

A PILGRIMAGE FOR CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL

# THE HOLY LAND

A Pilgrimage through the Biblical  
Lands of Israel & Palestine

Led by

**Canon Nicholas Papadopoulos**

& assisted by

**Bishop Richard Llewelin**

**2nd - 11th May, 2017**



**LIGHTLINE**  
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***I made my first pilgrimage to the Holy Land in May 2016, in the company of Bishop Richard Llewelin. It was a quite overwhelming experience. To walk through the landscape through which Jesus walked and to pray in the places in which Jesus prayed - and at the same time to hear the voices of those who live, work and suffer in those towns and villages today - was, in a powerful and mysterious way, to draw very close to the heart of Christian faith. In Israel and the Palestinian territories, God is among us as one who suffers, and as one who draws life eternal out of that suffering.***

***I am delighted to lead this pilgrimage for 2017 in Richard's company, sharing the experience with a wider community from Canterbury and beyond, staying in the excellent accommodation that we stayed in on my first pilgrimage, and retracing the steps of that remarkable adventure. We will again visit and pray in the places most intimately connected to the life, death and resurrection of Jesus; and we will also spend time listening to men and women who have different perspectives on the land's cruel divisions.***

***It will be, I am confident, an unforgettable opportunity for us to encounter the living God.***

*Nicholas*



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# Our Itinerary

## Day 1, Tuesday 2nd May

We gather at Luton airport for our early morning flight to Tel Aviv (coach travel from Canterbury will be available to and from Luton airport - details to follow). On arrival we are met by our Palestinian guide and then drive north to our Pilgrim Guest House on the shore of the Sea of Galilee, arriving in time to unpack and enjoy an evening meal (and, perhaps, a swim!) Overnight stay by the Sea of Galilee.



*View from Pilgrim Guest House, Galilee*

## Day 2, Wednesday 3rd May

We begin our pilgrimage with a short walk to the Church of the Multiplication at Tabgha, then travel by coach to the Church of Peter Primacy. We then drive up to the summit of the Mount of Beatitudes with its amazing views over the Sea of Galilee and the sites where Jesus lived and worked.



*Mount of Beatitudes*

After a break for lunch we visit the ancient fishing village of Capernaum which was at the centre of Jesus' ministry. We will also sail on a modern-day version of the kind of boat used for fishing at the time of Jesus

and see the remains of a similar boat which was recovered from the lake and dates back to the early first century. We then return to our guest house for dinner and overnight stay.



*On the Sea of Galilee*

## Day 3, Thursday 4th May

After an early start we drive across the Jezreel Valley (the biblical scene of Armageddon) to Mount Tabor and ascend to the summit to visit the Church of the Transfiguration and celebrate the Eucharist. On descending Mount Tabor we drive to Nazareth, the town associated with the very beginning of the Gospel. We will visit the Basilica of the Annunciation and then



*Nazareth, Church of the Annunciation*

be joined by Jonathan Cook, a writer and journalist based in Nazareth. He will talk to us about the town and the problems of citizenship for Palestinians in Israel. After a light lunch Jonathan will guide us through Nazareth's old city to consider the

### Day 3 continued

problems of Moslem-Christian relations and Israel's continuing efforts to undermine the city's financial base, including its tourism industry. He will then take us by our coach to visit one of the Palestinian villages, probably Saffuriya, destroyed in the 1948/9 Arab/Israeli war. Many of Saffuriya's inhabitants fled to Nazareth seeking sanctuary, and live there to this day. Israel later built a Jewish farming community, called Tzipori, over the ruins. Finally we return to our lakeside guest house in good time for dinner and overnight stay.

### Day 4, Friday 5th May

Today, leaving Galilee, we head south through the heart of the West Bank, noting as we drive some of the 'facts on the ground' about the Occupation, as we come to the city of Nablus. Here we will visit Jacob's Well, where the Fourth Gospel tells us of Jesus' encounter with a Samaritan woman drawing water.



*Jacob's Well, Nablus*

After a snack lunch we drive down the Jordan Valley to the site believed to be close to where Jesus was baptised by John, where we renew our baptismal vows. We stop for a view of the Mount of Temptation and Orthodox monastery that clings precariously to the side of the mountain before continuing to the oasis of Jericho, the city of palms. Here we visit the Tel (the ancient city) and the sycamore tree traditionally associated with Zacchaeus.

Late afternoon we drive up through the hills of the Judean Wilderness towards Jerusalem and continue through the checkpoint in the 9-metre high separation wall into the town of Bethlehem and our hotel. We plan to arrive in good time to freshen up before dinner. Overnight stay in the Shepherd Hotel in the centre of Bethlehem.



*Possible place of Jesus' baptism, Jordan River*

### Day 5, Saturday 6th May

We begin the day by visiting some of the sites associated with the birth of Jesus. First, the Church of the Nativity, the oldest intact church in Christendom; we also visit the adjoining Catholic Church built over the caves where Jerome translated the Bible into Latin. We then drive to nearby Beit



*Reputed birthplace of Christ within Church of Holy Nativity*

Sahour to visit the Shepherds' Fields, associated with St Luke's story of the angelic message of good news of Christ's birth to shepherds "keeping watch through the night over their flock", before breaking

### Day 5 continued

for a snack lunch. In the afternoon we drive to the Herodion, a fortress built by Herod on a hill in the Judean desert.

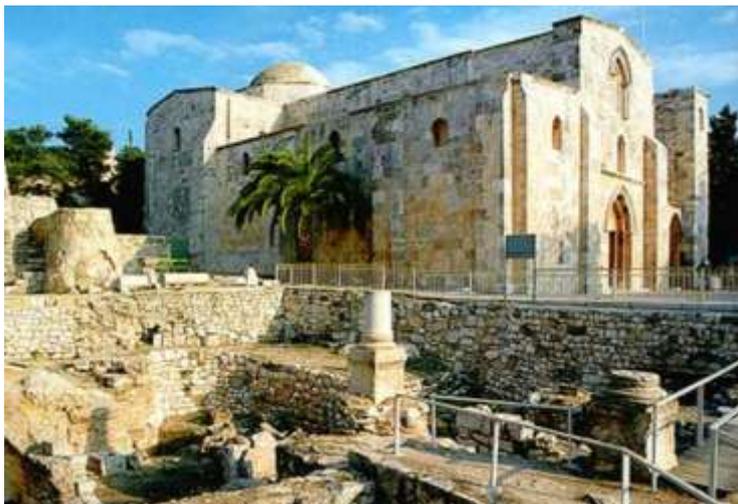


*Herodion*

We then continue to the Aida Refugee Camp (one of three refugee camps in Bethlehem) and its Lajee Centre, a Palestinian creative cultural children's centre, to learn of the hardships and the day to day life of refugees. We will return to our hotel in the early evening in good time for dinner.

### Day 6, Sunday 7th May

This morning after an early breakfast we drive to the Mother Church of Anglicanism in the Holy Land, St George's Cathedral in East Jerusalem, and join its congregation for their Eucharist. Late morning we drive to St Stephen's Gate to visit the beautiful Crusader Church of St Anne and the Pools of Bethesda.



*St Anne's church and the Pools of Bethesda*

We then begin our walk along the Way of the Cross, through the narrow streets of the Old City to the Sisters of Zion and the "Lithostratos", near where Jesus was condemned by Pilate. After a snack lunch at the Austrian Hospice and an opportunity to visit its rooftop terrace for a panoramic view of the Old City, we then continue to make our way to Calvary and the Empty Tomb, enshrined within the



*Church of the Holy Sepulchre, Jerusalem*

Church of the Holy Sepulchre. We walk through the Old City and then rejoin our coach and travel back to Bethlehem and our hotel for dinner and overnight stay.

### Day 7, Monday 8th May

This morning we drive to Daoud Nassar's farm, better known as the Tent of Nations,



*The Nassar family farm (on the horizon to the right), with the access road blocked with boulders*

an educational and environmental family farm with its peaceful mission to help build bridges between the various people of the land. Return to Bethlehem for a snack lunch. In the afternoon we meet Ardi

### Day 7 continued

Geldman at Efrata Settlement. Originally from Chicago, Ardi is a 'settler' and lives in a Jewish settlement built within the West Bank and considered illegal under International Law. We hope to gain a better understanding of what the settlements are and the problems they are creating. We return to Bethlehem to spend the rest of the afternoon at leisure to explore the town. There may well be a pre-dinner talk by "Breaking the Silence", an organisation of Israeli IDF veterans that aims to raise awareness amongst the Israeli public about the reality of everyday life in the Occupied Territories. Dinner and overnight stay in Bethlehem.

### Day 8, Tuesday 9th May

After an early breakfast we make our way to 'Checkpoint 300', the main Palestinian checkpoint from Bethlehem into Jerusalem and pass through on foot. We then drive to the Old City and enter via the Dung Gate to make our way to the Western Wall, the holiest site in Judaism and then, if permitted, to ascend the Temple Mount to view the Dome of the Rock and Al Aqsa mosque. We then drive to the summit of the Mount of Olives for a breathtaking view of the Old City and its magnificent medieval walls, before we follow Jesus'



*Jerusalem from Mount of Olives*

Palm Sunday journey from Bethphage down the mountain, stopping at Church of Dominus Flevit, which commemorates Jesus' weeping over the destruction of Jerusalem before reaching the Garden of

Gethsemane and the Church of All Nations. After a break for a snack lunch we make our way to Mount Zion to visit sites associated with the Last Supper, the Day of Pentecost and the 'falling asleep' of Mary, before finishing our day at the church of St Peter Gallicantu and recalling Peter's betrayal of Jesus. We return to Bethlehem in good time to freshen up before dinner. We hope to be given a talk by Hamed Qawasmeh, who works for the United Nations, about a joint Palestinian-Jewish initiative to relieve the plight of Bedouins being forcibly removed from their historic pastures in the South Hebron Hills. Overnight stay in Bethlehem.

### Day 9, Wednesday 10th May

This morning we combine the depth of religious history of the Holy Land with a clear indication of the modern day political problems by visiting the city of Hebron with its Tombs of the Patriarchs and seeing how the Old City centre has been divided



*A Hebron shopping area sealed and 'sanitised' because of presence of settlers*

and impoverished by the Occupation. We will be able to enter both the mosque and the synagogue, as well as walking through the souk (market). We will also visit a glass factory and a weaving factory before breaking for a snack lunch. In the afternoon we drive down to the Dead Sea and visit Qumran, where the Dead Sea scrolls were found, and also visit nearby excavations of an Essene monastery from where the scrolls probably originated.

## Day 9 continued

We will also have an opportunity to bathe in the unique mineral-laden waters of the Dead Sea before returning to Bethlehem for dinner and our final overnight stay.



*Definitely a 'floating voter'!*

## Day 10, Thursday 11th May

After packing our bags we head west towards the Mediterranean and the airport, stopping at the town of Abu Ghosh, one of the possible sites of



*The Benedictine monastery at Abu Ghosh*

Emmaus, to celebrate a final Eucharist before heading on to the airport for our flight home. We will purchase our own light lunch after checking in and passing through security. We land at Luton Airport late that evening (with optional coach to Canterbury).

*Please note this complex touring programme may be subject to minor local amendments*

### TRAVELLING ON YOUR OWN

A large proportion of our passengers travel alone and object to expensive "single room" supplements. Please indicate this on your booking form (share twin-bedded room) and we will accommodate you with a person of the same sex also travelling alone and would also like to share a room. If we are unable to accommodate you in a shared twin, we will place you in single room at only half the cost (50%) of the usual single supplement. If you require Single accommodation (if available) you should request this when booking and the appropriate supplement will apply.

### PASSPORTS, VISAS & HEALTH

A full valid 10 year passport is necessary for all our tours. Check **NOW** that it is valid for the duration of your tour and validity runs for a further 6 months after your return to the UK. British passport holders will be issued a Visa free of charge on arrival in the Holy Land. Holders of other passports please contact Lightline Pilgrimages on 01992 576065 for advice. No inoculations are required, however we advise you to consult your doctor regarding your own personal requirements.

### TO RESERVE YOUR PLACE ON THIS TOUR

Please read the booking conditions and complete the enclosed booking form and send it, with a deposit of £250 and insurance premium (if required) per person to:

***Lightline Pilgrimages Ltd***

**Coopersale Hall Farm, Epping, CM16 7PE**

**Tel: 01992 576 065**

# INCLUSIVE HOLY LAND TOUR COST - £1865

*All Lightline tours are carefully calculated to include all items necessary to complete your tour at the advertised price.*

- ✓ **Scheduled flights on Easyjet from London Luton Airport**  
London Luton / Tel Aviv      EZY2083    07:15/14:15  
Tel Aviv / London Luton      EZY2086    19:20/22:35  
*Please note the above flights and time are approximate and subject to change*
- ✓ **All airport departure & passenger taxes (UK & Israel)**
- ✓ **Accommodation at the following selected guest houses & hotels:**  
*All hotels and guest houses are fully air-conditioned with en-suite facilities*  
Galilee - Pilgerhaus (Benedictine guest house by the Sea of Galilee)  
Bethlehem - Shepherd Hotel (Central Bethlehem)
- ✓ **Full board basis throughout (breakfast, snack lunch & dinner)**
- ✓ **All entrance fees and local government taxes**
- ✓ **Qualified English speaking guide throughout the tour**
- ✓ **All touring in modern air-conditioned tourist coaches**
- ✓ **All gratuities to guides, drivers, porters and hotel staff**

## The only items not included in the price are:

Single room (*limited availability*) £395, Travel insurance and any items of a personal nature (*laundry & drinks etc*).

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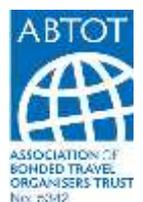
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**THE HOLY LAND**  
**A Pilgrimage for Canterbury Cathedral**  
**Led by Canon Nicholas Papadopoulos**  
**2nd - 11th May 2017**

**TOUR REF:**  
**PAPA7HLTN**

**PASSENGER DETAILS. Please insert Lead Passenger details in Blue Box Section.**

Title Mr/Mrs	Given names as appears in passport	Surname	Nationality	Date of Birth	Passport Number	Expiry Date

**LEAD PASSENGER DETAILS (All correspondence is sent to lead passenger)**

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Post Code: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tel: (day) \_\_\_\_\_ Tel: (eve) \_\_\_\_\_ Tel: (Mobile) \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Please tick box) I have read and agree to the booking conditions and Insurance conditions on behalf of all the travellers that are named above. And at the time of booking no circumstances and known which are likely to lead to cancellation or the curtailment of the pilgrimage by any person. I would like all correspondence to be sent to my address.  
 Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**ACCOMMODATION ( Please tick appropriate box )**

- Twin / Double Bed Room
- Shared Twin Room
- Single Room (Incurs a supplementary cost)

**REMARKS / SPECIAL DIET / ETC.**

*We will take every possible step to ensure that our hotels and restaurants are advised, but special diets of any kind (including vegetarian, vegan, coeliac etc ) can seldom be catered for adequately and we cannot guarantee we will be able to meet your requests.*

**TOUR PAYMENT**

Deposit (per person)	<input type="text"/>	@ £ 250 =	£ <input type="text"/>
Travel insurance (per person up to 75 years)	<input type="text"/>	@ £ 65 =	£ <input type="text"/>
Travel Insurance (per person over 75 years)	<input type="text"/>	@ £ 95 =	£ <input type="text"/>
		<b>Total Enclosed</b>	£ <input type="text"/>

Please send the completed booking form together with your cheque to:  
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**Tel: 01992 576065 E-mail: info@lightline.org.uk**

**Credit Card Payments**  
 Please note there is a 2.5% charge on all credit card payments. There is no charge for debit cards.

**All bookings are subject to our full booking conditions which appear on our website at:**

[www.lightline.org.uk](http://www.lightline.org.uk)

**A copy of these can be posted to you on request. By asking us to make your booking, please make sure you tick the appropriate box confirming you have read our booking conditions.**

The booking conditions provide for the payment of cancellation charges if you cancel or fail to make payment when due. They also include limitations and exclusions of our liability to you. For international travel by air, sea or rail, our liabilities are limited and excluded as if we were a carrier within the applicable international convention or EU regulation (for example, the Montreal Convention, the EC Regulation on Air Carrier Liability and the Athens Convention). A surcharge may be payable in limited circumstances where certain costs increase after booking.

Your contract will be with Lightline Pilgrimages Limited. This contract comes into existence when we dispatch our confirmation invoice to the person who makes your booking.

All Lightline flight and flight-inclusive holidays are financially protected by the ATOL scheme. When you pay, you will be supplied with an ATOL certificate. Please check and ensure that everything you booked is listed correctly.

For more information about the ATOL certificate please visit: [www.atol.org.uk/atolcertificate](http://www.atol.org.uk/atolcertificate)  
Or see our full booking conditions.

British citizens require a British passport in order to travel to the destinations we feature. This usually takes less than six weeks to obtain, unless you are over 16 and have not held a passport previously, in which case you need to allow a minimum of at least six weeks. **Please ensure you have at least six months validity on your passport from the date of your return journey to the UK.**

The Foreign and Commonwealth Office publishes regularly updated travel information on its website: <https://www.fco.gov.uk/knowbeforeyougo> which you are recommended to consult.

In the event of any flight delay or cancellation at your UK or overseas point of departure, the airline is responsible for providing such assistance as is legally required by the Denied Boarding Regulations. The ferry, tunnel or rail operator is similarly responsible in relation to any delayed or cancelled sea crossing or international rail departure. Except where otherwise stated in our brochure or on our website, we regret we cannot provide any assistance in such circumstances other than information and advice to the extent we are in a position to do so.

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### **Cancellation**

Should you or any member of your party need to cancel their booking once it has been confirmed, the party leader must immediately advise us in writing. The notice of cancellation will only be effective when it is received in writing by us at our offices. As we incur costs from the time we confirm your booking, the cancellation charges as displayed in our full booking conditions will apply.