



Peter's Way Tours Inc.
Specializing in Custom Performance Tours and Pilgrimages

Corpus Christi Church Choir

Joseph Hébert, Director of Music Ministry

Fr. Leo Edgerly, Jr., Pastor

"HEART OF ITALY"

Nine-Day Choir Pilgrimage: November 30 – December 8, 2012

Grace Bandong, Tour Coordinator

Rome ∞ Vatican City ∞ Florence ∞ Assisi

Your choir pilgrimage includes:

- Round-trip economy class airfare via British Airways: San Francisco/ London/ Rome - London/ San Francisco.
- U.S. departure tax; U.S. Customs user fee; security tax and all airport departure taxes.
- Meeting and assistance upon departure from San Francisco International Airport.
- Seven (7) nights' accommodations in twin rooms with private facilities at hotels throughout.
- Buffet breakfast daily, one (1) group lunch in Assisi, plus four (4) dinners, **including a Gala dinner with wine and entertainment at Benito Restaurant in Rome.**
- Services of a government-licensed, English-speaking Peter's Way Tours tour manager and local guides from destination arrival to departure.
- All sightseeing, as per itinerary, including overseas arrival and departure transfers, in a private, air-conditioned, luxury motor coach.
- Entrance fees to all sites, as per itinerary.
- Coordination of all venues and liturgies, as per the attached itinerary.
- Porterage of one piece of luggage per person at hotels throughout.
- Donations to churches used in programs.
- Special promotional brochures of your choir tour printed for your distribution.
- Portfolio of travel documents for each participant, including a Peter's Way Tours flight packet.

Items not included in the package price:

- Health, trip cancellation/interruption or baggage insurance. All are strongly recommended. Peter's Way Tours offers a comprehensive policy at additional cost.
- Passport & visa costs, if any.
- **U.S. Passports must be valid for at least six (6) months subsequent to return date.**
- Gratuities to the tour manager, guides and driver.
- Items of a personal nature (hotel extras, laundry, phone calls, etc.).
- Meals not specified in the program.
- Items not specifically mentioned above.

A Special Invitation to friends and families of the

Corpus Christi Church Choir

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There is no place more fitting to perform the sacred music that has been written over the centuries—music inspired by the spiritual values of the Church—than in Rome, the heart of Catholicism. To raise your voices in holy song at Mass in the Vatican; to sing for the Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI, at his Papal Audience; to perform for officials of the Church, as well as, the people of Rome’s finest churches—we hope that your choir will be able to take part in these experiences.

We are holding confirmed 60 seats via British Airways from San Francisco International Airport:

Departure City	Arrival City	Airline/Flight	Departure Date/Time	Arrival Date/Time
San Francisco	London LHR	British Airways #286	November 30 - 7:40pm	December 1 -2:00pm
London LHR	Rome FCO	British Airways #546	December 1- 4:05pm	December 1 - 7:35pm
Rome FCO	London LHR	British Airways #551	December 8 – 7:50am	December 8 – 9:35am
London LHR	San Francisco	British Airways #285	December 8 – 11:00am	December 8 – 1:55pm

Please note: Flight itinerary subject to change without notice.

“ITINERARY”

- ***Day 1, November 30, Friday: Depart for Rome***

This evening, depart San Francisco International Airport on your overseas pilgrimage when the British Airways jet lifts into the evening sky for your overnight flight to Rome, via London Heathrow Airport.

Complimentary meals and beverages will be served aloft.

(D)



- ***Day 2, December 1, Saturday: Arrive/Rome***

Upon arrival at Rome’s Leonardo da Vinci Airport, proceed through Passport Control, claim your luggage, and a Peter’s Way Tours tour manager will meet you upon your exit from Customs. Board your comfortable motor coach and soon you will be on your way for an orientation ride of the “Eternal City.” History, evolving over 2,500 years, will be made visible for you by the Roman ruins, 15th century churches, 17th century palaces, and 20th century monuments.

Check-in at hotel.

Dinner and overnight at hotel in Rome.

(B,D)

- **Day 3, December 2, Sunday: AM/Solemn Mass at St. Peter's Basilica - PM/Formal Concert for the city of Rome at St. Ignatius**

After breakfast, you will be transferred to St. Peter's Basilica to attend the Papal Mass (first Sunday of Advent) celebrated by His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI. Corpus Christi Church Choir will have special seating next to the Sistine Chapel Choir, and will be invited to sing the responses of the liturgy and possibly a communion hymn (subject to confirmation). After Mass, walk to St. Peter's Square to attend the noon Papal Blessing (subject to confirmation). Independent lunch.



Overnight at hotel in Rome.

Your afternoon is at leisure for browsing, shopping, or exploring the sights of Rome. Hearty pilgrims may want to attempt to climb the 330 stairs (or take the elevator) to the top of St. Peter's for an unparalleled view of Vatican City and Rome. Return to hotel to freshen-up.

After an early dinner this evening, transfer to visit the Trevi Fountain to toss in a coin to ensure your "Arrivederci, Roma." Continue by foot to the Church of St. Ignatius for a formal public concert for the City of Rome, presented by Corpus Christi Church Choir.

(B,D)

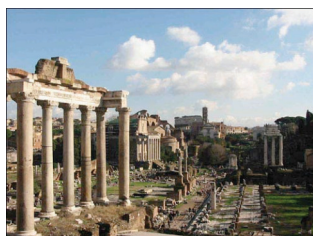


- **Day 4, December 3, Monday: AM/ Tour of the Vatican Museum; Sistine Chapel & St. Peter's Basilica - PM/Tour of Ancient Rome**

After breakfast, begin your morning of sightseeing with a visit to one of the great art collections in the world, the Vatican Museums. Walk in the footsteps of the Princes of the Church through the richly decorated galleries. Continue on to the Sistine Chapel, the private chapel of the Popes, where Michelangelo best expressed his genius in monumental frescoes. End your morning tour in St. Peter's Basilica. Take in the astounding architecture and the statuary adorning this largest of all Christian churches, including Michelangelo's magnificent "Pieta." Pray at the new tomb of Blessed John Paul II, in St. Sebastian's Chapel. On your own, with time permitting, you may wish to go to the Vatican Crypt to see and pray near the tomb of St. Peter and where numerous pontiffs are buried, among incredible works of art.

Independent lunch.

This afternoon, we visit the Church of St. Peter in Chains to see the original chains in which St. Peter was brought captive to Rome and the statue of Moses, one of Michelangelo's greatest masterpieces. Then, we continue to the ancient Roman Forum. See the Arch of Titus and the Arch of Constantine and proceed to the outside of the Coliseum for a fascinating explanation of its history. Continue on to the grandiose white marble monument of King Victor Emmanuel II, often called the "Wedding Cake." See the Trajan Column and the Market (the ancient Roman equivalent of a department store).



Overnight at hotel in Rome.

Independent dinner.

(B)



▪ **Day 5, December 4, Tuesday: AM/Tour of Christian Rome - PM/Sung Mass at St. Peter's Basilica, followed by a Gala dinner**

After breakfast, begin our day with a visit to the magnificent Basilica of St. Paul, built by Constantine in the 4th century on the site of St. Paul's tomb. After having been totally destroyed by fire in 1823, it was rebuilt on the original basilican plan of early Christian churches. Surrounding the nave are the medallions of each Pope, from Peter to Benedict XVI. Continue your tour to the Cathedral of St. John Lateran, the first Christian church to be consecrated. It was founded by the Emperor Constantine in the 4th century and was home to the Popes for many years prior to the present Vatican residences. End your morning tour with a visit to the Basilica of St. Mary Major, one of the four major



Basilicas built by Pope Sixtus III (AD 432-440). View the impressive interior with its remarkable mosaics in the nave depicting scenes from the Old Testament. View relics of Jesus' manger from Bethlehem and the high altar, which contains the remains of St. Matthew the Evangelist. The mosaics above the entablature are among the most ancient Christian mosaics in Rome. Independent lunch.

Return to your hotel to freshen-up.

Around 4:00pm you will be transferred to St. Peter's Basilica for the 5:00pm Mass at the Altar of the Chair of St. Peter's, at which Corpus Christi Church Choir will be the principal choir for the Mass.

Your gala dinner, this evening, will be at Benito Restaurant in Rome. Experience an atmosphere of hospitality and friendship, and

taste the Mediterranean cuisine in a typical Roman setting with wine and music. Overnight at hotel in Rome.

(B,D)

▪ **Day 6, December 5, Wednesday: AM/Papal Audience - PM/Florence**

Breakfast at your hotel. You will then, be transported into the heart of Christendom for an audience with Pope Benedict XVI. Corpus Christi Church Choir will sing a selection for him when announced during the English language portion.

Independent lunch.

This afternoon, we leave Rome and drive through the gentle Umbrian and Tuscan hills to the Renaissance city of Florence.

Check-in at hotel.

Dinner and overnight at hotel in Florence.



(B,D)

▪ **Day 7, December 6, Thursday: AM/Highlights of Florence; Academy of Fine Arts - PM/At Leisure**

After breakfast, our local guide will be ready to take you to visit the Accademia, which holds the superb “David” by Michelangelo. Then, we continue to visit the beautiful Piazza Del Duomo and the delicately patterned green, white and pink Cathedral of Santa Maria Del Fiore, crowned with its magnificent Dome by Brunelleschi; Giotto’s Bell Tower; the Romanesque Baptistry of St. John with the exquisite bronze doors by Ghiberti, which Michelangelo called the “Gates of Paradise”; and the 13th century Franciscan Church of the Holy Cross, which holds the Tombs of the greatest of Florentine men. Independent lunch.



This afternoon is free to do as you wish. Perhaps you will visit the Piazza degli Uffizi, flanked by the Uffizi Palace, which houses what may be the most important collection of paintings in the world. Maybe you would like to visit the Piazza Della Signoria; the famous shop-lined bridge, Ponte Vecchio; and the adjacent “Straw Market”; or shop for leather, gold or other Florentine souvenirs.

Independent dinner. Overnight at hotel in Florence.

(B)

▪ **Day 8, December 7, Friday: Assisi - Visit the Sites of St. Francis - Rome**

After breakfast, we leave Florence to Assisi, one of the high points of any travel experience. After a two and half-hour ride, you will see Assisi on a mountaintop—the narrow lanes, Shrines of Saint Francis and overwhelming art dedicated to its young friar - a rich young man who turned to God after an illness and established an order that has grown stronger over the centuries.



Visit the Basilica of Santa Maria degli Angeli, a great Basilica built in 1569 and crowned by the magnificent dome designed by Alessi. It encloses the shrine of the “Porziuncula,” or the Little Portion Chapel, around which the first Franciscan community was centered, the place where Clare received the habit from Francis, and the Capella Del Transito, which marks the spot where the Saint died. You will see the statue of Saint Francis in the courtyard where thorn-less roses bloom. Continuing, we visit the Basilica of St. Clare, the first and most important heroine of the Franciscan



movement, view her remains and see the miraculous Crucifix.

Group lunch in at a restaurant in Assisi.

This afternoon, celebrate Private Mass at the Basilica of Saint Francis, at which Corpus Christi Church Choir and pilgrims will sing and pray together.

After Mass, our local guide will take us to explore the Basilica complex, which is actually composed of two churches built one atop the other. Beneath both churches is the crypt that houses the tomb of St. Francis. The lower Basilica dates from 1228 to 1230, and is richly decorated with beautiful stained-glass windows, and paintings done by some of the most important artists of the 13th and 14th centuries. In the upper Basilica, built from 1230 - 1253, you will marvel at the monumental frescoes painted by Giotto, which depict scenes from the life of the Saint. Return to Rome for hotel check-in.

Overnight at hotel in Rome.

(B,L)

▪ **Day 9, December 8, Saturday: Return from Rome**

Early morning, you will be transferred to Rome’s Leonardo da Vinci Airport for your return flight home. Arrive on the same day.

(B)