

December 24, 2021

Hello everyone,

The preparations for the canonization are progressing! The office of the Charles de Foucauld Spiritual Family Association is working with the Italian Spiritual Family and with the BIPEL agency (France) for the accommodation of members of the Lay Fraternity.

The highlights of these days will be:

- Francesco Agnello's new show (free) on Charles de Foucauld (Saturday evening)
- The canonization mass at Saint Peter's Basilica or in Saint Peter's Square (Sunday morning)
- The Thanksgiving Mass of the Spiritual Family at Saint John Lateran Basilica (Monday morning)

The Italian team preparing for the canonization is clarifying how everyone will be able to obtain tickets for St. Peter's Basilica or St. Peter's Square.

1. Accommodation in Rome

For members of the International Lay Fraternity, here is the offer from the BIPEL travel agency that we have chosen:

Pilgrimage from May 13 to 17, 2022 (4 nights)

465 € all -inclusive in Rome: accommodation + coach + programme

Single room supplement: 17 € / night (= 68 € / person)

This price includes:

- Three half-days visits accompanied by professional guides:
 - Saturday May 14, 2022 (morning and afternoon)
 - Sunday May 15, 2022 (afternoon)(The program of visits will be specified later)
- The show on Saturday evening, the canonization on Sunday morning and the Thanksgiving Mass on Monday morning,
- Accommodation in a religious house in Rome, on the basis of a double room (supplement to be expected for a single room):

→ **Casa Piccole Ancelle di Cristo Re**
00165 Roma RM, Italy

This accommodation is located not far from a metro station.

- Tourist taxes in Rome - Full board, from Friday May 13, 2022 (evening) to Tuesday May 17, 2022 (morning)

- MUTUAIDE ASSISTANCE which provides assistance and repatriation insurance with the COVID-19 extension for residents in Europe.

BIPEL insurance only relates to pilgrims from the European Union.

2. Online reservation

It will be possible to make a reservation on the BIPEL agency website, with payment of a deposit of 30%, from January. We will let you know how that will work.

3. Travel from your country to Rome

You will need to book your plane ticket yourself from your country. The international team cannot take care of getting your plane tickets from France and it would be more expensive.

NB The international fund can only cover travel and accommodation for members of the international team.

POLICE FORMALITIES

Each pilgrim must bring a valid passport or identity card. The majority of countries, outside Europe, must apply for a visa, except for some, such as the United States, Canada or Mexico for example.

INVITATION LETTER

To obtain your visa, you will need a letter of invitation, which the Italian Spiritual Family is preparing.

HEALTH FORMALITIES

Requirements (due to COVID situation) are subject to change by the date of travel. We draw your attention to the fact that currently (until January 31), to enter Italian soil, some travelers are subject to a quarantine of up to 10 days. Your travel agency can provide you with more information. Please consult the official bodies in your country.

Please check that your vaccine is accepted in the European Union. Three doses are mandatory.

We hope that many of us will be able to participate in the long-awaited canonization of Brother Charles, which will have a universal dimension.

Sincerely,

Laurence Fernandez, Coordinator of the international team of the Secular Fraternity

Brigitte Leport, Member of the international team of the Secular Fraternity and of the office of the Association Famille Spirituelle Charles de Foucauld