

5401 South Cornell Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60615

2025 Pilgrimage of Hope in a Jubilee Year Itinerary: November 14 – November 25

(Draft Subject to Minor Changes)

Friday, November 14 Departure from USA for Rome, Italy

Saturday, November 15 Arrival in Rome; independent transfer to Rome hotel

• Welcome Reception

• Hotel: Mercure Rome Colosseum Centre

Sunday, November 16 Rome: The Universal Church

• Holy Door

• Optional: Mass at the Chair of Peter, Basilica di San Pietro, Vatican

• Trevi Fountain, Piazza Navona, Piazza di Spanga

• Hotel: Mercure Rome Colosseum Centre

Monday, November 17 Rome: Ancient and Christian Roma

Free Morning

Optional: Walking tour outside of the Roman Forum and Colosseum

• Catacombs of San Sebastiano, plus the excavations of San Clemente

• Hotel: Mercure Rome Colosseum Centre

Tuesday, November 18 Rome: Franciscan Roma

- Basilica di Sant'Antonio, Shrine to the Franciscan Spiritual and Intellectual Tradition in aula Sant'Antonio.
- Visit the Basilica di San Giovanni in Laterano (the Mother Church of Christianity)
- Lunch: San Gio Restaurant
- Santa María Maggiore (First Church dedicated to Mary) and Santa Maria in Aracoeli the oldest Franciscan church in Rome. If we have time we will visit San Francesco a Ripa.
- Concert by <u>Friar Alessandro Brustenghi</u>, <u>OFM</u> followed by Cena at the Antonianum Convention Center.
- Hotel: Mercure Rome Colosseum Centre

Wednesday, November 19 Rome & Travel to Assisi: Papal Audience

- Papal Audience at the Vaticano in the morning and have Pranzo together in the Vatican area.
- Be back at hotel by 13:30 to get ready to leave for Assisi. Depart Rome for Assisi.
- Assisi: Visit Piazza del commune, San Rufino and Chiesa Nuova
- Hotel: Dei Priori Boutique Hotel

Thursday, November 20 Day trip to Florence: Nobility in Italia

- Day trip to Firenze; Santa Croce with it's funeral monuments to Michaelangelo, Galileo Galilei, Machiavelli and other notable Italians.
- Duomo/Uffizi/Galleria Dell'Academia
- Return to Assisi
- Hotel: Mercure Rome Colosseum Centre

Friday, November 21 Assisi: Francis and Clare: a life of Conversion

- We will visit San Damiano and then Carceri on the side of the mountain in the morning.
- We will go into the Valley to visit Santa Maria degli Angeli, the birth place of the Franciscan Familia. We will see the Porziuncola (little portion), Francis's rose garden and the museum in the ancient friary.
- Hotel: Mercure Rome Colosseum Centre

Saturday, November 22 Assisi: San Francesco and Santa Chiara; Return to Rome

- We will visit the Basilica of St Francis of Assisi in the morning.
- We will visit the Basilica of St. Clare in the afternoon and pray before the San Damiano crucifix that spoke to St. Francis.
- Return to Rome
- Hotel: Mercure Rome Colosseum Centre

Sunday, November 23 Rome: Tivoli Excursion

- Morning Mass (11:00) with the English speaking community in Rome at Caravita
- 14:30 4 hour tour to Villa Adriana and Villa d'Este in Tivoli
- Hotel: Mercure Rome Colosseum Centre

Monday, November 24 Rome: Vatican Museum

- Free morning to shop on your own.
- Leave for Vatican Museums at 11:30 from the Hotel; tour the Vatican Museums
- Festive Cena together at Alle Fratte in Trastevere
- Hotel: Mercure Rome Colosseum Centre

Tuesday, November 25

Return to USA. Independent transfer to Rome Fiumencino.