

Society of St. Vincent de Paul Vincentian Heritage Pilgrimage to Paris

September 2016

September 22 – 29, 2016

22, Thursday Departure

The big day has arrived at last! We're ready to head to Paris.

23, Friday Paris

Bonjour and welcome to Paris, city of our founders and patrons! Several group transfers will be arranged from the Paris CDG Airport to the hotel. In the late afternoon we'll have a panoramic tour of Paris with photo stops at some of the famous landmarks, including the Eiffel Tower, Arc de Triomphe and Paris Opera. At the end of our tour, we'll have our welcome dinner at a local restaurant before returning to the hotel. (D)

24, Saturday Paris

We begin our pilgrimage walking in the footsteps of Frédéric Ozanam. The morning begins by attending Mass at St. Joseph des Carmes, where he is buried in the crypt below the church.

After Mass we will walk past the boarding house operated by Emmanuel Bailly on our way to the nearby church of St. Sulpice, a majestic classical building. In this church Frédéric's daughter Marie was baptized and married. It is where his Paris funeral was celebrated. Adjacent to the church we will see the place where the Society was founded (in the office of Emmanuel Bailly) and, nearby, there is an apartment where Frédéric lived as a young professor.

Next we will travel to the venerable Sorbonne University where Frédéric Ozanam earned both his law and literature degrees and where he became Professor of Foreign Literature. After finding lunch in the area, we will tour the nearby Church of St. Étienne du Mont, attended by Frédéric Ozanam as a student and home of our Society's first conference. On the way we will point out the various locations where Frédéric lived as a student and the place where the Society met in its early years—all in the shadow of the important Paris landmark, the Pantheon. We will end the afternoon with a walk in the Luxembourg Garden, which Frédéric crossed daily between his residence and the University. (B)

25, Sunday Paris (Optional Visit to Chartres)

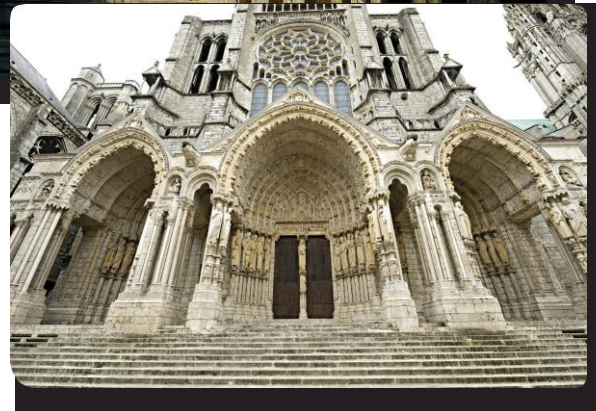
Today is completely free for independent activities. In addition to the option of attending Mass in one of the many churches in Paris, many of the famous museums offer reduced or even free admission on Sundays. If there is enough interest, our driver/guide will make an excursion to the beautiful Chartres Cathedral. (B)

26, Monday Paris

Another very special day is in store, walking in the steps of St. Louise and Blessed Rosalie Rendu. Our morning begins with a visit to the Motherhouse of the Daughters of Charity at 140, rue du Bac, where the Blessed Mother appeared to St. Catherine Labouré. Catherine's tomb is here, as is that of St. Louise de Marillac. While here, we will attend the 10:30 a.m. Mass at the Miraculous Medal Chapel. After lunch on your own, we will visit Montparnasse Cemetery to visit the graves of Rosalie Rendu and the Ozanam



From top: St. Joseph des Carmes, St. Sulpice (courtesy Mbzt), Chartres Cathedral



Co-Directed by:
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family, then on to St. Médard, parish church of Sr. Rosalie. After visiting the church we will walk up Rue Mouffetard in the steps of Rosalie, to visit Rue de l' Epee de Bois, site of Sr. Rosalie's parlor. We will stand with the first members of the Society as they made their first home visits to the poor in the Mouffetard area. This is now one of the liveliest areas of Paris—with many shops, restaurants, cafés, and a permanent open-air market. After the visit you may want to continue exploring this lively and interesting area. (B)

27, Tuesday Paris

It is a blessing to be in Paris on the Feast of St. Vincent de Paul, who died on this day 356 years ago. You will begin the day on the Ile de la Cité with a visit to magnificent Notre-Dame Cathedral, where St. Vincent frequently said Mass for the Ladies of Charity. The vacant area in front of the cathedral was the site of the Hotel Dieu; the foundling orphanage was also located in this area. Our morning on the island will include visits to the Conciergerie (which Vincent visited frequently as chaplain to the galley slaves) and the beautiful Sainte-Chapelle.

You may want to linger a while in the area, branching out on your own for lunch and maybe a visit to one of the many museums and attractions in the area. We will gather in the late afternoon for a tour of the Motherhouse of the Vincentian Priests and Brothers (Congregation of the Mission) at 95, rue de Sèvres, where a small museum containing artifacts from the lives of Vincent and Louise will be open for us. Then we will celebrate Mass in the church where reposes the body of St. Vincent de Paul, just as Frédéric and our founders did on this feast in 1836. (B)

28, Wednesday Paris

Our morning begins with a brief stop at St. Laurent, near St. Lazare, the parish church of St. Louise and the first Daughters of Charity. It was also often frequented by St. Vincent. A short way from the parish we will point out a significant area, which was the site of the original St. Lazare. From there it is a short trip to Montmartre ("Mount of Martyrs"), more typically known to Parisians as the "Butte." The Basilica of Sacre Coeur, with its huge white dome and panoramic view of Paris, was erected on Montmartre Hill after the Franco-Prussian War of 1870—with significant leadership provided by the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. We'll attend morning Mass here and then you will have time explore the picturesque Montmartre area and find a café for lunch.

In the afternoon you will be privileged to visit the small museum "Souvenir Ozanam" to see artifacts preserved by his family now under the care of the National Council of France. From there it is a short walk to the International Office of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, where you can meet members of the staff who direct the activities of our worldwide family.

Our farewell dinner will be at Restaurant A La Petite Chaise, the oldest restaurant in Paris, dating back to 1680. (B,D)

29, Thursday Return

Depending on flight schedules, there will be one (and possibly two) transfer(s) from the hotel to the airport. We hope that your pilgrimage to Paris has been richly rewarding—and lots of fun! (B)

(Meals included: B-breakfast, L-lunch, D-dinner)



Projected Tour Cost:
The projected cost is \$3,400 per person
(based on a group of 35).

Tour Cost Includes:

- Air Transportation for the tour cost is based on Detroit to Paris and from Paris returning to Detroit via a regularly scheduled air carrier. Connecting flights (at an additional cost) can be arranged.
- Land Transportation for the complete itinerary by deluxe air-conditioned motorcoach.
- Accommodations in centrally located standard first-class based on two persons sharing a room with private facilities. Single supplement is \$600.
- Breakfast Daily and Two (2) Dinners
- A Multi-Lingual European Driver/Guide
- Sightseeing, Admission Fees, Tipping and Taxes

Tour Brochure and Registration:

(The Heritage Pilgrimage is scheduled for 35 participants only.)

If you are interested in this special opportunity, please contact Sister Kieran Kneaves (kkneaves@svdpusa.org) by June 5, 2015.

(If not enough participants, the Pilgrimage will be canceled.)

If there are 35 participants, a brochure with full details and a registration form will be available in July 2015. **In September 2015, a deposit of \$500 per person will reserve your space.**

There will be four interim payments of about \$725 each, between February and August 2016. (Payment dates will be outlined in the brochure).

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