

Dear Friends,

I warmly invite you to join me on a special pilgrimage through Germany and Austria. Together we will visit sacred shrines, magnificent cathedrals, and places where the faith has been lived and passed on for centuries.

We will pray at the Shrine of Our Lady of Altötting, honor Saint Boniface in Fulda, celebrate Mass throughout our journey, and experience the beauty of God's creation and the rich Catholic heritage of Europe.

Pilgrimages have a unique way of renewing our faith, strengthening friendships, and drawing us closer to Christ. I hope you will consider joining me as we share this unforgettable journey together. May God bless you, and I hope to welcome you on pilgrimage.

Fr. Matthew Luft

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FULDA Tomb of St. Boniface	BAMBERG UNESCO Heritage & Catholic Legacy	ALTÖTTING Shrine of the Black Madonna	ETTAL ABBEY Benedictine Heritage in the Alps	MELK ABBEY Spiritual Beauty on the Danube	VIENNA Heart of Austrian Catholicism

18 OCTOBER - 28 OCTOBER, 2027

DEPARTURE AIRPORT • Des Moines, Iowa, United States (DSM) – Frankfurt (FRA) • Vienna (VIE) – Des Moines, Iowa, United States (DSM)	PRICE PER PERSON IN TWIN/DOUBLE OCCUPANCY \$5,700	ALL INCLUSIVE EXCEPT LUNCHES
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PILGRIMAGES
Journeys of Faith

DAY 1 – DEPART USA

Your pilgrimage begins as you depart from the United States on your overnight flight to Frankfurt, Germany. As you cross the Atlantic, prepare for a spiritual journey through Germany and Austria, visiting historic Catholic centers, Marian shrines, and places closely associated with the Christian heritage of Europe.

DAY 2 – FRANKFURT • FULDA

Upon arrival at Frankfurt Airport, meet your guide and driver and depart for Fulda (approximately 1½ hours), one of Germany’s most important Catholic centers. Visit the magnificent Fulda Cathedral, burial place of Saint Boniface, the “Apostle of Germany,” whose missionary efforts brought Christianity throughout much of the region. Celebrate Holy Mass and spend time in prayer at this important pilgrimage site. Enjoy an orientation walk through Fulda’s charming Baroque center before transferring to your hotel. Dinner and overnight in Fulda.

DAY 3 – FULDA • BAMBERG • REGENSBURG

After breakfast, depart for Bamberg (approximately 1 hour 45 minutes), a UNESCO World Heritage city renowned for its Catholic heritage and ecclesiastical importance. Visit the magnificent Bamberg Cathedral, home to the tombs of Emperor Saint Henry II and Saint Cunigunde. Explore the historic center with its churches, medieval architecture, and centuries of Christian history. Celebrate Holy Mass before continuing to Regensburg (approximately 1 hour 45 minutes), one of Germany’s oldest cities. Upon arrival, enjoy an orientation walk through the beautifully preserved historic center along the Danube River. Dinner and overnight in Regensburg.

DAY 4 – REGENSBURG • ALTÖTTING

This morning, visit Regensburg Cathedral, one of Germany’s greatest Gothic churches and a center of Catholic life for centuries. Continue to Altötting (approximately 1 hour 45 minutes), Germany’s foremost Marian pilgrimage shrine. Visit the Chapel of Grace, home to the revered Black Madonna, where pilgrims have sought Our Lady’s intercession for centuries. Celebrate Holy Mass and enjoy time for prayer, reflection, and the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Dinner and overnight in Altötting.

DAY 5 – ALTÖTTING • MUNICH

After breakfast, enjoy additional time at the shrine before departing for Munich. Upon arrival, begin your introduction to Bavaria’s capital and one of Germany’s principal Catholic cities. Visit historic churches and explore the city center. Celebrate Holy Mass and enjoy free time for personal prayer and exploration. Dinner and overnight in Munich.

DAY 6 – MUNICH • DACHAU • MUNICH

Today, explore Munich’s rich Catholic heritage and spiritual history. Visit important churches, including the Frauenkirche (Cathedral of Our Lady), and discover the historic heart of the city. Continue to the Dachau Concentration Camp

Memorial Site, including its chapels and places of remembrance. This solemn visit provides an opportunity to reflect upon faith, suffering, reconciliation, and human dignity. Return to Munich. Dinner and overnight in Munich.

DAY 7 – MUNICH • OBERAMMERGAU • ETTAL • WIES CHURCH • MUNICH

After breakfast, depart for Oberammergau (approximately 1 hour 15 minutes), world-renowned for its Passion Play tradition dating back to 1633. Stroll through this picturesque Bavarian village, known for its painted houses and strong Christian identity. Continue to nearby Ettal Abbey, a magnificent Benedictine monastery founded in the 14th century and nestled among the Bavarian Alps. Celebrate Holy Mass and enjoy time for prayer. Proceed to the extraordinary Pilgrimage Church of Wies (approximately 1 hour), one of Bavaria’s most beautiful pilgrimage churches and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Dedicated to the Scourged Savior, this Rococo masterpiece has welcomed pilgrims for centuries. Return to Munich (approximately 2 hours). Dinner and overnight in Munich.

DAY 8 – MUNICH • SALZBURG • LINZ

Depart Munich for Salzburg (approximately 2 hours), birthplace of Mozart and a city rich in Catholic history and Baroque beauty. Visit Salzburg Cathedral and explore the historic center. Celebrate Holy Mass and enjoy time to discover this beautiful Austrian city. Continue to Linz (approximately 2 hours), situated along the Danube River and an important historic crossroads between Bavaria and Austria. Dinner and overnight in Linz.

DAY 9 – LINZ • MELK • VIENNA

After breakfast, depart for Melk Abbey (approximately 1 hour 15 minutes), one of Europe’s most magnificent Benedictine monasteries overlooking the Danube Valley. Visit the abbey church, library, and beautiful grounds while learning about centuries of monastic life and spiritual tradition. Celebrate Holy Mass (TBD). Continue to Vienna for dinner and overnight.

DAY 10 – VIENNA

Spend the day exploring the Catholic heart of Austria. Visit Saint Stephen’s Cathedral, one of Europe’s great Gothic churches and a symbol of Austrian Catholicism. Continue to Karlskirche (Saint Charles Church) and other significant churches associated with Vienna’s spiritual heritage. Celebrate Holy Mass and enjoy free time for personal exploration, shopping, or prayer. This evening, gather for a farewell dinner celebrating the completion of your pilgrimage. Dinner and overnight in Vienna.

DAY 11 – RETURN HOME

After breakfast, transfer to Vienna Airport for your return flight to the United States, bringing home treasured memories and spiritual blessings from your pilgrimage through Germany and Austria.