

APRIL 11 - 17, 2027

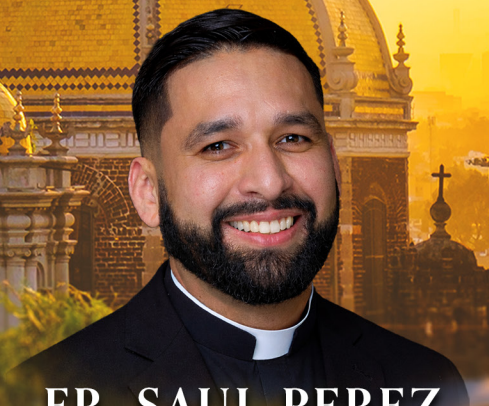
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125<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF  
ST. MARY'S OF THE ANNUNCIATION CATHOLIC CHURCH

# OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE & THE CRISTERO MARTYRS



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Metropolitan Cathedral

April 11, 2027 | Arrival in Mexico City

Our pilgrimage begins as we depart for our flight to Mexico City. Upon arrival, our Canterbury tour manager greets us as we collect our bags and accompanies us by motorcoach to our hotel. We gather this evening for a welcome dinner to begin our pilgrimage together. Dinner and overnight in Mexico City. (D)

April 12 | Tlaxpetlac, Tlatelolco & the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe

After breakfast we travel to the Church of the Fifth Apparition in Tlaxpetlac, where the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to Juan Bernardino, the uncle of St. Juan Diego, and restored him to health; here we find a well of healing water still used by locals today. On the way to the Basilica we stop at the Plaza of the Three Cultures in Tlatelolco, where Aztec ruins, the colonial Church of Santiago Tlatelolco, and modern Mexico City stand side by side. It was to this church that St. Juan Diego was walking for Mass and catechism when Our Lady first appeared to him on the hill of Tepeyac, and here, by tradition, that he was baptized. We continue to the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Americas, built at Our Lady’s request to St. Juan Diego. We join the pilgrims from every nation in kneeling before the centuries-old tilma bearing Our Lady’s miraculously imprinted image, and we celebrate a private Mass in one of the upper chapels. We then climb Tepeyac Hill to visit the Old Basilica, the Chapel of the Indians, and the Chapel of the Well. After lunch nearby, we have time for prayer and shopping before returning to our hotel in the late afternoon. Dinner and overnight in Mexico City. (B/D)

April 13 | Blessed Miguel Pro, Historic Centre & Xochimilco

After breakfast we visit Holy Family Church and the tomb of Bl. Miguel Agustín Pro, the Jesuit martyr. During the religious persecution that followed the Mexican Revolution, Fr. Pro was hidden by a clandestine network of the faithful as he brought the sacraments to many in secret. Arrested and condemned without trial, he faced the firing squad with his arms outstretched in the form of a cross, his final words “¡Viva Cristo Rey!” (“Long live Christ the King!”). Here we pray before this great martyr, venerate his relics, and celebrate Mass, and we visit the small museum dedicated to him. We continue to the historic centre and the Plaza of Santo Domingo, with its corridor of public scribes who once wrote letters for those who could not. Inside the 18th-century Church of Santo Domingo, designed by Pedro de Arrieta, the architect of the Old Basilica at Tepeyac, we pray the Rosary together in the chapel of Our Lady of the Rosary. We visit the Metropolitan Cathedral, the oldest and largest cathedral in Latin America, and view the National Palace from outside. After lunch we travel south to Xochimilco, where we board the colorful trajineras for a relaxing ride along the ancient canals and floating gardens, a living remnant of the Aztec waterways. Dinner and overnight in Mexico City. (B/D)

April 14 | Mexico City & Guanajuato

After breakfast we check out of our hotel and travel by motorcoach to Guanajuato, arriving in time for lunch.

We spend the afternoon immersed in the city’s unique atmosphere, walking its colorful narrow streets and admiring from outside the Juárez Theater, Plaza Baratillo, and the University of Guanajuato. We see the Templo de la Compañía de Jesús, one of the largest churches built by the Jesuits in Mexico, completed in 1765 only two years before the Jesuits were expelled from the country. Another jewel of Guanajuato is the orange-and-yellow Basilica of Our Lady of Guanajuato, home to an image of the Virgin venerated as patroness of the city, and we also see the beautiful San Fernando Square and the Church of Belén. Dinner and overnight in Guanajuato. (B/D)

April 15 | Cerro del Cubilete, San Juan de los Lagos, Santa Ana de Guadalupe & Guadalajara

After breakfast we depart early for the Cerro del Cubilete to celebrate Mass. The Cerro del Cubilete is an emblematic site for the Cristeros: its original monument was dynamited by the Mexican government in 1928, and the mountain became bound to the rallying cry of the Cristero War, “¡Viva Cristo Rey!” The monument was rebuilt between 1944 and 1950, and the present statue of Christ the King weighs 80 tons and stands roughly 65 feet tall. At its base, the Shrine of Santa María de los Mártires holds the relics of three Cristero martyrs: Fr. José Trinidad Rangel Montañón, Fr. Andrés Sola y Molist, and the layman Leonardo Pérez Larios. We continue to San Juan de los Lagos and the Cathedral Basilica of Our Lady of San Juan de los Lagos, the second most visited Catholic shrine in Mexico. The small image of the Immaculate Conception venerated here, just over a foot tall and made of corn-cane paste, was brought from Michoacán in the early 1500s; its first recorded miracle dates to 1623, when a young acrobat who fell fatally onto spear points was revived after local women brought the image to her and prayed. We continue to Santa Ana de Guadalupe to visit the house and shrine of St. Toribio Romo, patron of migrants, and pray before his relics. Dinner and overnight in Guadalajara. (B/D)

April 16 | Sahuayo & Guadalajara

After breakfast we depart for Sahuayo, dedicating the morning to St. José Sánchez del Río, the youngest of the Cristero martyrs, canonized on October 16, 2016. We celebrate Mass at the Church of St. James, where young Joselito was held prisoner by federal troops, and pray before his relics. We continue to the cemetery where, at just fourteen, he bravely declared his loyalty to Christ, crying out “¡Viva Cristo Rey!” to the end. After lunch we return to Guadalajara to visit the Cathedral and its ossuary, where the relics of martyred saints of the Cristero War are kept, followed by the city centre with its historic buildings, government palaces, and the elegant Degollado Theater. We gather this evening for our farewell dinner. Dinner and overnight in Guadalajara. (B/D)

April 17 | Guadalajara, Return Home

With hearts renewed by the grace of pilgrimage and the intercession of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Bl. Miguel Pro, and the martyrs of the Cristero War, we transfer to Guadalajara’s airport for our return flight home. (B)



Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe

Your Pilgrimage Includes

- ✓ Roundtrip airfare from San Francisco (SFO)
- ✓ 4-star hotel accommodations
- ✓ Breakfast & dinner daily
- ✓ Wine served with some dinners
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- ✓ Tips for restaurant & hotel staff
- ✓ Daily Mass & spiritual activities
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