# ~ Shrines of Mexico ~ Our Lady of Guadalupe

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**OCTOBER 15 ~ 20, 2018** 

Best Catholic Pilgrimages 500 N. Michigan Avenue #600, Chicago IL 60611

### Mexico City ~ Tlaxcala ~ Ocotlan ~ Puebla

#### Day 1 ~ Depart for Mexico City: Monday October 15, 2018

Arrive in Mexico City and be greeted at the airport by your guide and tour manager. We will transfer to the hotel for check in. Some sightseeing is possible, depending on the arrival time. Late afternoon celebrate Mass and this evening a welcome dinner at the hotel (D)

#### Day 2 ~ Our Lady of Guadalupe Basilica

After breakfast we depart for the Great Basilica and Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe, to celebrate Mass. After Celebrating Mass at the Shrine, enjoy a guided tour of the Basilica, followed by visit to the various points of interest In the Tepeyac area, surrounding the Basilica, each associated with the story of the apparitions Of Our Lady. We see the original chapel on the exact site of the apparitions to Juan Diego and the old Basilica completed in 1709. One special stop is La Capilla del Pocito ~ Chapel of the Little Well or (CapilldeCerrito) which reputedly opened under The feet of the Virgin. We will return to the city centre and visit: Tlatelolco and the Plaza of the Three Cultures ~ square contains the remains of Aztec temples and is flanked by the Catholic church of Santiago de Tlatelolco (built 1604). The Church of Santiago dons a plaque offering a memorable message to the passing of the Aztec nation and the birth of the 'mestizo' nation. This church, named after St. James the Apostle, the patron of Spain and contains the baptismal Fountain of Juan Diego. When Juan Diego was walking across a hill, on his way to the Franciscan Monastery the Blessed Virgin appeared to him. Lunch and visit of the historical Centre with the Cathedral the National Palace and the Zocalo - the mail plaza and the church of Santo Domingo, which houses two shrines ~ Our Lady of the Rosary and Our Lady of Covadonga. Dinner & overnight Mexico City (B/D)

#### Day 3 ~ Mexico City ~ Tulpetlac & Teotlhuacan

After breakfast, we depart to Tulpetlac where Juan Diego's uncle, Juan Bernardino, was cured. This is the Church of the Fifth Apparition where we celebrate Mass (officially, Santa Maria Tulpetlac Church). The church was built over the remains of Juan Bernardino's home. Although a very simple building, this is one of the holiest churches in Mexico City. There is a plaque in the Sacristy which states that Pope Pius XII had granted a plenary indulgence to those who visit this church. The Church of the Fifth Apparition was designated *The World Center of Healing*, by Pope John Paul II. After Mass and our visit, we enjoy our lunch together before we proceed to the world famous Pyramids of Teotihuacan. We return to our hotel in Mexico City for dinner and the evening. (B/L/D)

#### Day 4 ~ Tlaxcala ~ Ocotlan ~ Puebla

After breakfast we depart to Tlaxcala to visit the church of San Miguel Tlaxcala, where on the 25th of April 1631, Saint Michael the Archangel appeared to Diego Lazaro. Then we continue to the wonderful Basilica of Nuestra Señora de Ocotlan, build in 1541, when the miracle of the apparition of the Virgin occured to Juan Diego, and asked him to build this temple. The church stands out for its facade and towers of white mortar and the interior Baroque style for its great beauty. On our way through the basilica you will visit the little well of miraculous holy water. The Virgin of Ocotla is one of the most important centers of Marian pilgrimage in Mexico. Mass TBA We transfer to Puebla for lunch at a local restaurant. The city is called *Puebla of the Angels* and in 1987 the UNESCO recognized the city as a World Heritage Center. The majority of its buildings are decorated with tiles and beautifully sculpted freestone. We will visit the majestic Church of Santo Domingo, a huge central square cathedral with pink stone and wall tezontle. Then we visit the Chapel of the Rosary, which is considered the eighth wonder of the art world. From the Chapel of the Rosary, you'll discover the Convent of Santa Monica, which now houses the Museum of Religious Art. Dinner at your leisure and overnight in Puebla (B/L)

#### Day 5 ~ Cholula & Monastery of Huejotzingo

After breakfast we visit the Great Pyramid of Cholula, located just outside of Puebla. The Great Pyramid of Cholula is the largest pyramid in the world and also features 365 churches, including the famous Church of Our Lady of the Remedies, located at the top. Although you will not visit the church of Our Lady of the Remedies at the top of the pyramid, you will be able to view the majestic building from the base of the pyramid. Then we continue to the Monastery of Huejotzingo ~ the Pride of Puebla! Shortly after the Spanish conquest of Mexico, the Franciscans began building a chain of monasteries and mission towns to convert the vast native population. One of the first was at Huejotzingo, at the foot of the volcano Popocatépetl, in the present state of Puebla. Dedicated to the Archangel Michael, the rambling monastery sits atop an ancient mound in the busy town center, secluded from the sounds and bustle of the street within its walled churchyard. The monastery is famous for its many outstanding examples of 16th century art and architecture. The elaborately carved corner chapels of the churchyard, the medieval church doorways spanned by Moorish arches and emblazoned with Franciscan Museum. Mass, a farewell dinner and overnight Puebla. (B/D)

#### Day 6 ~ Mexico City/ USA October 20, 2018

After Mass and breakfast, we transfer to the Mexico City airport for the early afternoon flight home (B)

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### Included:

Air from Oklahoma City or Little Rock, AR

- 4 \*\*\*\* star Hotels
- Breakfast daily, 4 dinners & 2 lunches (B/L/D)
- Private deluxe motor coach through out
- English speaking tour manager & guides
- Sightseeing & entrance fees per itinerary
- Luggage handling, Tips to Maids & Bellmen
- Mass celebrated daily

# October 15~20, 2018 \$1537.00 Land & Air

(Per Person / Double Occupancy)

FOR MORE INFORMATION & BROCHURES CONTACT:

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