An Ecumenical Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

3–10 March 2020
Led by Bishop Christopher Chessun and Bishop Paul Hendricks
Eight days based in Jerusalem & Galilee
To reserve your place on this tour please complete the enclosed booking form and send it with a deposit of £200 plus the insurance premium of £59/£89, to the Pilgrimage Administrator. Please make cheques payable to ‘McCabe Pilgrimages’.

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TOUR INFORMATION

The cost of this tour is £1,745 sharing a twin-bedded room with private facilities.

We stay in two family owned and managed hotels. In Jerusalem, the three star Golden Walls Hotel overlooks the Old City walls and is within walking distance of the Holy Sepulchre. In Tiberias, we stay at the four star Ron Beach Hotel in a wonderful situation right on the lakeside.

The tour is on a full-board basis with buffet breakfast, lunch and table d'hôte evening meal included daily. Touring is by air-conditioned coach and we will be accompanied by a local guide who will share leadership responsibilities and look after the formalities of hotel check-ins, etc. All entrance fees are included as well as tips to guide, driver, hotels, etc. Flights are with El Al Israel Airlines between London Heathrow and Tel Aviv; all airport and security charges are included. A complimentary visa is issued on arrival in Israel (see back page).

The following items are not included in the tour cost:
our travel insurance premium is £59 to age 75 and £89 if older (no medical screening is required). Travel insurance is essential but you may have annual or another suitable insurance policy.

Single rooms are available at a supplementary cost of £445. Please see our note ‘Travelling Alone’ overleaf. Any special requests should be noted on the booking form. A deposit is payable now with the balance payable up until eight weeks prior to departure. Your final travel documents will be posted to you approximately two

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AN ECUMENICAL PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND
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In 1219 St Francis travelled to the Holy Land and there met the ruler of the land, Sultan Malek al-Kamil. The result of that meeting was that the Franciscans became the Custodians of the Holy Places so that all Christians could make their pilgrimage to the places associated with Our Lord Jesus Christ. 801 years later a group of Roman Catholic and Anglican pilgrims from the two dioceses of Southwark will travel in the footsteps of St Francis and, like him, tread where Jesus trod. This will be a wonderful and historic opportunity to travel together. During the pilgrimage we will be sharing everything in common, apart from the Eucharist which remains the goal of our ecumenical journey. However, we will be worshipping with each other in our distinct traditions and praying together in some of the most holy places. Sharing in the leadership of the pilgrimage with us will be the two deans of our cathedrals, the Very Revd Andrew Nunn, the Dean of Southwark and Canon Richard Hearn, the Dean of St George’s Cathedral. If you would like to be part of this wonderful and sacred journey we look forward to travelling with you and encourage you to secure your place as soon as possible.

+ Christopher Chessun
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Tuesday  |  TO JERUSALEM
We meet at Heathrow Airport. EL AL flight LY316 departs at 14:20, arriving at 21:10. Transfer to our hotel in Jerusalem. Four night stay at the Golden Walls Hotel close to the Old City and the biblical sites we shall be visiting.

Wednesday  |  JERUSALEM
We drive to the Mount of Olives where we have a panoramic view of the walled city. Visit Dominus Llevit Chapel and the Church of All Nations in the Garden of Getsemane. On to the Church of St Peter in Gallicantu, traditionally the site of the High Priest’s house.

We have lunch and in the afternoon we visit Ein Karem, the birthplace of St John the Baptist. We end the day at Abu Gosh (one of the possible sites of Emmaus) where there will be a Eucharist celebration.

Thursday  |  THE OLD CITY
We begin the day at the Church of St Anne beside the Pool of Bethesda. We follow the Via Dolorosa through the lanes of the Old City to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. We end the morning at the Lutheran Church of the Redeemer where there will be a Eucharist celebration. We have lunch in the Armenian Quarter at Bulghourji restaurant. In the afternoon we visit Mount Zion: the Upper Room and the Dormition Abbey. We then walk through the Jewish Quarter to the Western Wall, enjoying striking views over the Temple Mount. We walk back through the souk to our hotel.

Friday  |  BETHLEHEM
We cross into Palestinian territory to visit institutions supported by the Anglican Diocese of Southwark and the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Southwark. We visit the Shepherds’ Fields where there will be a Eucharistic celebration and have lunch at the Shepherds’ Valley Restaurant.

Afternoon visit to Manger Square and visit the Basilica and Grotto of the Nativity and St Jerome’s Caves. Time for some shopping before we return to Jerusalem.

Saturday  |  WEST BANK
We start this morning in the Old City at the Latin Patriarchate. We leave Jerusalem and drive north through the West Bank. We stop in Nablus at Jacob’s Well and have lunch at the Samaria Restaurant in Sebastia. We continue through the West Bank to Tiberias.

Three night stay at the Ron Beach Hotel by the Sea of Galilee with visits to places associated with Jesus’ early life and ministry.

Sunday  |  NAZARETH
We drive to Nazareth and visit St Gabriel’s Church and Mary’s Well. We join local congregations in Nazareth for the Eucharist. After lunch at the Oil and Olive Restaurant we visit the Basilica of the Annunciation and then drive back to Tiberias.

Monday  |  LAKESIDE MINISTRIES
Today we visit the sites associated with Jesus’ life around the Sea of Galilee. We see the Mount of the Beatitudes, where we visit the church which commemorates the Sermon on the Mount. We then drive to Tabgha to visit the Church of the Loaves and Fishes. We walk around to Mensa Christi (where Jesus appeared to his disciples after his resurrection) where there will be a Eucharistic celebration. Our final visit is Capernaum, Jesus’ Galilean base. We drive up towards the Golan Heights and lunch at the Tanureen Restaurant. In the afternoon we visit Caesarea Philippi where we renew our Baptismal Promises and then drive back to our hotel.

Tuesday  |  CAESAREA
We leave Tiberias and sail around the Sea of Galilee to Nof Ginosar Kibbutz. We drive to the Mediterranean coast to the Roman capital of Caesarea, where we visit the restored amphitheatre and aqueduct. Lunch at the Port Cafe. El Al flight LY317 departs Tel Aviv at 17:10 arriving into Heathrow at 20:40.

Please note the itinerary may be subject to change due to local conditions. Flight times may also be subject to alteration but are correct at the time of printing.

There will be quite a bit of walking on this pilgrimage. Please talk to the Pilgrimage Administrator or call the McCabe office for advice if you are at all concerned.
The McCabe Educational Trust

For many, meeting the ‘Living Stones’ of The Land becomes a real highlight of their pilgrimage. The McCabe Educational Trust is an independent registered charity with the aim of helping inspiring people we meet on pilgrimage. On your pilgrimage you will meet some of these people. As ‘the haves’ encounter the ‘have nots’ the Trust has become a practical tool for one to help the other.

McCabe Pilgrimages invite all travellers to become partners in this work. A £15 voluntary donation to the Trust’s work is added to every pilgrim’s invoice and all money raised in this way is given in full to the projects the Trust supports. This scheme is voluntary and confidential with nobody put under any pressure to participate.

TRAVELLING ALONE

Many of our passengers travel alone and object to expensive single room supplements. McCabe Pilgrimages will accept individual bookings on a ‘guaranteed share’ basis. We charge the basic price and accommodate you with a person of the same sex also requesting shared accommodation. If we do not find someone to share with you, you will be accommodated in a single room at only 50% of the usual single room supplement. For single travellers who do require single accommodation this should be requested when booking and, if available, the normal supplement will be payable.

PASSPORTS, VISAS AND HEALTH

Please ensure that your passport is valid for at least six months after the time of this pilgrimage. If you need a new passport apply early as there can be considerable backlogs at the passport offices. A visa is issued free of charge on entering Israel and there are currently no further requirements for entering the Palestinian territories. If you are holding a non-British passport, or require further advice, please consult the McCabe office. No inoculations are required but we advise you to consult your doctor regarding your own personal requirements.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

A unique feature of the McCabe recommended policy is that you will not need to call a medical help line to discuss health issues. Most pre-existing health conditions are covered as long as your doctor agrees that you are fit to travel.

Travel insurance is arranged by Global Travel Insurance Services Ltd for McCabe Travel Ltd who are an Appointed Representative of Global Travel Insurance Services Ltd, authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. Our status can be checked on the FCA Register by visiting www.fca.org.uk or by contacting the FCA on 0845 606 9966. This Insurance is underwritten by ERV. ERV is authorised by the Bundesanstalt für Finanzdienstleistungsaufsicht (BAFIN – www.bafin.de) and the Prudential Regulation Authority and subject to limited regulation by the Financial Conduct Authority and Prudential Regulation Authority.

It has been specifically designed so that it covers all McCabe holidays; protecting you in full if you have to cancel and providing you with the very best and most effective protection if you are unfortunate enough to require medical attention whilst away.

Standard exclusions apply and are listed on the summary document. Please check that you are not affected by the Main Health Exclusions. You will not be covered for any ongoing tests or treatment of an undiagnosed condition, or for any terminal illness, or if you claim as a result of a condition arising within the past twelve months.

Note that you will pay an excess of £1,000 on any claim that results directly from a pre-existing medical condition. With this policy you are covered with no declaration of health required.

A full policy wording will be sent to you with confirmation of your booking, or ask us and we will send you a copy now. Full details are also on our website. If you would like more information or are unsure of any details, please call Global Travel Insurance Services Ltd for further advice on 01903 235042. This insurance is only available to persons who are permanently resident in the UK.

AITO Quality Statement

McCabe Pilgrimages is a member of the Association of Independent Tour Operators. The Association represents Britain’s leading independent tour operators and encourages high standards of quality and service. McCabe abides by the Association’s Code of Conduct and adheres to the AITO Quality Charter which can be viewed on www.aito.co.uk. Visit the website to find out more about the Association or call 020 8744 9280.

This pilgrimage is ATOL protected by the Civil Aviation Authority. The McCabe ATOL number is 2920.