

Tour 80504

A 9-day pilgrimage to Mexico

May 4 - 12, 2018

with Group Leader,
Gloria Gomez
and

Spiritual Guide,
Fr. Michael B. Semana



MEXICO
CITY

GUADALUPE

Early registration price
\$1,999 + \$139* per person from Houston
if deposit is paid by 1-24-18

Base price \$2,099 + \$139* per person after 1-24-18

**Estimated Airline Taxes & Fuel Surcharges
subject to increase/decrease at 30 days prior*

**Domestic flights into Houston can be requested...
see Registration Form**

TERMS AND CONDITIONS / TOUR CONTRACT

TOUR PRICE: Based on tariffs and currency exchange rates in effect on 11/15/2017 and subject to change without notice should there be a revision in rates prior to departure of tour. The tour price is based on a minimum of 36 passengers. Should there be fewer, there could be a surcharge.

ACCOMMODATIONS: In first class hotels or better, based on double or triple occupancy with private facilities. Single-room supplement is \$59 per night and based on availability. Requests for a roommate are assigned on a first-come, first-served basis and are not guaranteed. The single-room supplement will be assessed if a roommate is not available when the group is finalized.

MEALS: Eight full hot breakfasts, one lunch, and eight dinners throughout the basic tour (continental breakfasts in hotels only where full breakfasts are not available). Extra charge for beverage not included in the menu of the day.

TIPS AND TAXES: Those normally appearing on hotel and restaurant bills as "service" are included. Airport fees, departure taxes, and fuel surcharges are estimated on the original invoice and adjusted at the time of ticketing.

SIGHTSEEING: By modern motorcoach, including services of English-speaking guides and entrance fees to places included in the itinerary. Masses at churches indicated are subject to availability.

NOT INCLUDED: 1: Airport fees, departure taxes and fuel surcharges (est. - \$139); 2: tips to guides and drivers, meal servers and luggage handlers (\$112); and 3: optional travel protection. An amount to cover these items will be added to your original invoice. Also not included: domestic baggage fees, passport and visa fees, laundry, wines, liquors, meals not included in the itinerary, sightseeing or services other than those specifically mentioned and items of a personal nature. **NOTE:** Due to limited storage space on motor coaches, Pentecost Tours entitles each passenger to one checked bag and one carry-on bag that meets airline "size/weight" allowances. Domestic baggage fees, overweight baggage charges, and fees for additional bags fall under the responsibility of the passenger. Be aware, while you may agree to pay fees for additional luggage, there may not be room on the motor coach.

ASSISTANCE: Pilgrims who require personal assistance must be accompanied by a paying passenger who will provide that assistance.

DEPOSIT AND CANCELLATION: A deposit of \$500 per person is required to secure reservations, which sum will be applied to the price of the tour, with the balance to be paid in full no later than 2/1/2018.

▶ Payment of remaining balance received after 2/1/2018 [PENALTY PHASE ONE] will incur a \$50 penalty. Reservations made within 92 days of departure may be subject to a late charge. In the event of cancellation, refund will be made up to 1/4/2018 with a \$100 administrative fee plus any airline cancellation penalties.

▶ From 1/4/2018 to 2/1/2018 [PENALTY PHASE TWO] the cancellation penalty is \$500 plus any airline cancellation penalties.

▶ If cancellation is received after 2/1/2018 [PENALTY PHASE THREE], refund will be subject to a minimum 40% cancellation fee plus any airline cancellation penalties, or an amount equal to expenses to the tour operator, whichever is greater.

There will be no refund for cancellations within 45 days of departure.

Cancellation must be in writing and the effective date will be the date that Pentecost Tours, Inc. receives it. In the event 15 passengers do not book the tour within 120 days of departure, the

agent reserves the right to cancel the tour. **NOTE:** Any change request/alterations to the group flight itinerary, requests for airline deviations and/or added domestic flights, automatically accelerates to a minimum PHASE TWO penalty level or the current level whichever is greater. Once the change request/alteration is made, those arrangements are final and can NOT be changed back to the group arrangement. If the entire tour is cancelled by Pentecost Tours, Inc., you are entitled to a full refund.

AIR TRANSPORTATION: Round trip Houston/Mexico City and Mexico City/Houston on economy class jet via United or any other IATA member. Based on 6-day minimum/21-day maximum advanced purchase fare, subject to participation of ten persons on entire flight itinerary. If cancellation is effected by passenger after 2/1/2018, or after air tickets are written, whichever comes first, 100% of airfare will be forfeited by passenger in addition to the penalties mentioned above. All airfares are subject to government approval and change without notice.

TRAVEL PROTECTION: Travel Protection is NOT included in the tour price. We highly suggest that all participants purchase a plan to help protect your trip and your investment. Plans offer benefits for trip cancellation/interruption, accident & sickness medical expense, emergency evacuation & repatriation, and more. You will be mailed a travel protection brochure along with a waiver form, in the event that you choose to decline coverage. The Plan Document will be provided, upon purchase. Read through this document carefully as it contains full plan and benefit details and exclusions & limitations. Please note that Medicare does not provide coverage outside of the United States. Check with your own insurance provider to determine whether or not you are covered outside of the U.S.

RESPONSIBILITY AND LIABILITY: Land arrangements including surface transportation: Pentecost Tours, Inc., and the participating Tour Operators operate the land tours offered under this program only as agents of the railroads, car rental contractors, steamship lines, hotels, bus operators, sightseeing contractors and others that provide the actual land arrangements and are not liable for any act, omission, delay, injury, loss, damage or nonperformance occurring in connection with these land arrangements. United and other IATA carriers, steamship lines and other transportation companies whose services are featured in these tours are not to be held responsible for any act, omission or event during the time passengers are not on board their conveyance. The passage contract in use by these companies when issued shall constitute the sole contract between the companies and the purchaser of these tours and/or passage.

MISCELLANEOUS FEES: All changes must be in writing and may incur a per-person charge for each revision. Deposits received within 92 days of departure may incur a late registration fee.

LAND ARRANGEMENTS: The tour operator reserves the right to change the itinerary because of emergencies or extenuating circumstances beyond our control.

ERRORS: The Pentecost Tours staff does its best to provide you with accurate billing, brochures, etc. However, in the event of computer error, verbal or written human errors, we reserve the right to invoice, re-invoice, or forward corrected materials.

Travel Arrangements by:



PO Box 280
 Batesville, IN 47006
 (800) 713-9800
 FAX (812) 934-5714
travel@pentecosttours.com
www.pentecosttours.com

Hours: Monday-Friday, 9 AM - 5 PM E.S.T.

Tour 80504

MASS WILL BE CELEBRATED DAILY

Day 1: Friday, May 4, 2018, USA / MEXICO CITY / PUEBLA

Today we depart on our flight bound for Mexico City. Upon arrival, we meet our fulltime tour escort, and transfer to Puebla. We check in at our hotel for a welcome dinner and overnight. [D]

Day 2: Saturday, 5/5 , PUEBLA

CHURCH OF SANTO DOMINGO



Puebla, one of the oldest colonial cities founded by the Spanish conquistadors and now a UNESCO World Heritage Site is our first stop today. This historic city is nestled in a river valley between the mountains and volcanoes. Our first stop is at the **Church of Santo Domingo** to see the baroque-style **Rosary Chapel**, covered in gold. Then, we visit the impressive colonial-style **Cathedral**. Next, we see a **Talavera demonstration** by a local artisan. We return to the hotel for a **free afternoon** to explore on

your own or do some shopping. This evening we gather at the hotel for dinner. Overnight in Puebla. [B,D]

Day 3: Sunday, 5/6 , PUEBLA / TLAXCALA / OCOTLAN / MEXICO CITY

We begin today at **San Miguel del Milagro**, the site of St. Michael's miraculous apparitions to Diego Lázaro in 1631, and we'll take time to visit the **well of curative waters** associated with the miracle there. Then, we travel to the **Shrine and Sanctuary of Our Lady of Ocotlán**, where an apparition of Our Lady occurred to Juan Diego Bernardino in 1541. We view the image of Our Lady which was left in a burned tree but now has a prominent spot above the church altar. We will spend time here and **learn more about three new saints (Cristobalito, Antonio, and Juanito)** who were canonized by Our Holy Father, Pope Francis, in October 2017.

The "first seed of the great growth of Catholicism" in Mexico is a result of the martyrdom of three young Tlaxcala natives. Cristobalito, son of a drunk and abusive Pagan tribal chief, was educated at the first Franciscan school in Tlaxcala. As he attempted to convert friends and family by sharing the word of the Lord, he faced interference from his father who continually pressured him to renounce his faith. One day, Cristobalito destroyed the family's pagan idols, which incensed his father. Outraged, his father began to severely beat Cristobalito to the point of broken limbs. Offering up his intense pain, he prayed. His father's outrage drove him to throw his son into a burning fire which cost Cristobalito his life. A young boy named Antonio and his young servant Juanito, assisted the Dominican missionaries as interpreters for the locals in neighboring towns. Both boys were warned that their assistance could result in their deaths but their volunteer work continued. Part of their work, destroying pagan idols in the homes of the locals, caused friction. Juan and then Antonio were subsequently beat to their deaths.

From there, we **visit the Asilo of Our Lady of Ocotlán**. We will then continue our journey to Mexico City, where we check into our hotel for dinner and overnight. [B,D]



Day 4: Monday, 5/7 , MEXICO CITY / XOCHIMILCO / MEXICO CITY

We make brief morning stop at the **Plaza of the Three Cultures** (Tlatelolco), where we see the fascinating ancient ruins of the Aztec pyramid, the colonial era **Church of St. James** and the modern skyscraper, all representing the mix of the Aztec, European and modern influences that have shaped this city. Then, to absorb the culture of the Mexican people and their love and devotion for Our Lady, we spend time at the **Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe**. We explore the grounds, spend time in reflection as we look upon the original miraculous image of our Blessed Mother which she left on St. Juan Diego's tilma. **We have the opportunity to visit the Tepayac Hill Indian Church, the old Basilica, the Church of the Well, and the Monument of the Offerings.** There are areas around the Shrine, including the Shrine's gift shop, where we have plenty of time to purchase special keepsakes from the area. This afternoon, we get an impression of the old Mexico City (Tenochtitlan) as we visit the last remaining **canals at Xochimilco**. Here the farms still produce flowers, fruits and vegetables for the city. We will take a **leisurely trip in a festive gondola** along the canal while enjoying a **boxed lunch** and may even hear some entertaining mariachi music! Later this afternoon, we return to our hotel and the **remainder of the day is free to explore independently**. This evening, dinner and overnight in Mexico City. [B,L,D]

Day 5: Tuesday, 5/8 , MEXICO CITY / TULPETLAC / SAN JUAN TEOTIHUACAN / MEXICO CITY

This morning we proceed to **Tulpetlac**, a city with an interesting story that ties into the history of the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe. After Mass, we delve into the city's history.

Widower Juan Diego walked from his home in Tulpetlac through the hills of northern Mexico City headed to church. As he approached Tepeyac Hill, he heard what sounded like a heavenly chorus of singing angels. He looked to the direction of the music but the music faded and a female voice called to him. As he moved toward the voice, a girl with Aztec features like his own appeared. Dressed in a gown with turquoise accents and bright gold stars, she was standing on a crescent-shaped platform held off the ground by an angel. All around her were beautiful, shining, bright rays of light. She told Juan she was the Virgin Mary and wanted a church built where they stood. She instructed him to go to the Bishop of Mexico and say he was sent by Saint Mary because she wanted a church built on Tepeyac Hill. The Bishop was quite frank in his un-readiness to tackle such a grand undertaking. Juan proceeded home, dejected, but anxious to be with his feverishly sick uncle Juan Bernardino. But, he encountered Mary again and implored her to seek out someone else because he had failed and he had to care for his uncle. Mary explained to Juan that he was the chosen one, she would cure his uncle, but he needed to return to the Bishop, which he did. Surprised at Juan's expeditious return, the Bishop was more attentive but needed a

miraculous confirmation of Mary's request. Willing to fulfill the request, Mary instructed Juan to "go to the top of the hill and cut flowers that are growing there". Despite the natural absence of flowers in that location and the December frost, Juan went anyway and found a grouping of beautiful roses. He cut them, scooped them into his poncho (tilma) and ran back to Mary. She carefully arranged each rose in Juan's poncho, tying the poncho corners behind Juan's neck so none would escape, and sent Juan back to the Bishop. Meanwhile, the Bishop had privately been praying for proof of the apparition to come in the form of Castilian roses-similar to those grown behind his family home in Spain, but Juan did not know this. Juan told the Bishop of his latest encounter with Mary, untied his poncho, and the roses came tumbling out. In disbelief, the Bishop recognized that the roses were Castilian and all present noticed the image of Mary imprinted into Juan's poncho. The church on Tepeyac Hill was built. Note: Juan's tilma is now displayed in the new basilica, miraculously showing no decay. Commonly called the Church of the Fifth Apparition, a simple building constructed subsequently over the ruins of Juan Bernardino's home (formally called Santa Maria Tulpetlac) is one of the holiest churches in Mexico City.

We **visit the church** and **see the healing well**, which is unknown to most visitors. If possible, we have the opportunity to get water from the healing well which is now dispensed from a faucet in front and to the right of the church altar. **Those who visit Santa Maria Tulpetlac are granted a plenary indulgence if they meet the normal requirements of an indulgence.** Our next stop takes us to **San Juan Teotihuacan** and the famous pre-Aztec city that contains the **Pyramids of the Sun and Moon** and the Temple of Quetzalcoatl. These pyramids are the reason that Mexico is called "the Egypt of the New World." Our day concludes as we return to our hotel for dinner and overnight. [B,D]



Day 6: Wednesday, 5/9 , MEXICO CITY

After breakfast, we visit to **Holy Family Church** and the **shrine of the Mexican martyr Blessed Miguel Pro**. We will visit the site of Fr Pro's assassination where we learn about the people who gave their lives for our faith in this area many years ago. From there, we will make a **brief visit to the National Palace**, the seat of the Mexican Government and home to the enormous mural by world-renown artist Diego Rivera which depicts the origins of Mexico and its struggles for independence. Across the square, we pass the ruins at the archaeological site of the Templo Mayor (Great Temple), the main Aztec temple at the time of the Spanish conquest. Then, we **visit the Cathedral at the Zocalo**, or Plaza Mayor.

This is one of the most beautiful and impressive squares in the Americas and is located in the center of Mexico City. We **return to the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe to enjoy free time to explore independently.** We return to our hotel for dinner and overnight. [B,D]

(This evening you have the option of attending the exciting and colorful Ballet Folklorico at one of Mexico City's Theater Centers for an additional \$100-price is estimated).

Day 7: Thursday, 5/10 , MEXICO CITY / CUERNAVACA / TAXCO / MEXICO CITY

Our day begins as we proceed to **Cuernavaca**, the City of the Eternal Spring, which boasts of year-round blossoming vegetation and sub-tropical gardens. We visit the **Cathedral**, an amazing architectonic complex formed by an atrium surrounded by tall "battlemented" walls. The construction of the Cathedral was personally supervised by Cortés and housed Franciscan missionaries. Next, we travel to the quaint and narrow cobble-stone streets streets (declared Cultural Heritage of Humanity by UNESCO) of **Taxco, Mexico's Silver Capital**. At one time Taxco was Spain's largest New World supplier of precious metals. As the years went by, other sources were preferred for mining as they were more readily available. In the early 1700's, Jose de la Borda renewed the mining industry in the area. We visit the world-famous, magnificent **Cathedral of Santa Prisca**, which is the visual and historical center of Taxco and one of the most important baroque-style churches in the country. This pink cathedral was commissioned by Jose de la Borda in 1751 and

CHURCH OF SANTA PRISCA



designed by the leading artists and architects of its time. Inside there is an abundance of silver (of course!) and many paintings, sculptures, and carvings. We celebrate **Mass at Santa Prisca** (subject to confirmation). We enjoy some **free time** to spend in prayer, roam about this charming city, or purchase some of the city's finest silver. Our day concludes as we return to our hotel for dinner and overnight in Mexico City. [B,D]

Day 8: Friday, 5/11 , MEXICO CITY / CUAUTTLAN / TEPOTZOTLAN / MEXICO CITY

Our Lady of Remedies, in a northwest suburb of Mexico City, is a sacred shrine where we begin today with morning Mass (subject to confirmation). After Mass, we proceed to **Cuautilan, birthplace of St. Juan Diego**, and then to Tepotzotlan where we visit the elaborately ornate Baroque 18th-century ex-convent and **Church of San Francisco Javier** which has been converted to a museum. We return to our hotel for a **farewell dinner** and overnight. [B,D]

Day 9: Saturday, May 12, 2018, MEXICO CITY / USA

We proceed to the **airport** for our journey back home. We leave beautiful, colorful Mexico inspired by the love her people have for Our Lady of Guadalupe and by the personal spiritual growth we experienced as we explored the traditions and charm of the country. [B]

To Register:

Complete the Registration Form and mail your deposit to Pentecost Tours



Or, call (800) 713-9800 or (812) 933-0730 to pay your deposit over the phone with a credit card.

Group contact: Gloria Gomez
513.522.0151
glovergomez@yahoo.com

To register by phone, contact:
Pentecost Tours, Inc. | 800.713.9800

Notes: ① Passports can take 3 months or more to process (from application to delivery). ② Ave. temps 50-



REGISTRATION FORM

Send to: Pentecost Tours, Inc.
PO Box 280
Batesville, IN 47006-0280

Enclosed is my/our \$ _____ deposit of \$500 per person. Please reserve _____ seat(s).

Full Name _____ Gender: M F

Date of Birth: _____ U.S. Citizen: Y N

Full Name _____ Gender: M F

Date of Birth: _____ U.S. Citizen: Y N

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone (____) _____

Work Phone (____) _____

Cell Phone (____) _____

Email _____

- Single room only
- I will need a roommate
- My roommate will be _____

Ballet Folklorico on May 9th (Day 6):
 I wish to attend the Ballet (\$100 additional charge)
 I am not interested in the Ballet.

Requesting domestic flight to Houston from:

Airport: _____

Fr. Semana / Guadalupe Tour 80504
May 4, 2018