

SEPT 29 - OCT 8, 2026

CALIFORNIA MISSIONS PILGRIMAGE WITH ST. ELIZABETH SETON CHURCH



FR. WILLIAMS ABBA
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Canterbury
Pilgrimages

Day 1: San Diego de Alcalá

Our pilgrimage begins as we touch down this morning at the San Diego Airport. We collect our baggage and belongings and are greeted in the arrivals hall by our Canterbury tour manager, who remains with us every step along our way. We board our private motor coach and arrive at our first stop, Mission Basilica San Diego de Alcalá, the first of the 21 California Missions. We participate in Mass and a tour of the beautiful Mission church and grounds. We check into our hotel this afternoon, followed by dinner. Overnight San Diego (Dinner)

Day 2: Free Day in San Diego

After breakfast at our hotel this morning, we enjoy the day to explore San Diego at our own leisure. We'll gather later in the evening for dinner. Overnight San Diego (Breakfast & dinner)

Day 3: San Luis Rey & San Juan Capistrano

Start the day with breakfast at our hotel. We set off to visit the Mission San Luis Rey de Francia, known as "King of the Missions", because of its size, population, and crop production. We continue north to the Mission San Juan Capistrano, where we have the opportunity to pray inside the Serra Chapel. Built in 1782, the Serra Chapel is the oldest standing building in all of California. We take time to stop for lunch and leisure time on our own in Laguna Beach, a small coastal city known for its many art galleries, coves, and beaches. Overnight Los Angeles area (Breakfast & dinner)

Day 4: San Fernando Rey & Santa Bárbara

After breakfast this morning, we drive up the coast to visit and celebrate Mass at the Mission San Fernando Rey de España. Following Mass, we'll continue north to visit the "Queen of the Missions," Mission Santa Bárbara, the only mission to have remained in Franciscan custody since its founding date. Before leaving Santa Barbara, we take time to appreciate its lovely shops and streets, enjoying lunch on our own and a little time for exploration. Later, we proceed to Solvang, a Danish town where the old-world charm of Northern Europe meets the blue skies of Southern California. For dinner this evening, we enjoy a smörgåsbord, a Scandinavian buffet-style meal at a traditional Danish restaurant. Overnight in Solvang (Breakfast & Dinner)

Day 5: Santa Inés & San Luis Obispo

Mass will be celebrated this morning at the Mission Santa Inés, noted as one of the best-preserved California Missions. From here, we journey north to visit the Mission San Luis Obispo de Tolosa, the 5th mission, which was founded by St. Junipero himself. The area was dubbed by earlier hunters the 'Canyon of the Bears,' and when food began to run low at other missions, St. Junipero sent a hunting mission to the area to test the legend. The mission was a huge success, and Mission San Luis Obispo was founded.

We take time for lunch on Higuera Street, followed by leisure time in Morro Bay. We can see why the bay's prominent 'Morro Rock', a volcanic plug, is commonly known as the Gibraltar of the Pacific. The area boasts miles of unspoiled beaches and nature trails to roam. Later, we check into our hotel for dinner. Overnight San Luis Obispo (Breakfast & Dinner)

Day 6: La Soledad & San Carlos Borromeo

We enjoy breakfast at our hotel. From here, we journey north to visit and celebrate Mass at the Mission Nuestra Señora de la Soledad, the 13th California Mission, founded in 1791, nestled in the heart of the wine country known as the Santa Lucia Highlands. We continue north to visit Mission San Carlos Borromeo de Carmelo. St. Junípero Serra is entombed beneath the sanctuary of this mission church. Here we view his sarcophagus, see his room where he passed away in 1784, and view several of his vestments. Overnight Monterey (Breakfast & Dinner)

Day 7: Free Day in Monterey

After breakfast at our hotel this morning, we enjoy the day to explore Monterey at our own leisure. We'll gather later in the evening for dinner. Overnight Monterey (Breakfast & dinner)

Day 8: Santa Clara de Asís & San Francisco de Asís

After breakfast at our hotel, we're off to our next visit in Santa Clara, the Mission Santa Clara de Asís, located in the heart of Santa Clara University. Next we visit the Mission San Francisco de Asís, the oldest surviving structure in San Francisco. Mass will be celebrated here. We cap the day with dinner in the Pier 39 area of San Francisco and explore its many sights and shops. Overnight San Francisco (Breakfast & Dinner)

Day 9: Mission San Rafael, Cline Cellars & San Francisco Solano

Breakfast at our hotel is followed by a pleasant drive to the famed Sonoma Wine Region, where the vineyards are tucked between the Pacific Ocean and the Mayacamas Mountains. Our first stop is the Mission San Rafael for Mass. We'll continue on to the beautiful Cline Cellars, a family-owned Napa winery located on the original Sonoma Mission site. Here we learn about the history of the property, see the Barrel Room, and visit the California Missions Museum, which hosts miniature to-scale models of all 21 missions. We have lunch on our own and continue to the last of the originally established California Missions, Mission San Francisco Solano, located across from the site of the 1846 Bear Flag Revolt. Overnight San Francisco (Breakfast & dinner)

Day 10: Return Home

With a renewed sense of pilgrimage and an invigorated love of our Catholic faith, we head to the San Francisco Airport to board our plane for the return flight home. (Breakfast)

Your Pilgrimage Includes

- ✓ Roundtrip flights from Phoenix (PHX)
- ✓ 4-star hotel accommodations
- ✓ Breakfast and dinner served daily
- ✓ Wine served with some dinners
- ✓ Private motorcoach transportation
- ✓ Dedicated Canterbury tour director
- ✓ Licensed guiding & admission fees
- ✓ Tips for restaurant & hotel staff
- ✓ Daily Mass & spiritual activities
- ✓ Custom name & luggage tag
- ✓ 9am-5pm (EST) reservation support
- ✓ 24/7 travel emergency support

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