



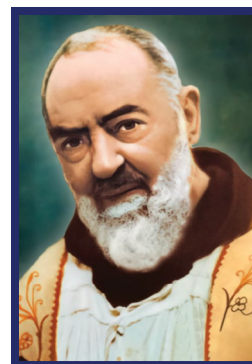
11 Day Pilgrimage to Italy & Sicily

September 19th – 29th, 2026

Visiting: Rome, San Giovanni Rotondo, Saint Michael's Cave, Pietrelcina, Taormina & Siracusa

YOUR TRIP INCLUDES:

- Round trip air from New York
- First Class Hotels
- Daily Mass and Rosary
- Breakfast and Dinner Daily
- Air-conditioned motor coach
- English speaking guide
- Sightseeing as per itinerary
- Portage of one piece of luggage at hotels
- All taxes and service charges



HIGHLIGHTS OF YOUR TRIP:

- Panorama of Rome including a visit of the four major Basilicas of Rome – Saint Mary Major, Saint John Lateran, Saint Paul Outside the Walls and Saint Peter's
- Visit the Tomb of Padre Pio in the Church of Saint Pio of Pietrelcina in San Giovanni Rotondo
- Visit the Basilica of Santa Maria delle Grazie, San Giovanni Rotondo
- Visit Pietrelcina, the birthplace of Padre Pio
- Visit the Padre Pio Foundation of America's retreat home in Pietrelcina
- Mass at Santa Maria degli Angeli, where Padre Pio celebrated his first Mass
- Visit Piana Romana where Padre Pio received the invisible Stigmata
- Visit the city of Taormina
- Mass at the Basilica of Madonna delle Lacrime
- Visit the ancient Church of Saint John the Baptist
- Tour and visit Ortigia Island
- Visit the Duomo with the relics of Saint Lucy

SAINT PIO PRAY FOR US!



Your Spiritual Director
will be
Father David Beaumont,
OFM, Cap.

Pilgrimage Price per person Double/Triple \$ 4,699.00 Single Supplement \$ 1,200.00



A map of your pilgrimage through Italy and Sicily



Saint Peter's Basilica



The Original church in SGR where Padre Pio celebrated Mass (left) and the Basilica of Santa Maria delle Grazie (right)



Mosaic corridor in the Church of Saint Pio of Pietrelcina

Sat, Sept 19th

New York/Rome

Depart on your overnight flight to Rome. Dinner served in flight.

Sun, Sept 20th

Rome

Upon arrival in Rome, we will be met by our driver and transferred to our hotel. En route we stop for Mass. The remainder of the day is free.

Mon, Sept 21st

Rome

This morning, we have a "Tour of the Basilicas of Rome" – *Saint Peters*, *Saint Mary Major* and *Saint Paul Outside the Walls*. We also see the *Roman Forum*, the *Coliseum* and the *Monument to Victor Emmanuel*, *Piazza Navona* and the *Trevi Fountain*.

Tue, Sept 22nd

Rome/San Giovanni Rotondo

Morning departure to *San Giovanni Rotondo*. Upon arrival, we visit the *Basilica of Santa Maria delle Grazie* and the *Chapel of the old Church where Padre Pio celebrated Mass*. After Mass, we continue to our hotel for check in.

Note that tonight the festivities begin in celebration of Padre Pio's Feast Day. The rosary and prayers begin around 8PM. Padre Pio's Feast Day Mass begins at Midnight.

Wed, Sept 23rd

San Giovanni Rotondo

Today is the Feast Day of Saint Pio of Pietrelcina.

This morning we begin with a visit to the English Office for a presentation on *Padre Pio*, followed by a blessing with his relics. We then continue to the new *Church of Saint Pio of Pietrelcina*. Upon entering, we walk through the striking mosaic corridor that portrays the lives of *Saint Francis of Assisi* and *Saint Pio of Pietrelcina* that leads us to the new crypt, where we will see the body of Padre Pio. The crypt is beautifully designed with detailed



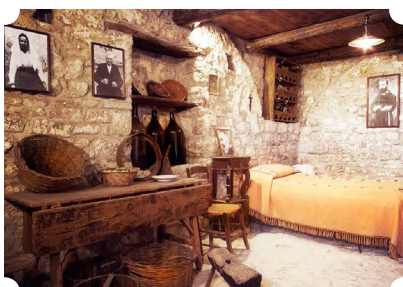
The body of Padre Pio in San Giovanni Rotondo



Basilica of Saint Michael the Archangel



Church of Sant'Anna, where Padre Pio was baptized



Padre Pio's family farmhouse in Piana Romana

mosaics illustrating the life of Christ. Padre Pio's body in the center to symbolize he rests within the heart of Christ.

In the afternoon, we depart for Mount Sant'Angelo to visit the Basilica of Saint Michael the Archangel and to visit the sacred cave where Saint Michael appeared. This holy site held great importance for Padre Pio as he frequently sent pilgrims there, confident in the powerful graces received through prayer in this place. He told people, "You will need the help of Saint Michael living in this world."

The Sanctuary of Saint Michael dates back to the late fourth century. According to tradition, Saint Michael first appeared to a local landowner in the form of a beautiful bull. When the man attempted to kill it, his arrow mysteriously turned back and struck his foot. Frightened, he sought the guidance of the local bishop who prayed and fasted for understanding. Saint Michael then appeared, declaring the mountain sacred and the cave chosen by God as a place of forgiveness and answered prayer. Though the bishop hesitated at first, further apparitions confirmed the Archangel's message. In 493, Saint Michael revealed that he himself had already consecrated the grotto, *making it the only sanctuary not consecrated by human hands*. For centuries it has been known as the "Celestial Basilica," a place where heaven feels remarkably close.

Thu, Sept 24th

San Giovanni Rotondo/Pietrelcina

This morning we depart for *Pietrelcina*, the birthplace of *Padre Pio*. Our visit includes his family home and the *Church of Sant'Anna*, where he was baptized. We will visit Piana Romana where Padre Pio's family farmhouse is and where Padre Pio received the invisible stigmata. We will celebrate Mass at *Santa Maria degli Angeli*. We will stop at the *Padre Pio Foundation of America's Retreat Home*.

There will be free time to explore Pietrelcina on your own. We will check in to our hotel in Benevento in the afternoon and return to Pietrelcina for a special local dinner.

Fri, Sept 25th

Benevento/Taormina

We depart this morning for *Taormina*, a day devoted to the breathtaking beauty of Italy. Traveling along the Mediterranean coast, we arrive at *Villa San Giovanni*, where we board the ferry to cross the *Strait of Messina*. Upon reaching the port of Messina, we



View of Mount Etna and beautiful Taormina



Ancient Greek theater in Taormina, Italy



Church of Saint John the Baptist

continue our journey along Sicily's stunning Ionian Coast, making our way toward Taormina. Throughout the drive, the majestic presence of *Mount Etna* rises before us, an unforgettable backdrop to our entrance into Sicily.

Sat, Sept 26th

Taormina

This morning we are transferred to the upper city of *Taormina* for Mass and then the day is yours to enjoy at a relaxed pace. You will have free time for lunch on your own, to stroll through the charming streets and to take in the magnificent views of *Mount Etna* in the distance.

Taormina is known as a jet-set destination, reflected in its elegant boutiques, artisan shops, and fine jewelry stores lining Corso Umberto. Be sure to allow time to visit the renowned *Greek Theatre*, one of Sicily's most remarkable ancient sites, offering views of the coastline and Mount Etna.

Teatro Greco - Taormina's historic theater owes much of its present appearance to the Romans, the Greeks' successors in Sicily. Designed with an unsurpassable backdrop of blue sea, coastline, distant smoking Etna, and inland mountains, the theater was begun by the Greeks in the third century BC. In the first century AD, when Taormina was a significant Roman town, the Romans adapted the theatre to suit their more barbaric spectacles, stripping out seating to make more room for gladiatorial shows. It would be hard to beat the views from Taormina on a clear day. Some of the best places for enjoying the vista are the panoramic terrace of Piazza IX Aprile on Corso Umberto.

Sun, Sept 27th

Taormina/Siracusa

Upon arrival in Siracusa, we have Mass at the Basilica of Madonna delle Lacrime which holds the plaque of Our Lady of the Tears. From August 29th to September 1st, 1953, a plaster plaque of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, placed over the headboard of the bed of a young couple, Angelo Iannuso and Antonina Giusto, shed human tears. The phenomena took place inside and outside of the house. Many saw, touched, gathered and tasted the salt of those tears.

Next, we visit the Church of Saint John the Baptist. It is the oldest church in the West, second in age only to its Eastern counterpart located in Antioch, Turkey. In its crypt, Saints Paul and Luke were said to have preached to the Christian community.

Mon, Sept 28th

Ortigia Island



Duomo di Siracusa

This morning, we meet our local guide for our tour of *Ortigia Island*, the historic heart of *Siracusa*. Here we visit the *Duomo di Siracusa*, one of the city's most remarkable landmarks and a living record of its long history. Originally built as a Greek temple dedicated to *Athena*, the structure once featured a towering golden statue of the goddess. The massive Doric columns of that ancient temple remain clearly visible today, incorporated into the church walls. Above them, Norman battlements line Via Minerva, while the elegant Baroque façade was added after the devastating 1693 earthquake. Inside the Duomo, elements of the original Greek structure can still be seen, blending antiquity and faith in a single sacred space.



Shrine of Saint Lucy

Within the Duomo, we visit the shrine of *Saint Lucy*, the beloved patron saint of Siracusa, where her relics are preserved in a small chapel. (Her body rests in Venice.) Saint Lucy is so deeply venerated here that the city honors her twice each year, in May and December, with solemn celebrations and colorful processions through the streets of Ortigia. In recognition of its extraordinary cultural and historical significance, Siracusa was designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2005.

Tue, Sept 29th

Siracusa/USA

Morning departure to Catania airport for our return flight to the USA.



A Pilgrim's Prayer

Dear Lord,

Please stay close to us and bless us with many graces on our journey.

Keep us safe and healthy as we travel.

And let us be given the gift of new friendships along the way.

Amen.

Little Flower Pilgrimages

September 19th - September 29th, 2026 - Tour PIO919.26

\$4,699.00 Double, Single Supplement \$1,200.00

Please return this form with your check or credit card information to:

LITTLE FLOWER TOURS & TRAVEL, LTD., 145 Fieldstone Road, Staten Island, NY 10314

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Little Flower Tour and Travel

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PILGRIMAGES

We look forward to traveling with you!

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