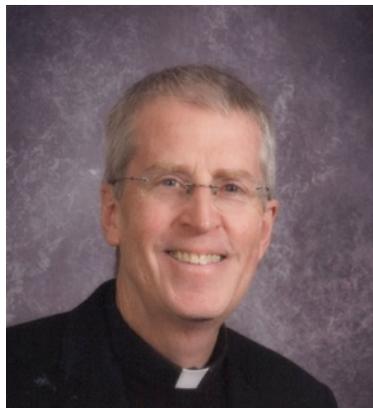


JOIN US IN IRELAND!

Please join me for a trip to Ireland October 8 – 18, 2018. This trip will be part spiritual and part excursion as we visit the holy sites and the landmarks of Ireland. If you have ever wanted to visit this beautiful country, or return to it, this is your opportunity. You will travel with fellow parishioners and friends.

Our days will include mass and touring, dining and sightseeing, fun and discovery. Our trip will take us throughout the Republic of Ireland and into Northern Ireland (I might find my roots there). We will taste the food of Ireland, sample some of its well-known beverages, meet the warm and friendly Irish people and experience their culture. If you would like to see Ireland in a prayerful and enjoyable way please join me.

Fr. Ray McHenry



For more information please contact:
FR. RAY MCHENRY
INFO@SAINTFRANCISCHURCH.ORG

YOUR JOURNEY FEATURES:

- Roundtrip air transportation from Des Moines, IA (DSM)
- Three / Four Star & Centrally Located Hotels
- Land transportation via deluxe, private motor coach; Shannon Car Ferry; Dublin Bus; Minibus Tours
- Taxes & fuel surcharge (\$527) and tips (\$85) included
- Breakfast & Dinner Daily (x5 Dinners at Local Pubs/Restaurants)
- Daily Masses & Mass Donations Included
- Entrance fees to all sites on itinerary
- Dublin Bus Sightseeing Pass
- Porterage (x1 bag per pilgrim per hotel: in & out)
- Visits to **Guinness Storehouse**, the **Old Jameson Distillery Bow Street**, **St. Patrick's RC Cathedral Armagh**, **Peace Bridge** and a **Sunset Dinner**

Please Read This Important Information:

Deposit: \$300.00 (payable upon booking)

50% of Balance: Due by **May 11, 2018**

Full Balance: Due by **July 25, 2018**

Single Supplement: \$650.00 (limited availability)

Each tour member must hold a valid passport until at least **April 30, 2019**. Application forms are available at your local Passport Office or U.S. Postal Service. Any required visas will be processed for US citizens only. **Non-US citizens are solely responsible for obtaining any required visas.**

Rates are based on double-occupancy. The airline tax and fuel surcharge (\$527) and currency exchange rate(s) at the date of quotation. Subject to change up to 30 days prior to departure.

PUBS & PARISHES



11 DAYS!



OCTOBER 8 - 18, 2018

SPIRITUAL LEADER: FR. RAY MCHENRY

Departing:
from Des Moines, IA (DSM)

\$4,498.00

ALL INCLUSIVE!
(except lunches)

CHRISTMAS SPECIAL:

\$100.00 OFF IF DEPOSIT IS RECEIVED BY DECEMBER 21, 2017!



IRELAND: PUBS & PARISHES

Day 1 - Mon Oct 8: Departure from USA We meet at the airport three hours prior to our scheduled departure. Dinner, breakfast, and entertainment are served on board.

Day 2 - Tue Oct 9: Welcome to Ireland Arrive at Dublin Airport and meet with your driver & English speaking guide before transferring to the city centre. We will spend the balance of the day exploring with your **Dublin bus sightseeing pass**. Visit **Trinity College and the Book of Kells!** Thomas Burgh built the Old Library building in the 18th century. Today it houses one of Ireland's most illustrious books, the 9th century "Book of Kells". Before viewing the famous book, visitors pass through an excellent exhibition based on the Book of Kells and other important books written in monasteries around Ireland from the 9th century. After viewing the Book of Kells visitors are invited to visit the Long Room built in 1745. Following this visit, check into your hotel in Dublin. Overnight and dinner at your hotel in Dublin.

Day 3 - Wed Oct 10: Stout & Whiskey This morning, after breakfast, we visit the **Old Jameson Distillery**. The Old Jameson Distillery in Smithfield village is located in the heart of Dublin city centre. This old barley storehouse, once the centre of distilling in Dublin, was renovated in 1998 and converted into a museum where all the secrets of Irish whiskey's distillation will be revealed. The visit culminates in the Jameson bar with an opportunity for all to taste the signature Jameson drink. During the visit a number of volunteers are selected to take part in a tasting session to compare a Jameson whiskey with a Scottish whisky and an American bourbon. Participants will receive a diploma for their achievement. Other facilities include the Distillery Gift Shop, Restaurant and public bar. Then visit the **Guinness Storehouse**. The Guinness Brewery in Dublin is Europe's largest stout producing brewery and home to the Guinness Storehouse. Visitors will discover what goes into the making a pint of Guinness - the ingredients, the brewing process, the time, the craft and the passion. Enjoy the balance of the day at leisure. Enjoy dinner with the group at a local restaurant / pub, such as the Brazen Head. Transfer back to your hotel for overnight.

Day 4 - Thu Oct 11: Dublin to Cork After breakfast, we depart Dublin for Cork. En-route visit **Rock of Cashel**. Possibly the most photographed site in Ireland, the Rock of Cashel towers over the town of Cashel from its perch on a 200-foot high outcrop of limestone. Once the seat of the Kings of Munster. St. Patrick visited the rock in 450 AD, while Brian Boru was crowned the first high King of Ireland here in the tenth century. Visit **Blarney Castle**. Attracting visitors from all over the world, Blarney Castle is situated in Blarney village, 8 km from Cork city. An ancient stronghold of the McCarthy's, Lords of Muskerry, it is

one of Ireland's oldest and most historic castles, and one of the strongest fortresses in Munster. Built in 1446, Blarney Castle is famous for its Blarney stone, the Stone of Eloquence, which is traditionally believed to have the power to bestow the gift of eloquence on all those who kiss it. Continue to Cork and check into your hotel. Spend the balance of the day at leisure. Dinner and overnight at your hotel in Cork or area.



Day 5 - Fri Oct 12: Ring of Kerry This morning we enjoy breakfast and depart Cork for Kerry. Tour the **Ring of Kerry**. The Ring of Kerry (166km) is the most famous and panoramic route in Ireland. The astonishing beauty of this large peninsula, Iveragh, comes from the great diversity of its scenery, which offers incessant contrasts. En-route around the Ring, take in spectacular scenery - mountains, peat bogs, lakes and magnificent views of the Atlantic Ocean as one travels along the coast road. Leaving Killarney pass through Killorglin, famous for its Puck Fair, then to Glenbeigh where the cliff road affords panoramic views of the Dingle Peninsula and Dingle Bay. Continuing to Cahirciveen, you'll pass the birthplace of our National hero, Daniel O'Connell. Next, continue on through peat bogs to the town of Waterville. Continue to Sneem Village, famous for its brightly coloured houses. The road then continues through the mountains to Molls Gap and Ladies View with superb views of the famous Lakes of Killarney. Continue to Kerry and check into your hotel. Enjoy dinner with the group at a local pub/restaurant, such as Bricin Restaurant and Boxty House. Transfer back to your hotel for overnight.

Day 6 - Sat Oct 13: Cliffs of Moher Breakfast. Depart Kerry for Galway. Take the Shannon Car Ferry. En-route visit the **Cliffs of Moher**. Situated on the Atlantic Ocean and bordering the **Burren Area**, the Cliffs of Moher are one of Ireland's most spectacular sights. Journey through the **Burren Region**. The Burren landscape covers over 150 square kilometres and is one of Ireland's 6 National Parks. The region is visually similar to a moonscape, yet shelters a mixture of flora and archaeological sites which have attracted visitors for centuries. Continue to Galway and check into your hotel. Tonight, we will enjoy dinner at a local pub, such as Padraicins Bar & Seafood Restaurant prior to transferring back to the hotel for overnight.

Day 7 - Sun Oct 14: Aran Islands This morning, after breakfast, transfer to Rossaveal and take the ferry as foot passengers to the Aran Island of Inis Mor (10h00 ferry). On arrival enjoy a **minibus tour of the Island**. Visit **Dun Aengus**. Perched spectacularly on a cliff overlooking the Atlantic ocean, this is the largest of the prehistoric stone forts of the Aran Islands. It is enclosed by three massive dry-stone walls and a "chevaux-de-frise" consisting of tall blocks of limestone set vertically into the ground to deter attackers. The small visitor centre contains some displays on the history and geology of the area. Spend free time on the island and take the 16h00 back to Rossaveal. Transfer from Rossaveal back to your hotel. Enjoy an **elegant sunset dinner celebration** and overnight at your hotel.

Day 8 - Mon Oct 15: Galway to Letterkenny After breakfast, we head to Letterkenny. En-route visit **Knock Shrine and Museum**. The story of Knock shrine began on Thursday evening of the 21st August, 1879, when the Virgin Mary, St. Joseph and St. John the Evangelist appeared at the south gable of the church at Knock in County Mayo. Two commissions of enquiry, in 1879 and 1936, accepted the testimony of this apparition as trustworthy and satisfactory. Today, Knock ranks among the world's major Marian shrines. Enjoy a photo stop at the **Drumcliffe Cemetery**. Drumcliffe was an early Christian site in at the foot of impressive Benbulbin – the table top mountain. Today the principal visible remains of the monastic site are the High Cross, another plain cross, the stump of a round tower, the Church of Ireland and a graveyard. There is a small Church Of Ireland that is also worth visiting. Visit **Belleek Pottery**. The world famous brand of Belleek pottery has its home in an imposing Victorian building in the village of Belleek on the river Erne. Awarded a 4 star visitor attraction grading in 2013 and 'Best Visitor Experience Of The Year 2014' at the Northern Ireland Tourism Awards, it features a museum, tearoom, video theatre and a showroom. As you walk through the museum you will experience the journey through the life of the Pottery from the early earthenware days to the present day fine translucent Parian China. Continue to Letterkenny and check into your hotel before dinner at a local pub or restaurant, such as Brewery Bar and Restaurant. Return to the hotel in Letterkenny for overnight.

Day 9 - Tue Oct 16: Letterkenny to Antrim This morning, after breakfast, we depart Letterkenny for Antrim. First stop in Derry and enjoy a **photo stop at the Peace Bridge**. Continue on to visit **Dunluce Castle** Dunluce Castle is situated on the Antrim Coast, 5 kilometres east of Portrush and 3.5 kilometres west of Bushmills. Visit the **Giants Causeway** Encounter Northern Ireland's favourite giant Finn McCool at the new Giants Causeway Visitor centre. According to legend Finn McCool created the Giants Causeway by building stepping stones to Scotland to challenge the Scottish giant Benandonner! There are various interactive exhibits and short video presentations within five designated interpretive exhibition areas and the self-

guided visit will culminate with a spectacular two minutes audio-visual projection of a volcanic eruption flowing over the walls and onto the floor. Continue to Belfast and check into your hotel for dinner and overnight.

Day 10 - Wed Oct 17: Antrim to Dublin Breakfast. Enjoy a **city tour of Belfast**. A guided city tour is an excellent way to discover Belfast City. The tour will take in the leaning Albert Memorial Clock tower (Ireland's answer to the Tower of Pisa) and the Opera House, which is one of Belfast's great landmarks. Your tour will pass by the City Hall, the Opera house, The Crown Bar (dates from 1885), Queens University and the Botanic Gardens. Visit **Titanic Belfast**. Located in the heart of Belfast, the Titanic Belfast recreates the story of the world's most famous ship in a new iconic, six floor building right beside the historic site of the original ship's construction. Depart Belfast for Dublin. En-route enjoy a short visit and possible mass at **St Patrick's RC Cathedral**. St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Cathedral is an imposing site, perched on the hilltop in Armagh and dominating its skyline. The church was begun in 1840, but because of the intervening famine years, not completed until 1873. Armagh is the ecclesiastical capital of Ireland. Continue to Dublin and check into your hotel. This evening enjoy **dinner and entertainment at Merry Ploughboys**. The Merry Ploughboys live in concert is widely regarded as the best traditional music show in Dublin and also as a must see for any visitors to Dublin city. The show is a highly entertaining performance of live traditional Irish music, song and Irish dancing. From start to finish, this is a show based on fantastic interaction between the performers and the audience. Transfer back to your hotel for our final overnight.



Day 11 - Thu Oct 18: Farewell This morning, we depart the hotel after an early breakfast, to Dublin airport for our flight back home. Arrive and continue home – the end of a most memorable pilgrimage.

**The above agenda is our plan, but certainly could change. For example, the sequence of days, local conditions and preferences of the tour leaders. This is always the case when taking a trip such as this.*