival.

**Additional Information:** For the Indian passport holders, Israel Embassy will stamp the visa on passport and this may cause problems to obtain visa to the following countries in future. Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Sudan, Syria and Yemen. All Irish/EU passport holders will get the visa on a separate paper at the airport (They do not stamp the passport).

This tour is a pilgrimage and involves great amount of walking and waiting in long queues. Most of the days will be long upto 10-11 hours per day. Travel to Egypt will be long and takes almost two days with some stopes. Please consider these facts when traveling with children.



For booking please login to PMS in the website [www.syromalabar.ie](http://www.syromalabar.ie)

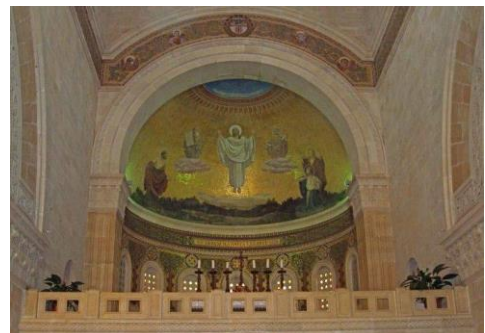
### **Day 1**

Assemble at Dublin Airport and departs to Tel Aviv / Israel.

### **Day 2**

Upon arrival at Tel Aviv early morning, we proceed to Mt. Tabor to visit the beautiful Church of Transfiguration. We then drive to Nazareth, the boyhood town of Jesus and home of Mary and Joseph and visit the Basilica of the Annunciation. We will also stop by Joseph's workshop and Mary's well and the Tomb of the Just. We drive to the village of Cana, where Jesus performed His first Miracle, changing water into wine at the wedding feast.

Overnight in Nazareth



### Day 3

After breakfast we drive through the landscapes of Galilee to Capernaum where we visit the Synagogue and House of Peter's Mother in law. We then stop at Tabgha - the Church of the Multiplication. We then visit the expressive Church of the Beatitudes, where Jesus gave the Sermon on the Mount. We make a brief halt at St. Peter's house, the Church of Primacy of Peter and the place where Jesus bestowed St. Peter with His authority. Behind the church we get an opportunity to dip our feet in the Sea of Galilee. Before we drive back to the hotel we visit Yardenit (Jordan River) where you can renew baptismal vows. This is the site of the baptism of Jesus by St. John the Baptist  
Overnight in Nazareth



### Day 4

After breakfast and check out we visit the beautiful Persian Hanging Gardens of Haifa and the Bahai Shrine. After lunch we visit the Stella Mares Church which is built on the cave where Elijah stayed. Then make a brief halt at the "Home of Eujoh", and then continue to Muhraqa, the place of sacrifice and the site where Prophet Elijah defeated the false prophets of Ba'al. Drive along the coastal road to visit the old city of Jaffa and see the Church dedicated to St. Peter commemorating his miraculous healing of Tabitha.



Visit the village of Ein Karem - where we visit the birthplace of John the Baptist, Mary's spring and the Church of Visitation and Bethany, visit Lazarus Tomb and the church of St. John.  
Drive to Bethlehem to check in the hotel.

### Day 5

After breakfast we ascend the Mt. of Olives and visit the Church of the Ascension. The Pater Noster Church, where Jesus gave the Lord's Prayer to his disciples. We then walk down the Palm Sunday Road where we stop at the tear shaped Chapel of Dominus Flevit, where Jesus wept over the imminent destruction of Jerusalem. From there we walk down the Palm Road to Garden of Gethsemane. Take a look at Olive trees in the garden which are more than 1000 years old. Visit the Basilica of the Agony (Church of all Nations), which stands out from afar. From there a short drive to mount Zion, to visit the room of the Last Supper. Nearby is the beautiful Dormition Abbey from where the Blessed Mary went up to heaven.

We are getting ready to visit the Old City. We start with a visit to the pool of Bethesda and St. Anne and continue to pray the Stations of the Cross along the Via Dolorosa (Way of Cross). Follow the 14 Stations of the Cross to



Golgotha, the place where Jesus was crucified. We will see Pilate's Judgment hall; the Chapel of the Flagellation where, according to tradition, the Roman soldiers scourged Jesus and placed a crown of thorns on his head, the Ecce Homo Arch and the Convent of the Sisters of Zion. Below the Convent are the Lithotrities where Jesus was publicly tried and where the Roman soldiers mocked him. The last 5 Stations of the Cross are inside the Church of the Holy Sepulcher built over the Golgotha. The Holy Sepulcher contains the traditional sites of the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus under one roof site of the Calvary, on our way to Mount Moriah to visit the Western Wall (Wailing Wall). These are the sites most sacred to the Jewish nation. Ascend the temple Mount to view Mosque of El Aksa, the golden Dome of the Rock (where Isaac was bound for sacrifice).

Overnight in Bethlehem

### Day 6

We are starting the day with Bethlehem, birthplace of Jesus. This church is one of the oldest continuously operating churches in the world. Drive to the Shepherd's field and the Cave Chapel, a recent Byzantine excavation and past Ruth the Moabite's fields to the Judean Wilderness.

Proceed to visit Jericho, the oldest city in the world to view the Mt. of Temptation where Jesus was tempted by the devil. We also visit the Sycamore tree which Zacchaeus had climbed to see Jesus.

Proceed and drive to the Dead Sea. You will be given time to experience floating in the medicinal waters. Drive to Bethlehem for the night.



### Day 7

After breakfast we check-out the Hotel. Proceed to Taba. On the way the shores of the Dead Sea view Qumran, the caves where the Dead Sea Scrolls were found. Continue south to Sodom and Gamora and watch Lots wife's Pillar of Salt. We proceed via the beautiful city of Eilat situated on the banks of Red Sea. After lunch we travel to Taba Border (Egypt) which is at the southern tip of Israel. We will meet our representative upon our arrival at the border and after immigration and visa formalities we start our journey by road in the land of Moses. Arrive late in the evening at St. Katharine located in Sinai.

Dinner and overnight stay at hotel in St. Katharine.



### Day 8

After breakfast this morning we drive to visit the famous Mt. Sinai where Moses received the Ten Commandments. Visit the famous St. Catharine Monastery at the foot of Mt. Sinai where we visit the Moses Well and the Burning Bush, a tree of its kind in the whole world. Take an opportunity to pray and click memorable snaps with the Burning bush. We then start a scenic 6 hours bus journey to Cairo. On the way get a view of the place of Elim and the place of Rephidim. After lunch we see the likely place where the Red Sea had parted. On our way we visit the Springs of Moses (The water of Marah). We drive through the Ahmed Hamdi Tunnel built below the famous Suez Canal and enter the African part of Egypt. We reach Cairo late evening. Dinner and Overnight stay at hotel in Cairo



### Day 9

After breakfast we visit the Pyramids of Giza and the statue of Sphinx. We then visit the famous Egyptian Museum, covering the whole history of ancient Egypt. In the evening we go for a 2 hrs memorable Nile Cruise to see the Folkloric show with Belly Dancer and Dinner on board. We will then proceed to Airport for our flight back to Dublin.



### Day 10

Arrive in Dublin.