

Jesus Mary and Joseph Ministries

www.jmjministries.org



**9 NIGHTS (4 NIGHTS CAIRO + 3 NIGHTS
NILE CRUISE 1 NIGHT ASSUIT 1 NIGHT
MINYA) NILE CRUISE PLUS VISITS TO
MONASTERIES**

**(PROGRAM 4) \$1,600.00 per person in
double room**

2016 special prices minimum 2 people

Friday Day 1: ARRIVAL TO CAIRO

Arrival to Cairo airport, our representative will meet and assist you before the passport control in the airport. Then you will be transferred by a private A/C car to your hotel. Overnight in Cairo

Saturday Day 2: CAIRO / WADI EL NATRUN / PYRAMIDS / CAIRO

After breakfast we will follow the steps of the Holy Family. We will start our day by the visit of WADI EL



NATRON: The holy family arrived at Wadi El-Natroun (Natroun Valley) after crossing the Rosetta branch of the Nile to the western Delta, and heading south into Wadi El-Natroun (then called Al Asqet) in the Western Desert of Egypt.

In the earliest decades of Christianity, the desert expanses of Wadi El-Natroun became the site of anchoretic settlement and, later, of many

monasteries. It is said that Jesus blessed the desert in view of these future settlements. In 1986 there were about 320 monks occupying the four Wadi 'n-Natrun monasteries.

Afternoon, visit to **the pyramids of Giza and the sphinx**, the most famous and last of the original Seven Wonders of the World. Back to the hotel, dinner and overnight.

Sunday Day 3: MOSTOROD / MATAREYAH / ZEITOUN / OLD CAIRO / MAADI

After breakfast, a full day dedicated to visit the major stops of the Holy Family in Cairo starting with:

MOSTOROD: only about 7 miles north west of Cairo Mostorod which later received the name Al-Mahmma. 'Al-Mahmma' means 'the Bathing place' a name given to the town because the Virgin Mary bathed the Christ Child and washed His clothes there. It is worthy to note that, eventually, on their way back to Palestine, the Holy Family stopped once more at Mostorod and, this time, caused a spring to gush from the earth, which still flows forth to the present day. After Mostorod we will start our visit to:

MATAREYAH / ZEITOUN: In Matareyah, a tree stands to this day, still regularly visited, called 'Mary's Tree', for the Family is believed to have rested in its shade. Here, too, the Infant Jesus caused water to flow from a spring. He blessed it, drank from it and Mary washed His clothes in it. She poured the washing water on to the ground, and from that spot, a fragrant balsam plant blossomed. Besides the healing and pain-soothing properties of this balm, its essence is used in the preparation of the scents and perfumes of which the holy Chrism is composed. Matareyah has made international headlines in recent times when on April 2, 1968 an apparition of Mary above the cupola of St. Mary Church in Zeitoun was witnessed by thousands of Christians and Muslims alike. In the afternoon we will visit:

OLD CAIRO AND MAADI: Continuing their way southwards, the Holy family passed the Fortress of Babylon at Old Cairo. Next, the Holy Family moved south, reaching the modern Cairo suburb of Maadi, which, in earliest pharaonic times, was an outlying district of Memphis, the capital of Egypt at that time.

Joseph became acquainted with the sailors of the Nile boats and the Holy Family was invited to be taken south to Upper Egypt. The monks of the Dair al-Muharraq (The Monastery of the Blessed Virgin) assume that the

Holy Family could afford the travels because of the gold they received from the Wise Men of the East (Mt. 2:11). The historic church built upon the spot from which they embarked, also dedicated to the Blessed Mother, is further identified by the denominative, 'Al-Adaweya', the Virgin's Church 'of the Ferry'. (In fact, the name of that now modern suburb, Maady, derives from the Arabic word, which means 'the crossing point').

The stone steps leading down to the River's bank, and believed to have been used by the Holy Family are accessible to pilgrims through the Church courtyard.

An event of miraculous import occurred on Friday the 3rd of the Coptic month of Baramhat - the 12th of March - 1976 A.D. A Holy Bible of unknown origin was carried by the lapping ripples of the Nile to the bank below the Church. It was open to the page of Isaiah 19: 25 declaring:

"Blessed be Egypt My people"

The Bible is now behind glass in the Sanctuary of the Church for all to see.



Back to the hotel, dinner and overnight.

Monday Day 4: CAIRO / ASWAN

After breakfast, we will start our full day visiting the **Egyptian Museum** of antiquities. On display is a rare collection of 5000 years of art the largest most precious collection of Egyptian art in the world. Over 250,000 genuine artifacts are presented, including an exhibit dedicated to the Tutankhamen collection of treasures, gold, and jewelry, as it was enclosed in his tomb for over 3,500 years before it was discovered in the 1920s when his tomb was excavated

Afternoon, transfer to Cairo airport and flight to Aswan. Arrival, meet and assist at Aswan airport. Transfer to the Nile cruise, dinner and overnight.

Tuesday Day 5: ASWAN / EDFU / KOM OMBO

Full board. We will start by visiting Aswan: the High Dam and the Philae temple. Navigation to Kom Ombo. Visit the Temple of Kom Ombo dedicated to the gods Sobek and Haroeris. Continue to Edfu. Upon arrival visit of the Edfu temple dedicated to the god Horus. Cruise to Esna to pass through the lock.

Wednesday Day 6: ESNA / LUXOR

Full board. After passing the Esna lock navigation towards Luxor. Visit the **Necropolis of Thebes** and the **West Bank:** Valley of the Kings and Queens, funeral temple of Hatshepsut, known as Deir el Bahari, and Colossi of Memnon. After lunch, visit to the temples of Karnak and Luxor.



Thursday Day 7: LUXOR / ASSUIT

Breakfast and disembarkation. Transfer to city of Assuit. Free afternoon to explore the city and its famous market. Dinner and overnight.

Friday Day 8: ASSUIT / MINYA

Breakfast and visit the **monastery of Dronka** known as the **Virgin Mary Monastery (Deir Dronka)**. About 10 kilometers from Assiut, situated on the west bank of the Nile is not only one of the most unusual mountain top monasteries in Egypt, but is also the last destination visited by the Holy Family on their journey through Egypt.



From this site they left Egypt for Nazareth. Since that time, monks of the monastery believe that this area has been constantly inhabited by Christians. Indeed, this area of Egypt is now a community of Coptic's which populate the area around the Monastery.

This Monastery of St. Mary, and within it, the cave Chapel of St. Mary is said to date from the first century. Receiving as many as one million visitors per year, it is said that the Virgin Mary from time to time appears in a luminous form within the chapel.

In the afternoon we will start our visit to **The Monastery of Holy Virgin Mary (Deir Al-Muharraq) located at Mount Qosqam**. Originally there was an abandoned house and a water well adjacent to it where the Holy Family rested after it was repaired by St. Joseph. They stayed there for about 185 days. This area was known as **"The Second**



Jerusalem.

This dwelling which was blessed by the Lord himself became the ancient church of Our Lady and the monastery today with its simple structure has become a place of pilgrimage for generations.

The most important content in the sanctuary is a marble slab where Greek inscription is engraved. According to the Coptic Church tradition, **'the altar'** of The Holy Virgin Mary Church is located "in the midst of the land of Egypt"; this was to fulfill what the Lord has spoken by the prophet, saying:

"In that day there will be an altar to the LORD in the midst of the land of Egypt, and a pillar to the LORD at its border. (Isaiah 19:19)

The **Ancient Keptower** built in the 6th and 7th century has never been used for protection as Jesus said it will be forever and secured even though it was built to protect the monks against barbarian fierce raids.

We will view the beautiful icons which never depict the pain and sufferings of the saints nor does it reflect the place of torments or agony of sinners.

We will transfer by car to the city of Minya for dinner and overnight.

Day 9: MINYA / CAIRO

After breakfast we will visit the **Virgin Mary Church of Deir El Garnous** (the later site of the Monastery of Arganos) 4 miles west of Ashnein El Nassara.. Outside the western wall of the Church dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary a deep well is believed to

Have provided the Holy Family with the water they



needed.

The well is still in use today.

We will proceed to the church of St. George at Eshneen El Nasara. Where we will see the place where the Holy Family had to hide out.



After the visit of Minia, we will drive back to Cairo. Arrival to the hotel dinner and overnight.

Day 10: CAIRO / ... Breakfast. Transfer to Cairo Airport. Departure.

Included in package:

- Representative to Greet you at airport and assist with passport control**
- Private A/C car**
- 4 nights 5 Star Hotel overlooking the Pyramids with Breakfast and Dinner**
- 3 Nights FULL BOARD Cruise Ship**
- One night Assuit, one night Minya with breakfast and dinner.**
- Transportation to the Temples including car, horse and buggy and sail ship.**
- Flight Cairo to Aswan.**
- Transportation to all the Monasteries.**

Not included:

- Insurance**
- Flight from US to Cairo**
- \$25.00 Visa Fee (cash at the airport)**

PROGRAM FOUR: \$1,600.00 PER PERSON TO ARRIVE IN CAIRO ON FRIDAY

WE ACCEPT PAY PAL AND ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS OR MAIL CHECK TO:

**JMJ MINISTRIES
5317 S. 12TH AVENUE
TUCSON, AZ 85706
(520) 573-0065**

**PLEASE SEND COPY OF PASSPORT WITH
REGISTRATION:**

NAME (as it appears on your PASSPORT)

ADDRESS

CITY, STATE AND ZIP

TELEPHONE NUMBER WITH AREA CODE

TRAVELING WITH

AIRLINE_____

FLIGHT NUMBER_____

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Signed

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