

## A PILGRIMAGE TO THE GREAT RUSSIAN MONASTERIES AND CITIES OF RUSSIA

With the blessing of Archbishop Gabriel the following pilgrimage, God willing, will take place to the Holy Shrines of:

**Moscow, Trinity-Sergius Lavra, Murom, Diveevo, Riazan, Optina Hermitage, Smolensk, Pskov-Pechersky Monastery, Saint Petersburg and Kronstadt.**

11-27 May 2020.

Spiritual director – Archpriest Vladimir Malchenko



Photo: The Diveevo Convent

<b><u>11 May, Monday</u></b>	Evening flight from Toronto, Air France
<b>12 May, Tuesday</b>	Arrival in <b>Moscow</b> and check in to the Hotel of Pokrov Convent where the relics of St. Matrona of Moscow are kept for veneration.
<b>13 May, Wednesday</b>	Holy Liturgy in the Pokrov Convent. After breakfast tour the Kremlin, Red Square, churches and monasteries and Miracle Icons of <b>Moscow</b> . Overnight in Pokrov Convent.
<b><u>14 May, Thursday</u></b>	Liturgy in Pokrov Convent. After breakfast visit the Churches of Moscow and off to <b>Sergiev Posad</b> . Visit the <b>Khotkovo Monastery</b> to venerate the Holy parents of St. Sergius, Sts. Kiril and Maria. Check in to the historical Lavra Hotel. Evening service in the <b>Holy Trinity-Sergius Lavra</b> .
<b><u>15 May, Friday</u></b>	Early morning <b>Brotherhood prayers and Liturgy</b> in the ancient Holy Trinity Cathedral with Holy Communion. After breakfast visit the Holy Shrines of the Lavra. After lunch travel to <b>Murom</b> to venerate the Holy relics of <b>St. Peter and Fevronia</b> in the Trinity Convent and the Holy relics of the ancient 3 princes of Murom in the Transfiguration Monastery of Murom. Travel to <b>Diveevo</b> and overnight in Diveevo.
<b><u>16 May, Saturday</u></b>	Holy Liturgy in the <b>Holy Trinity-Seraphimo-Diveevo Convent</b> with Holy Communion. After breakfast visit the magnificent Shrines of the <b>Diveevo Convent</b> and venerate the Holy Relics of St. Seraphim, walk the

	Holy Canal walkway of the Mother of God, emersion in the main Holy Spring of Diveevo. Evening service in the Diveevo Convent and overnight in Diveevo.
<u>17 May, Sunday</u>	Early Holy Liturgy in <b>Diveevo</b> . After breakfast travel to the ancient city of <b>Riazan</b> . On route to Riazan visit the Holy Dormition Convent in Vyshy and venerate the <b>Holy Relics of St. Feophan the Recluse</b> , the renovated Convent and the private chambers of St. Feophan where he wrote most of his outstanding spiritual writings in the 19 <sup>th</sup> century. Arrive in <b>Riazan</b> and visit the large and beautiful <b>Kremlin of Riazan</b> . Evening service in the Cathedral. Overnight in Riazan.
<u>18 May, Monday</u>	After breakfast travel to <b>Optina Hermitage</b> and en route visit the ancient Kremlin in <b>Zaraisk</b> and venerate the miracle icon of St. Nicholas, recently returned to the Church in Zaraisk. Check in to our hotel in <b>Kozelsk</b> near <b>Optina Hermitage</b> and evening service in Optina.
<u>19 May, Tuesday</u>	<b>Early Holy Liturgy in Optina</b> and venerate the Optina Elders and many churches. Visit the monastic cell-home of St. Amvrosy of Optina in the <b>Skite of St. John the Baptist</b> near Optina. Visit the famous convent founded by St. Amvrosy called <b>Kazan-Amvrosy Hermitage in Shamordino</b> . Overnight in Kozelsk.
<u>20 May, Wednesday</u>	After breakfast travel to <b>Smolensk</b> and en route visit The Holy Trinity <b>Gerasimo-Boldinsky Monastery</b> and venerate the Holy relics of St. Gerasim Boldinsky. Arrive in Smolensk and visit the outstanding huge <b>cathedral of the Dormition</b> of the Mother of God housing the impressive Holy Icon of the Smolensk Mother of God. Overnight in Smolensk.
<u>21 May, Thursday</u>	Morning visit to churches of <b>Smolensk</b> . Travel to <b>Pskov-Cave Monastery (Pechory)</b> with supper in <b>Ostrov</b> en route. Quick visit to Kazan Convent in Ostrov and check in to Pechory hotel.
<u>22 May, Friday</u> St. Nicholas day	Early morning <b>Holy Liturgy in Pskov-Cave Monastery</b> and veneration of its many Holy Shrines. Travel to Pskov and visit the <b>Pskov Kremlin</b> and ancient churches of Pskov. Overnight in Pskov.
<u>23 May, Saturday</u>	<b>Travel to Saint-Petersburg</b> . En route visit the beautiful wooden Kazan church in <b>Vyrytzy</b> and venerate the holy relics of St. Seraphim of <b>Vytytzy</b> . Overnight in <b>Saint Petersburg</b> .
<u>24 May, Sunday.</u> St. Kiril and Methodius day.	Holy Liturgy in one of the beautiful cathedrals in <b>St. Petersburg</b> . Visitation of <b>St. Peter and Paul Fortress</b> , the burial place of all Russian Tsars after Tsar Peter the Great. Visit churches and Cathedrals of St. Petersburg. Pray at the Smolensk Cemetery at the relics of <b>St. Xenia of St. Petersburg</b> . Overnight in St. Petersburg.
<u>25 May, Monday</u>	After breakfast visit the <b>fortress city of Kronstadt</b> with its breathtaking huge St. Nicholas Naval Cathedral,

	the house museum where St. John of Kronstadt lived and other churches of Kronstadt. Continuation of the visitation of the churches of St. Petersburg. Overnight in St. Petersburg.
<b><u>26 May, Tuesday</u></b>	After breakfast visit the <b>Hermitage and Russian Museum</b> and <b>St. Alexander Nevsky Lavra</b> . Overnight in St. Petersburg.
<b><u>27 May, Wednesday</u></b>	Return to Toronto via Air France

**Cost of Pilgrimage \$2,975 Canadian. This includes: flights, hotels (double occupancy), (single occupancy is possible, please ask), bus, two meals daily, guides and museum fees.**

**Visa and insurance not included.**

**The group will be guided by a devout Orthodox Christian Valentina Dubina, known to all of us as being very knowledgeable, bilingual and a senior tour guide.**

**Because of the large participation of Serbs and English speaking pilgrims, the pilgrimage is completely bilingual.**

**Please contact Father Vladimir Malchenko at 416-265-5651 or write [vmalchenko@yahoo.com](mailto:vmalchenko@yahoo.com) for information and to join us!**