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Join Msgr. Perry Kavookjian and Fr. Michael Cox on an exciting Pilgrimage to Central-Eastern Europe 15 Days 13 Nights, From September 7-21, 2026 St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church, Bakersfield, CA-USA Our Divine Mercy Catholic Church, Fresno, CA, USA

Sept. 07: USA-PRAGUE (CZECK REPUBLIC)

Sept. 08: Arrival in Prague. Meeting with the tour leader and transfer to your hotel. Dinner. Overnight stay in Prague.

Sept. 09: Prague sightseeing.



The first part of the tour around **Prague**. The religious side of Prague: the church of the House of Nazareth – Prague's Loreto, a visit at the castle and of St. Vitus' Cathedral along with the funeral chapel of St. Venceslao, the patron of Czech Republic. The cathedral is also the eternal resting place of St. John Nepomucen. Visiting St. George's Basilica, the Golden Lane (entrances), Starahovski's convent, the Church of Our Lady of Victory with the famous statue of the Infant Jesus of Prague.

### Holy Mass.

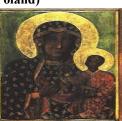
Second part of the tour: Bohemian Prague: walking along Paris Street to Jozefov, the former Jewish Quarter. Charles' Bridge, walking along the Royal Route: Celetna Street, Na Prikope Street. The Market Square with the Municipial House. Leisure time in the city centre.

Dinner. The last night in **Prague.** 

Sept. 10: Prague – Czestochowa: Black Madonna – Krakow (Poland)







Breakfast at the hotel. Check-out. Departure for Czestochowa.

Arrival and guided tour of the most important pilgrimage place in Poland: The Monastery in Czestochowa: Jasna Gora, with the miraculous icon of **Our Lady – the Black Madonna**.

Holy Mass. Departure for Krakow. Arrival. Dinner. Overnight in Krakow (Poland)

### Sept. 11: Krakow sightseeing + Wieliczka Salt Mines.

Breakfast at the hotel. Guided tour of **Krakow**. Wawel Hill with the castle and its beautiful courtyard and Cathedral (sightseeing inside). The Old Town, the biggest market square in Europe, the Town Hall, Collegium Maius – an ancient building belonging to the Jagiellonian University, the Cloth Hall, Saint Mary's Church (sightseeing inside) with the famous altar by Veit Stoss. We will also see places related to the life of Karol Wojtyla, the bishop of Krakow, like to Franciscan Church. In 1978, Krakow was listed as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO. **Holy Mass**.



Guided tour in the Wieliczka Salt Mine: one of the oldest salt mines in the world.

The mine forms an underground city, with chapels (St. Kinga's Chapel is the largest underground chapel in the world), lakes and tunnels. In 1978 the Wieliczka Salt Mine was included in the UNESCO World Heritage List.

Dinner with traditional Polish folclore. Overnight in Krakow.

# Sept. 12: Krakow - Auschwitz-Birkenau - Lagiewniki: Divine Mercy Shrine - Krakow

Breakfast at the hotel. Transfer to Auschwitz.

Guided tour of the area of the former concentration camp in Auschwitz-Birkenau. The camp was built by Nazis during the Nazi occupation of Poland and more than a million people of different origin, mostly Jews, were murdered there. It was here, where **Saint Maximilian Kolbe** died, offering his life to die in place of a compatriot, father of a family. Saint Edith Stein was also killed in this camp. Today this place is a World Heritage Site of UNESCO. Transfer to **Krakow-Lagiewniki**.

Visit to the Sanctuary in Krakow-Lagiewniki, the most important sanctuary related to Divine Mercy in the world, a pilgrimage destination for millions of people. This place, marked by the life and work of Sister Faustina Kowalska, was proclaimed "the center of Divine Mercy" by Pope John Paul II. The Sanctuary is made up of the convent (in which Sister Faustina lived and died), the basilica and the chapel, where there is the tomb with the relics of Sister Faustina and the famous painting of the Merciful Jesus

"Jesus, I trust in you" painted according to the vision of the Polish saint.

Holy Mass in one of the chapels of the Sanctuary.

Visit to the Sanctuary of John Paul II: Visit to the Sanctuary built on the grounds of the Solvay quarry, where Karol Wojtyla, then a seminarian, physically worked during the Second World War.

Dinner. Overnight in Krakow.

Sept. 13: Krakow – Wadowice: John Paul II birthplace – Budapest (Hungary)



Breakfast at the hotel. Check-out from the hotel. Departure for Wadowice.

Visiting the Pope's home, where Karol Wojtyla was born on the 18th of May 1920, as well as the church where he was baptised on the 20<sup>th</sup> of June 1920. Lunch and continuation of the trip to Budapest.

Arrival. Dinner. Overnight in Budapest (Hungary)

## Sept. 14: Budapest sightseeing

Breakfast at the hotel. Guided tour of Budapest, the city divided into two parts by the Danube River.

The Buda part, the castle district: the Fisherman's Bastion from which a magnificent panoramic view of Pest and the Danube extends, located next to the Church of Matthias (entrance), considered the center of Buda, one of the most beautiful and romantic places in the city, the coronation place of many Hungarian kings.

Continuation of sightseeing; Pest: Heroes' Square, City Park, Andrássy Avenue, the 36-meter-high Millenium Monument with Archangel Gabriel holding a holy Crown and the Patriarchal Cross. Walking to the Main Market Square, passing the famous Parliament, and St. Stephan's Basilica. **Holy Mass.** 



The day ends with a Danube cruise with dinner on board. Return to the hotel and overnight in **Budapest.** 

### Sept. 15: Budapest – Bratislava sightseeing – Viena (Austria)

Breakfast at the hotel. Check-out. Departure for Bratislava (Slovakia). Guided tour of Bratislava, the capital of Slovakia. Between two powers – Austria and Hungary, Bratislava was one of the main cities of the old Austro-Hungarian empire. However, after World War II the area fell under Soviet influence. The present appearance of the city is a mix of ancient monuments and modern architecture.

Depart to Vienna. Arrival. Accommodation. Dinner. Overnight in Vienna.

Sept. 16: Vienna sightseeing



Breakfast at the hotel. **Vienna** sightseeing by coach: "Ringstrasse" with its fantastic monuments and buildings, such as the Opera, museums, the Parliament, the Town Hall, the National Theatre, and the Imperial Palace of Hofburg. Holy Mass at St. Stephen's Cathedral. Continue of our visit in Vienna: The Schonbrunn Palace (entrance). Dinner. Overnight in **Vienna**.

Sept. 17: Vienna – Zagreb sightseeing (Croatia) - Plitvice



Breakfast at the hotel. Check-out. Departure for Zagreb, the capital of Croatia.

Arrival and City tour of Zagreb: During the tour, you will see the highlights of both the Upper and Lower Town, including the iconic landmarks such as the St. Mark's

Church with its colourful tiled roofs and the majestic Zagreb Cathedral. Holy Mass.

Departure for Plitvice. Arrive, Dinner. Overnight in Plitvice (Croatia)

Sept. 18: Plitvice - Split sightseeing – Medjugorje



Breakfast at the hotel. Check-out.

We start our day with a visit to the Natural Park of Plitvice with its waterfalls. (The visit will be short of almost 90 minutes. (There is a long way walk till the park. Those who can't follow may stay in the bus) Then leave to the city of Split. Split is a historic city, built by Roman Emperior Diocletian's, a UNESCO World Cultural Heritage Site. We will see the remnants of Split's Roman heritage, its Renaissance and Gothic structures, Jupiter's Temple, the Peristyle, and the Cathedral.

Departure for **Medjugorje**. Cross the border out of the EEUU (European Community).

Arrival. Dinner. Overnight in Medjugorje.

Sept. 19: Medjugorje



Breakfast at the hotel. English **Mass at Church of St James.** Orientation meeting with a guide for a basic history fact about Medjugorje and Apparitions. After orientation talk, climbing with a local guide on Apparition Hill and prayer at stations of the Rosary at the Apparition hill. When going down from the Hill, stop at the Blue Cross, a site where visionary Mirjana has Aparition of Our lady on 2nd day of each month. Rosary in Church of St James. Dinner. Overnight in **Medjugorje**.

#### Sept. 20: Medjugorje – DubrovniK

Breakfast at the hotel. Check-out and leave to **Dubronvik.** 

City tour of Dubrovnik, one of the most beautiful stone cities in the world, part of the UNESCO World Heritage, known for the beauty of its monuments and sublime walls, which are among the most important tourist destinations in the Mediterranean. The old town center is fenced with the famous 10th century city walls, which are among the most massive and beautiful buildings of its kind in Europe. Holy Mass.

Transfer to the hotel. Accommodation. Dinner. Overnight in Dubrovnik.

### Sept. 21: Dubrovnik, departure.

Check-out from the hotel.

Transfer to the Dubrovnik airport and departure at 08:35 am to Frankfurt. Connect with your overseas flight back home.