

**\$50 Early Booking
Discount if Reserved
by
April 15, 2025**

Saints and Scholars Foundation Ireland Pilgrimage

October 15-24, 2025 - 10 Days

\$5,099 from Washington Dulles

For Info & Reservations, Contact Connie Marshner, Saints and Scholars Foundation, 804 Rodney Ave,
Front Royal VA 22630 – Telephone: 540-660-2552 - Email: saintsandscholarsfoundation@gmail.com

Wednesday, October 15 - Teresa of Avila -

Day 1 - DEPART USA - We depart Washington, Dulles International Airport (IAD) for our overnight flight to the Emerald Isle. In-flight movies, dinner, and breakfast aloft.

Thursday, October 16 - Caoimhín (Kevin)

- Day 2 – DUBLIN/DROGHEDA/ MONASTERBOICE/ARMAGH – Following customs and immigration formalities at Dublin Airport, our Tour Manager welcomes us to Ireland as we board our motorcoach. We stop for lunch on our own along the way, and continue to the medieval town of Drogheda, where Oliver Cromwell began his conquest of Ireland by slaughtering 3,000 people, including 800 civilians and several priests. We will visit St. Peter's Church, which Cromwell set afire to kill those sheltering within its walls, and the National Shrine of St. Oliver Plunkett, where we will venerate his relic. Following Drogheda, we travel to nearby Mellifont Abbey, which was built by Cistercian Monks in 1152AD but disbanded by William of Orange to be used a manor house. We view the ruins of the Abbey. Our next stop is Monasterboice, the ruined fifth century monastery, where we will stand in awe before the magnificent Celtic Crosses in the monastery graveyard. We celebrate Mass at Monasterboice Parish Church before continuing to Armagh, in Northern Ireland (the euro is not accepted here) for our "Fáilte" (welcome) dinner and overnight.

Friday, October 17 - Day 3 - ARMAGH/

/BENBURB/LOUGH DERG/DONEGAL - We begin the day with Mass at Armagh Cathedral. Fr. Barry Matthews will give us a tour of the Cathedral and its relics afterwards. After Mass, we visit the ancient Struell Holy Wells, believed to have miraculous curing capabilities. We stop for lunch on our own as we travel west to Benburb Priory. Benburb was originally built by Shane O'Neill in

1591, but in 1610 the land was given to English settlers. After the Priory, we conclude our day at our hotel in Donegal, back in the Republic of Ireland, for dinner and overnight.

Saturday, October 18 - St. Luke & St. Colmán

- Day 4 – DONEGAL/KNOCK - Mass at the Church of the Four Masters in Donegal Today we visit the ruined Donegal Friary (Franciscan Abbey) in Donegal. It was a center for classical education from the time it was built in the 15th century by the O'Donnell dynasty. In the Nine Years' War, the Irish rebels met the envoys from King Philip II of Spain here. The castle was destroyed in 1601, when a gunpowder store was ignited in the heat of battle. After our visit to the Monastery and free time to enjoy a walk around the charming town of Donegal, we stop at The Sands Hotel at Rossnowlagh Beach for a spectacular lunch on our own. Following our break, we make our way to Knock, where we will share dinner at 7 p.m. and enjoy a talk by the delightful and inimitable Fr. Brendan Kilcoyne, of The Brendan Option podcast. Overnight at our hotel.



SCAN ME

"Have questions about this pilgrimage? Ask us! Go to www.Unitours.com/questions." To book online go to <https://bit.ly/SaintsScholarsIreland>



Sunday, October 19 - Day 5 – KNOCK SHRINE/BALLINTUBBER

/CONNEMARA/GALWAY – This morning, we start our day with an early Mass at the famous Marian apparition site of Our Lady of Knock. The Blessed Virgin appeared to fifteen people here on August 21, 1879. After Mass we drive through breathtakingly beautiful Connemara, with a stop at historic Ballintubber Abbey. The Abbey was founded in 1216 and was suppressed during the Reformation. But Mass continued -- in an unroofed building! Ballintubber is the starting point of the ancient pilgrimage path to Croagh Patrick, but we'll have to do that another year! We'll get lunch along the way on our own, perhaps in the beautiful town of Clifden. We will be going through the Gaeltacht, the Irish-speaking part of the country. In Galway we will have dinner with Fr. Conor McDonough, OP, host of the YouTube series Treasure Ireland, and hear his thoughts on the state of the Faith in modern Ireland. Overnight at our hotel.

Monday, October 20 - Aodhán (Aidan) - Day 6 – GALWAY/GOUGANE

BARRA/BLARNEY CASTLE/CORK – Today, we join Fr. Conor for his 7:30 a.m. Mass at Our Lady of Galway in The Claddagh, about ten minutes from our hotel. Then we get on the bus to arrive at Gougane Barra, County Cork, for a leisurely drive through County Cork. St. Finbarr built his oratory at Gougane Barra in the 5th Century, and it is where Michael Collins was killed in the 20th. Taking the road from Macroom, we stop at Carrigadrohid Castle on the River Lee, where the Bishop of Ross was hanged by Cromwell's men. Then we visit Blarney Castle, which was built in 1446 and is famous for its Stone of Eloquence, which bestows the gift of gab on all those who kiss it! We might visit the Castle gardens, which cover sixty acres with a water garden, fern garden and poison garden. We might do some shopping in Blarney: clothing, crystal, linen, pottery, jewelry and more are all available! Our day concludes as we arrive in Cork at The Maldron-Shandon Hotel in the heart of Cork City in time for dinner with overnight at our hotel.

Tuesday, October 21 – Fintan – Day 7 –

CORK – We attend 10 am Mass at the Cathedral of St Mary and St. Anne and enjoy breakfast on our own. Pádraig Cantillon-Murphy will walk with us to Mater Dei Academy, the pioneer independent parent-run classical academy in Ireland. We can sit in on classes and have lunch with students. After lunch we have the choice of free time or sitting in on more classes. Students sing the Office in the Cathedral, and we will join them. After that, we have a choice of walking tours of Cork, seeing the spectacular Homan Chapel at University College Cork. It's an early dinner in the hotel with a special talk at 6:30 by Dr. Damian Bracken, Senior Lecturer in History at University College Cork, on "Saints, Scholars, and Building Irish Identity." Dinner will follow, and overnight at our hotel.

Wednesday, October 22 - Cillian (Killian) - Day 8 – CORK/CASHEL/MAYNOOTH/

DUBLIN – After breakfast on our own, we visit the Rock of Cashel, otherwise known as St. Patrick's Rock. It was the seat of the Kings of Munster, where St. Patrick baptized King Aengus, the first Christian king in Munster. We continue to Maynooth, County Kildare, and see the magnificent College Chapel. If schedules allow, Fr. Neil Xavier O'Donoghue, Director of Liturgical Programs, will celebrate Mass for us and tell us about the history of Ireland's first post-Reformation seminary. We conclude our day in Dublin at our hotel for dinner and overnight.

Thursday, October 23 – Dalbhach - Day 9 –

DUBLIN – Today we are footloose and fancy free in Dublin! We can take a guided tour through Trinity College, the National Museum, and other historic and cultural sites, or we can plot our own course. Municipal Tourbooks will be on offer! This evening, we enjoy a farewell dinner and relax at our hotel and then pack at a leisurely pace.

Friday, October 24 - Day 10 – RETURN TO

USA – Our luggage is brought with us to the airport for our flight home.

Saints and Scholars Foundation - Ireland Pilgrimage

Mail to: Connie Marshner, Saints and Scholars Foundation, 804 Rodney Ave, Front Royal VA 22630

Please reserve ___ seats on this Ireland Pilgrimage - October 15-24, 2025

Enclosed please find deposit of \$500 per person (Payable to Unitours, Inc.)

PLEASE ENCLOSE A COPY OF YOUR PASSPORT (Passport MUST be valid until April 24, 2026, or later.)

Name(s) as appears on passport)

My Roommate:

Address:

City, State & Zip

Telephone:

Email address:

Name(s) to use on nametags:

___ Please assign a roommate (if available)
___ I prefer a single room - \$822 supplement and limited in number.

Apply \$50 if booked by April 15, 2025

To purchase optional travel insurance, please see www.Unitours.com/travelInsurance for full details and to purchase coverage.

Charge my deposit to ___ Visa ___ MasterCard ___ Amex ___ Discover

Card #

Exp. Date

I understand that certain charges such as air taxes, fuel surcharges and rates of exchange can affect the final cost, and I agree to pay such costs should adjustments be necessary. I have read and understand the Deposit and Cancellation Fees.

Signature

TOTAL TOUR PRICE: The tour price is based on airfare, cruise, land rates and rates of exchange in effect February 13, 2025. All rates are subject to change without prior notice. Should the rates go up or down, an adjustment would be made prior to departure. Refunds CANNOT be granted for any accommodations, services or events that are not used nor if you deviate from the tour. If fewer than 30 pilgrims participate a price adjustment may be necessary.

PASSPORT AND VISA REQUIREMENTS: A valid passport is required. At the time of printing, U.S. citizens holding valid passports. Passport MUST be valid until April 24, 2026, or later. Citizens of countries other than U.S. - please contact the consulate of the country or countries being visited to determine visa requirements.

AIR TRANSPORTATION: International flight reservations are being held on United Airlines. No stopovers are permitted. Any changes after ticket is issued carries a mandatory charge of \$200. Once the tickets are issued, they are NON-TRANSFERABLE AND NON-REFUNDABLE. Any requests to change a ticket once issued will incur a reissue fee of \$200 plus any fare differential will apply. Cancellation of air seat within 90 days of departure will incur a \$200 penalty.

DOMESTIC AIRFARE: For those who make domestic air arrangements to the originating city of this tour, your tour host and Unitours strongly recommend the purchase of tickets that can be changed without heavy fees and penalties as international flight schedules are always subject to change.

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS: Specially selected hotels based on twin occupancy with private bath. Single Room supplement of \$822 will be charged where requested and available. If you do not have a roommate and Unitours is unable to arrange one, you will be billed for the single room supplement. All singles are subject to availability.

MEALS: Breakfast and Table D' Hote dinners are provided daily except where noted in the itinerary. An extra charge will be made when coffee, tea or other beverages are not included in the menu of the day with the dinner meal.

TIPS AND TAXES: Tips and taxes normally appearing on hotel and restaurant bills as service are included, as are all government and local taxes on hotels and meals, portage of one suitcase per person. International departure taxes of \$99 plus current fuel surcharges of \$410 are included (subject to change). TIPS TO TOUR MANAGER/GUIDES, DRIVERS OR DINING ROOMS STAFF OF \$89 ARE NOT INCLUDED. One average sized suitcase not exceeding 50 lbs total weight and 62 linear inches (height plus width plus depth) is permitted throughout the trip.

NOT INCLUDED: Expenses and items not specifically mentioned in this brochure are NOT covered, including but not limited to: passport and visa fees, meals not listed and items of a personal nature such as laundry, wines, liquors, mineral waters, after dinner coffee or tea, sightseeing or services other than those specifically mentioned, tips and taxes mentioned above, excess baggage and insurance, etc.

DEPOSITS AND CANCELLATIONS: A deposit of \$500 is required to secure reservations. Any balance is to be paid in full no later than 60 days before departure of tour. Final payments received by Unitours after 45 days before departure must include a \$25 late payment fee. (This does not apply for new reservations made within 45 days of departure.) Reservations made within 60 days of departure must include full

payment. Amex, Discover, Visa and MasterCard are accepted with signed reservation form. Final payments will be applied to same credit card on final payment due date. Cancellations made from time of reservation to within 61 days prior to departure - - \$400 administration fee (charged to deposit) plus any air penalties noted above. In the event of a cancellation from 60 to 31 days prior to departure - - \$400 administration fee plus up to 50% of the land cost, plus any air penalties noted above. No refund for cancellations received within 30 days of departure. All cancellation and refund claims must be in writing to Unitours, Inc.

BANK FEE: A fee of \$50 will be charged for any check that is returned to us for insufficient or unavailable funds.

DEVIATIONS: A service charge of \$50 pp will be applied for any deviations made in tour, (where possible), PLUS any additional air or land charges incurred.

TRAVEL INSURANCE: Optional Travel Insurance is strongly recommended for your trip. See www.Unitours.com/travelInsurance for full details and to purchase coverage.

LAND ARRANGEMENTS: The tour operator reserves the right to change the itinerary due to unforeseen emergencies.

RESPONSIBILITIES: Unitours, Inc., the organizer, and their representatives act only as agents for the tour members in making arrangements for hotels, transportation, sightseeing, restaurants or any other services in connection with the itinerary. They will exercise reasonable care in making such arrangements, however, they do not assume any liability whatsoever, for any injury, damage, loss, accident or delay to person or property because of any acts of war or terrorism, any act of default of any hotel, carrier, restaurant, company or person rendering any of the services included in the tours. The tickets, coupons, tariffs, rules or contracts currently in use by any carrier, hotel, restaurant or other contractor rendering services shall constitute the sole contract between such contractor and the tour member. Unitours Inc., or the organizer, accept no responsibility for any damage or delay due to sickness, pilferage, labor disputes, machinery breakdown, quarantine, government restraints, weather or any other cause beyond their personal control. No carrier shall be responsible for any act, omission or events during the time passengers are not on board its own conveyance. The right is reserved to cancel or change itineraries or substitute services without notice and to decline to accept or retain any passenger at any time. In view of statutory or contractual limitations that may apply to personal injury or property damage losses, the purchase of accident and baggage insurance is strongly recommended.

ERRORS: In case of printing, typographical errors, computer errors, verbal or human billing errors, we reserve the right to invoice or re-invoice participants with corrected billing.





Custom Catholic Pilgrimages



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