

Pilgrimage of a Lifetime

Join *Arkansas Catholic* for an 11-day pilgrimage to Germany, Austria, Liechtenstein and Switzerland with **Father Erik Pohlmeier**, diocesan faith formation director and theological consultant for *Arkansas Catholic*.

Experience the world-famous
Passion Play in Oberammergau,
Germany, held only every 10 years
June 9-19, 2020

\$3939 per person, double occupancy (airfare not included in price at this time) • Daily Mass • Includes lodging, breakfast and dinner daily and entrance fees to scheduled sites • Tips, beverages and insurance also not included • A \$600 deposit is required at the time of registration • Final payment is due by Feb. 28, 2020.

**Only 42 seats available.
Details and registration form inside.**

INFORMATIONAL MEETING

with Father Pohlmeier and organizers
Sunday, Dec. 10, 2017 • 2-3:30 p.m.

St. John Center, Fitzgerald Hall, Little Rock

To register for the meeting, visit

<http://2020pilgrimage.eventbrite.com>.

SO MUCH TO SEE, LEARN, EXPERIENCE • The village of Oberammergau will put on the 42nd Passion Play from May to October 2020, a tradition that has occurred with almost without interruption for more than 380 years. It is regarded as the most important passion play in the world, expecting about 450,000 visitors. • Our Lady of Altötting, the national shrine of Bavaria and Germany's premier Marian shrine • Guided tour of Mozart's birthplace • Scenery from "Sound of Music" • Neuschwanstein Castle, the inspiration for Cinderella's Castle in Disney World • Shrine of Our Lady in Einsiedeln and the world's largest nativity scene • Dachau concentration camp • **Only 42 seats are available, so reserve today!**



Altötting (Heather Cowper)



Lucerne
Chapel Bridge
(Dennis Jarvis)



Bürgersaalkirche, Munich (Stefan Jurca)



Oberammergau (Kienberger)



Houses in Oberammergau
(Thoma Klinger)



Cafes, Innsbruck (Tim Sackton)



Einsiedeln Abbey (Mark Longair)



Salzburger Dom (big_mouth/flickr)

YOUR DAY-BY-DAY ITINERARY

Day 1 June 9, 2020

We depart LR to connect with our overnight flight to Munich.

Day 2 June 10/Day 3 June 11, MUNICH

Today we arrive in Munich, the Bavarian center of Germany. We are greeted by our tour escort and board our deluxe motor coach for an outstanding two-day visit of the city. Every big city has at least one place that tourists must visit. In Munich, this is Marienplatz. Home to the Town Hall (Rathaus), the historic square is always buzzing with people who come to shop, take in its beautiful architecture and watch the Glockenspiel tower put on its animated show three times a day.

Our sightseeing for these two days includes:

- The Michaelskirche-St Michael, a Jesuit church dating back to 1583 where many nobles are buried
- Alter Peter, Old Peter to the locals. St. Peter Church is one of the most iconic sights in Munich. If you want to enjoy a view of the entire city center from the church tower, you will first need to climb 299 steps, but the sight is worth the effort. When the weather is very good, you can also see all the way to the Alps.
- The Residenz, once the city castle of the Bavarian dukes, princes and emperors. Today, it is the largest city-center castle in Germany.

- Asamkirch Church (Church of St. Johann Nepomuk) with its breathtaking frescos built in 1733-1746
 - Theatiner Church of St. Cajetan (1663-1690), built as a gesture of thanksgiving for the birth of the long-awaited heir to the Crown
 - St. Paul Church, heavily damaged during World War II, including the high altar. Through the years it has been fully restored.
 - English Gardens, a beautiful and vast park with great charm.
 - A must visit is to Viktualienmarkt. Born as a farmers market, it has evolved into a popular hub where you can find all sorts of fresh food and deli items.
- Our panorama tour of the city will take us past the Felaherrnhalle Monument commissioned by King Ludwig I in 1841 to honor the tradition of his army, view the Chinesische Torm (Chinese Tower), oldest and most famous tower, and much more. A must visit for those who love beer is Hofbrauhaus, a heaven since 1589 for the local beer and Bavarian charm. Tasting is on your own. One afternoon will be spent touring Dachau, which was established in March 1933. It was the first German concentration camp and the model for all Nazi camps. Our guide will give us a history of the camp. Each night is dinner and overnight in Munich.

To reserve your place, please complete this form and mail with payment and a copy of the photo page of your passport to the Sue Smith Vacations address at the bottom of the form.

Enclosed is my payment for the Pilgrimage of a Lifetime 2020 Tour • BN:52991

Double or triple room occupancy only allowed. Single rooms are not available at this time.

PASSENGER #1 NAME: _____

Clearly print name as it appears on your passport: (Last, First, Middle)

PASSENGER #1 Name desired for nametag: _____ Rooming With: _____

PASSENGER #1 Passport No.: _____ Expiration Date: _____ Gender: _____ Date of Birth: _____

PASSENGER #2 NAME (if residing in same household as Passenger 1): _____

Clearly print name as it appears on your passport: (Last, First, Middle)

PASSENGER #2 Name desired for nametag: _____

PASSENGER #2 Passport No.: _____ Expiration Date: _____ Gender: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Home Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: (_____) _____ Cell Phone: (_____) _____ Email: _____

Emergency Contact Information: Name: _____ Phone: (_____) _____ Relationship: _____

_____ \$600 per person reservation deposit plus applicable optional insurance (see terms and conditions on last page for price).

_____ \$600 per person reservation deposit (if insurance is declined). Initial deposit is non-refundable.

_____ I am paying my deposit with a check made payable to Sue Smith Vacations. Amount \$ _____

_____ I am paying my deposit with a credit/debit card.

Credit Card # _____ Expiration Date: _____ * Security Code _____ Amount \$ _____

*(We accept: Visa, Mastercard, American Express and Discover.) (*3 or 4 digit number on back of Card) 3% processing fee will be added to your payment*

Name that appears on credit card: _____

Cardholder signature: _____

Allergies/health issues we should be aware of: _____

Signature of passenger(s): _____ / _____ Date: _____

Enrollment in and payment for the tour constitutes your acceptance of the program conditions.

Make check payable and mail to Sue Smith Vacations • 3806 John F. Kennedy Boulevard, North Little Rock, AR 72116 • Office: (501) 771-0987

Day 4 June 12, MUNICH/ALTOTTING/SALZBURG

After breakfast we bid farewell to Munich and head to Altotting, referred to as the “Heart of Bavaria,” with Germany’s most famous Marian shrine dating back more than 500 years. Each year more than a million pilgrims come to Altotting to venerate the “Black Madonna,” a wooden statue of the Virgin Mary. Altotting Shrine is listed among the Marian shrines of Europe. Pilgrims come to Altotting called the “Our Lady of Germany” seeking healings. Mass will be celebrated at the center of the pilgrimage complex, the Chapel of Mercy.

While there, we have the opportunity to visit St. Konard Monastery where the saint’s relics are housed under the altar and St. Anna Basilica, the largest church built in Germany in the 20th century. We will have a walking tour with a visit to the Panorama of the Crucifixion of Christ, the Pilgrim Museum. St. John Paul II visited Altotting in 1980 and Pope Benedict XVI in 2006. Pope Benedict XVI was born a very short distance from Altotting.

We continue on to Salzburg via the Shrine of Maria Plain, where St. John Paul II was on a pilgrimage. Legend says the image of the Virgin Mary with Jesus as a child remained unharmed during a fire in the city of Regen (Bavaria) that destroyed the church. The image was sent to Salzburg in 1652 where a chapel was built to house it. As we drive to Salzburg we will be taken back by the beauty of the mountains and lakes in the Salzkammergut area, backdrop for the “Sound of Music.” Dinner and overnight.

Day 5 June 13 SALZBURG

We wake up this morning in Salzburg, the lovely birthplace of Mozart, the city of great houses, mansions, castles, festival hall and the Mirabelle Gardens to hear the bells of the great Glockenspiel Tower, performing a melody of Mozart’s Music. Salzburg is a UNESCO World Heritage City since 1997 and is compact, best explored on foot. We will stroll the narrow, winding streets and secluded passageways, all evidence of its medieval roots. Visit Mozart’s birthplace, stop at Heilbrunn Palace to enjoy its gardens and hidden trick fountains, next St. Peter Churchyard, one of the oldest monasteries in Germany. The abbey and cemetery were featured in the “Sound of Music” escape scene. Time permitting we will visit some of the other sites featured in the movie. We will continue our tour of Salzburg to visit the Fortress Hohensalzburg, a castle built in 1077, with time for shopping before we head to dinner at Mozart’s Concert Hall. Dinner and overnight.

Day 6 June 14 BAVARIA/OBERAMMERGAU

After breakfast we bid farewell to Salzburg and head to Oberammergau, first stopping at Linderhof Place and Neuschwanstein Castle, which opened to the public seven weeks after his King Ludwig II’s death in 1886. Neuschwanstein Castle is the most popular of all castles and palaces in Europe. It is called the “castle of the fairy tale king.” Walt Disney was inspired by this castle when he designed the castle for Sleeping Beauty. We continue on to Kloster Ettal Abbey, built in 1330 by Emperor Ludwig, to tour the beautiful Benedictine monastery. The monastery runs a brewery producing the famous Ettaler Kloster Liqueur. The grounds are lovely with a bookstore, art publishing house, hotel and cheese factory. We continue on to Oberammergau for our two-night stay. Check into our hotel and stroll the quaint village and its shops. Dinner and overnight.

Day 7 June 15 OBERAMMERGAU

Today after breakfast we will attend the Passion Play, which dates

back to 1632 when woodcarvers coming back home after selling their wares in other parts of Europe brought the plague with them. In a desperate plea to God the town vowed to perform a Passion Play every 10 years if God spared them. The entire Bavarian village takes part in the play as performers, musicians and stage technicians every 10 years. Dinner and overnight.

Day 8 June 16 TYROL AND LIECHTENSTEIN

We depart this morning for Tyrol, with its natural beauty and exceptional countryside is one of the highlights of the tour and will make it an unforgettable memory. As we arrive, experience the former Olympic town of Innsbruck, the capital of Tyrol. See The Golden Roof and the Imperial Palace with the 800-year-old Imperial Church, the City Tower and the Ambras Castle near Innsbruck, which is probably Austria’s finest Renaissance palace. In the afternoon, we will visit Swarovski’s Crystal World. The Swarovski Crystal World, created by Andre Heller, is a pure invitation to dream. Only a 20-minute drive away from Innsbruck, this sparkling fantasy world is definitely worth a visit. This unique crystalline theatre is, aside from Schonbrunn Palace, Austria’s second most visited museum. Drive to Liechtenstein for some free time in Vaduz. Dinner and overnight.

Day 9 June 17 EINSIEDELN

This morning after breakfast and a city tour of Vaduz, capital of Liechtenstein, we drive to Einsiedeln to visit the Shrine of Our Lady in Einsiedeln, the founding abbey for our own Subiaco Abbey. This shrine attracts more than 200,000 visitors a year. The shrine is the most ancient and revered holy palace in Europe dating back to the ninth century when the hermit St. Meinrad built the heritage and brought with him a wooden statue of the Madonna. He was killed by two thieves in 861. On Sept 14, 948, when two bishops tried to consecrate the chapel they saw Christ standing before the altar with his angels and saints announcing he had already consecrated the chapel the night before. The village itself is also known as the home to the world’s largest nativity scene, the Diorama Bethlehem, with its 500 carved wooden figures. Because this display runs from Easter to the end of October, we will be able to visit it. We proceed to Lucerne. Dinner and overnight.

Day 10 June 18 LUCERNE

Today we will explore Lucerne, and see this outstanding lovely city on the River Reuss. Our walking tour will include the colorful Old Town, 14th century Mueseggmauer City Walls, the many outstanding fountains, squares, colorful homes, great shops and its world renowned Wine Market with the beautiful Weinmarkt Fountain. A must-see is “Kapellbrücke” the Chapel Bridge, a covered wooden footbridge spanning across the Reuss, which opened 1333. It is named after the nearby St. Peter’s Chapel. Next is a visit to the breath-taking Lion Monument, a rock relief hewn in 1820, to commemorate the Swiss Guards who were massacred in 1792 during the French Revolution. Mark Twain praised the sculpture of the mortally wounded lion as “the most mournful and moving piece of stone in the world.” Last stop is Hofkirche, Church of St. Leodegar, built in 1633. Dinner and overnight.

Day 11 June 19, LITTLE ROCK

We depart Lucerne for a short drive to Zurich airport for our U.S. flight arriving home the same day. We will take with us many memories and blessings to last a lifetime.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Tour Prices: All prices in this brochure are based on land rates and exchange rates in effect at the time of printing and on group rates of 45 passengers per bus. Tours may depart with less than the required number of passengers, at the discretion of Group IST, LLC (doing business and referred to herein as "Regina Tours"), but an additional charge may apply. Passengers will be advised about such surcharges 60 days before departure. All prices are subject to change without notice prior to departure due to major currency fluctuations and/or unforeseen economic circumstances.

Reservations, Deposits and Final Payments:

Please complete the Participant Agreement, with full names as they appear on passports, and mail it to us with the required per-person deposit. Deposit of \$600 is required to hold your spot on the tour. Deposits must be received before January 31, 2018. A second deposit of \$600 is due by July 31, 2018. A third deposit of \$600 is due by February 28, 2019. A fourth deposit of \$600 is due by July 31, 2019. The final balance is due by February 28, 2020. If final payment is received after February 28, 2020, a late fee will be assessed in the amount of \$50 per late payment. All payments made by check should be made payable to Sue Smith Vacations (referred to herein as SSV). Credit card payments will be subject to a 3% processing fee.

Late Reservations: If a booking is made within 60 days of departure, full payment is due at the time of booking. There will be a \$50 late processing fee applicable plus cost of any express or overnight mail services.

Travel Documents: A valid passport (valid for six months after the return date of the trip) is required to travel. Visa is required for U.S. passport holders traveling to some destinations; please contact our office for details. All non-U.S. citizens must contact the appropriate consular office for entry visa requirements pertaining to their trip. In addition non-U.S. citizens are responsible for complying with requirements for re-entry into the U.S. SSV/Regina Tours assumes no responsibility for procurement of passport or visas. Obtaining and carrying these documents is the sole responsibility of passengers. SSV/Regina Tours will not be responsible for any delays, damages and/or losses, including missed portions of your trip due to improper travel documentation.

Final Documents: All documents and tickets are only issued upon receipt of final payment and are sent within three weeks of departure. Documents are not guaranteed if final payment and booking form are not received on time.

Air from Home City: Air from LIT is not included in the package. All other gateway options are considered on a case-by-case basis. Sue Smith Vacations is providing air travel for the people traveling on Arkansas Catholic's pilgrimage to Europe in June 2020.

Rooms: Prices are per person, based on two persons sharing a hotel room. While no single rooms are available, in some cases, when requested, we may be able to find an appropriate roommate for passengers who want to travel as a single person. Triple rooms are available in many hotels for family or friends traveling together. There are no discounts for triple rooms.

Medical Conditions: While we endeavor to provide the highest level of service to all our passengers, we cannot guarantee special facilities or assistance for disabled passengers and it is your responsibility to arrange for such assistance as required. We regret that we cannot provide individual assistance. SSV/Regina Tours is not responsible for any medical conditions that may occur prior, during, or after the tour.

Responsibility: The tour member understands that he or she has no claim against Sue Smith Vacations, Regina Tours, Arkansas Catholic and the Diocese of Little Rock and its affiliates, for any delay or damage to or loss of property or baggage or injury to or death of persons due to any neglect or willful act of a direct air carrier, hotel, bus company, steamship or cruise company, railroad, transportation company or service company of any kind, or any other person or persons rendering any of the services being offered in connections with these tours. Further, SSV and Regina Tours advises that it has no ownership interest whatsoever in any hotel, restaurant, bus company or transportation or service company of any kind outside the USA, nor does it have any employee outside of the USA. You may see the name Regina Tours affixed to motor vehicles, on signs around the hotel or elsewhere. This use of our name is purely for reasons of identification and does not denote ownership, supervision or control by Regina Tours in any way. Regina Tours, a brand of Group IST, LLC, and its overseas representatives reserve the right without notice to change, amend or cancel any part or all of the tour and to make such changes as may be necessary. Regina Tours acts only as an agent in securing hotels, transportation and other travel services from suppliers, and in no event shall Regina Tours be liable in the event of any failure by any person or company to render any transportation, lodging or other travel services to be provided on the tour.

The acceptance of the initial service to be provided under the tour shall be considered an acceptance by the tour member of these conditions. If there is a difference between the conditions of Regina Tours and those published by suppliers, the conditions of suppliers shall apply. Regina Tours reserves the right to substitute hotel of similar quality and reserves the right to vary the sequence of sightseeing and/ or to re-route the order of cities. In calculating the cost of the trip, Regina Tours has relied on your consent to these terms and in the absence of this release, the cost of the trip would be higher. A contract is made when your reservation and payment are accepted by SSV. We reserve the right to decline to accept a person or remove a person from a tour, if such person presents a significant risk to the health or safety of himself or the group and the person cannot otherwise be reasonably accommodated.

Cancellation Policy and Refunds: We hope that nothing will prevent you from taking your pilgrimage. However, should you need to cancel, your cancellation must be received in writing, via e-mail, fax or by letter. It will be effective on the date of receipt. SSV and Regina Tours will apply the following cancellation fees per person:

Days Prior to Departure	
90 to 61	\$450
60 to 46	50% of tour cost
45 to 31	75% of tour cost
30 to 1 or no show	No refund

Once the tours commence, there will be no refunds on missed or unused portions of the tour programs. Purchase of Travel Insurance, at the time of deposit, is strongly recommended.

Not Included in the Published Price: Cost of items not listed on each program such as meals, beverages and items of personal nature, excess luggage allowance, laundry, room service, travel insurance, passport and visas costs, expenses for additional sightseeing not specified in the itinerary, any incurred medical costs and replacement of items forgotten or stolen while on the tour, and gratuities (\$180 for tips will be added to your final invoice).

Important: For security reasons Sue Smith Vacations requests a copy of your passport picture page to ensure correct name on reservations. Purchase of travel insurance, at the time of deposit, is strongly recommended.

Travel Insurance, per person: \$435.00

For more information, contact Kathy Primm at Sue Smith Vacations, (501) 771-0987 or kathy@suesmithvacations.com or visit suesmithvacations.com