

TRIP TO POLAND ON SEPTEMBER 22 – OCTOBER 1 2019

1. DAY (MON) RZESZÓW

Arrival in Poland at Jasionka Rzeszów Airport. Meeting at the airport with a guide. Transfer to the city center. Rzeszów is a beautiful, renovated capital of the Podkarpackie Voivodeship, and at the same time the largest industrial, academic and cultural center in south-eastern Poland. The city lies at the foot of the Carpathians, on the Wisłok River, in the beautiful landscape of the wooded Sandomierz Basin and the hilly Carpathian Foothills. During the walk, you will be able to see, among others: the Parish Church- the 14th-century historic temple that starts the promenade, the Sanctuary of Our Lady of Rzeszów - Basilica of St. Bernardine - a 17th-century complex, next to which the remains of Bernardine gardens have been preserved, today this place is also called the Italian garden, Grunwaldzka St., Town Hall - a beautiful 15th-century building- the main decoration of the market square in Rzeszów, 3rd May St. - the main promenade in Rzeszów, the summer palace of the Lubomirski family, the Lubomirski Castle - a magnificent 16th century building with a huge bastion, today the seat of the court. Transfer to the hotel in Brzozów - checking-in, dinner and overnight.

2. DAY (TUES) BIESZCZADY: SANOK, BIESZCZADZKA CIUCHCIA, SOLINA

Breakfast. All-day trip to the Bieszczady Mountains. A visit to the Ethnographic Park in Sanok- one of the most beautiful open-air museums in Europe. In terms of the number of artifacts, it is the largest open-air museum in Poland,

reconstructing typical layouts of village buildings and farm development. The Museum holds more than 100 wooden constructions from the 17th to the 20th century. Apart from residential and utility buildings,

there are also sacral buildings (a 17th-century church, two 18th-century Boyko churches, a flamboyant Lemko church from the very beginning of the 19th century and a few picturesque chapels), public buildings (a village school, an inn) and industrial facilities (a water mill, windmills, forges).

Then, a visit to Maidan- the main depot and station of the most famous narrow-gauge railways in Poland - "Bieszczady Forest Railway", which runs through the mountain valleys from Majdan near Cisna towards Przysłop, and westwards along the Slovak border up to Balnica. Every year, it is visited by crowds of tourists, which makes it one of the biggest attractions in the Bieszczady Mountains. Stopover at Solina lake, the so-called Sea of Bieszczady Mountains - a walk along the crown of water reservoir in Solina. No Polish reservoir offers such changing landscapes,

original, unexpected views, so many mysterious, secluded coves inviting you to stay in the night at the glow of a bonfire.

Drive to Jabłonka. Dinner in a restaurant. Return to the hotel for the night.

3. DAY (WED) PIENINY MOUNTAINS

Breakfast. Check-out from the hotel and transfer to Sromowce Wyzne from where we can start rafting on the Dunajec river. It is one of the biggest tourist attractions of the region. Then, drive to Jaworki - a walk through Homole Gorge - considered one of the most beautiful ravines in Poland. Rest in the Dubantowska Valley.

Transfer to the place of accommodation in a guesthouse in Podhale, a regional dinner, overnight stay.

4. DAY (THUR) ZAKOPANE, THERMAL BATHS

Breakfast. All-day trip to Zakopane - the winter capital of Poland. A local climate has a good effect on lung diseases-you can catch a deeper breath and break free from all the rules and orders. In Zakopane, one talks freely, dances longer and laughs louder. Visitors find energy here that comes from a combination of mountains and folk culture.

Next, cable car ride to Gubałówka, walking along the Gubałówka lane, chairlift ride off the Butorowy Wierch. Transfer to the Sanctuary of Our Lady of Fatima in Krzeptówki, built by the highlanders as a votive offering for saving the life of Pope John Paul II during the attack on 13.05.1981 in Rome. Then, a walk down the main promenade of Zakopane - Krupówki - the possibility of buying regional specialties and souvenirs. Transfer to the thermal baths – a 3 or 4-hour stay in the pools. Return to the hotel for the night.

5. DAY (FRI) ŁAGIEWNIKI, WADOWICE

Breakfast. Transfer to Łagiewniki - the Sanctuary of Divine Mercy - a huge and beautiful building that is a site of pilgrimage for many believers. They come to see the grave of sister Faustyna Kowalska, who became a person spreading devotion to God's Mercy. There is also a painting of Merciful Jesus, painted on the basis of Sister Faustina's vision.

Then, a visit to the Center of John Paul II - the vote of gratitude for the Polish nation for the pontificate of St. John Paul II . The mission of the Center is to disseminate and creatively develop the legacy of John Paul II, promote spirituality, culture and traditions associated with him, as well as scientific and educational activities and assistance to those in need. The heart of the venue is the Church of St. John Paul II with numerous relics associated with the Pope. In the afternoon, drive to Wadowice - the village where Karol Wojtyła was born. Visiting the parish church where the future Pope was baptized - the Basilica of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Then, a visit to the Museum of the Family Home of John Paul II - a modern, multimedia narrative exhibition that not only allows you to get to know or rediscover the life, activity and teaching of the Man who changed the face of the modern world, but also takes visitors on a journey in time, touching the recent history of Poland.

Transfer to the hotel near Wadowice - checking-in, dinner and overnight.

6. DAY (SAT) WIELICZKA, KRAKÓW

Breakfast. Transfer to Wieliczka – a visit to the museum of the salt mine- a walking tour through the religious route of Wieliczka Mine: admiring magnificent chapels, sacred sculptures carved into salt, unique views, beautiful chambers, including the famous Chapel of St. Kinga, corridors and passages. It's a place where faith gives strength to make every next step. Mass on this day will be celebrated in one of the chapels in the Mine.

In the afternoon, drive to the center of Krakow and meeting the guide. Lying in the south of Poland, Krakow is one of the oldest cities and a gem of the national cultural heritage. In the past, it served as the capital of the state, the seat of kings. This vast city, located above the queen of Polish rivers - the Vistula, is visited by tourists from all over the world. In 1978, the Old Town, Wawel and Kazimierz were included in the WORLD LIST OF UNESCO HISTORICAL MONUMENTS.

The guided walking route runs from the Wawel Hill with the Royal Castle (from outside) and the Cathedral with royal graves and the graves of J. Piłsudski - the creator of the reborn Poland after the First World War and President Kaczyński - who died during the Smolensk plane crash, then the Market Square with St. Mary's Church and Cloth Hall, up to the Papal window on Franciszkańska Street. In the evening, return to the hotel near Wadowice for dinner and overnight.

7. DAY (SUN) AUSCHWITZ , CZĘSTOCHOWA

Breakfast. Check-out from the hotel and transfer to KL AUSCHWITZ – BIRKENAU. Guided tour. The Auschwitz camp has become a symbol of terror, genocide and the Shoah for the world. It was created by the Germans in mid- 1940 in the suburbs of Oswiecim. Incorporated, by the Nazis into the Third Reich.

The immediate reason for the creation of the camp was the growing number of mass arrests of Poles and the overcrowding of existing prisons. The first transport of Poles arrived at KL Auschwitz on June 14, 1940 from the prison in Tarnów . Initially, it was to be one of the concentration camps, created by the Nazis from the early thirties.

It fulfilled this function during the entire period of its existence, also when - in 1942 -

it became at the same time one of the centers of the "Endlösung der Judenfrage" (final solution of the Jewish question) - the Nazi plan to murder Jews living in the territories occupied by the Third Reich. After sightseeing, drive to Częstochowa - the most important Marian sanctuary in Poland. Visiting the Monastery, the Virgin Mary's Chapel and the Basilica.

Time for personal prayer.

Holy Mass. After the mass, transfer to Warsaw. Arrival at the hotel, checking-in, dinner and overnight.

8. DAY (MON) WARSZAWA

Breakfast. Transfer to the center of Warsaw. A walk around the capital: Royal Castle, Warsaw Old Town - Castle Square with Sigismund III Vasa Column, Archcathedral Basilica of Saint John the Baptist and the Market Square. A panoramic tour around Warsaw: The Opera House, the Palace of Culture. Then drive to the Warsaw Uprising Museum. The venue presents the history of the days preceding the outbreak of the insurgent uprising of Poles in August 1944, its subsequent phases as well as the exit of the Insurgents from Warsaw and their further fate. A visit to the Museum is an excellent history lesson, and the use of multimedia effects allows you to move into an insurrectionary reality. Free time. Return to the hotel for dinner and overnight.

9. DAY (TUES) WARSZAWA

Breakfast. Checking out of the hotel. Transfer to Wilanów – a visit to the Palace and Park. Then transfer to the airport and departure to the USA at 17:30.

Price for trip \$\$ 2,600.00

Please contact the Sacred Heart Parish Office at 732-721-0040
for reservation information.