



IDAHO KNIGHTLY NEWS

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Editor's Note

If anyone would like to submit an article for the Idaho Knightly News, please email me your article using Microsoft Word. Keep it between 1 page and 1.5 pages.

Also, I'd request that the Commandery Recorders please send me the dates of any of their activities to list in the next editions.

Upcoming 2022 Events:

Christmas Eve Dec. 24
Christmas Day..... Dec. 25
New Year's Eve Dec. 31

A Knight in the Holy Land

By Barry E. Newell

Sir Knights,

This last month I had the honor to take part in the second biennial "In the Footsteps of Jesus" pilgrimage and go to Israel and

follow the path that Christ walked during his life on Earth.

Like the ministers, you have to get yourself to JFK airport and then from their all traveling is done with the Holy Land Pilgrimage. After a 10.5 hour flight and then staying the night in Tel Aviv, the tour began with a walk through the ancient Port of Joppa (Jaffa Yaffa, Yafo, etc.). Then we traveled to Caesarea Maritima, Mt. Carmel, Tel Meggido (Greek: Armageddon), Mt. Tabor (site of the Transfiguration), and then to our hotel, the Nof Ginosar, on the Sea of Galilee.

On Day 2 we took a boat ride on the Sea of Galilee before going to the Mt. of Beatitudes, Korazim (one of the villages cursed by Jesus), Magdala (possible birthplace of Mary Magdalene and an important fishing village in Christ's time), and Capernaum (hometown of Simon Peter, Andrew, James, and John). The day ended with a drive to Yardenit (Little Jordan) where I was baptized in the River Jordan.

On Day 3, we went to the Church of the Multiplication near the Sea, to the Church of the Wedding in Cana, the Churches of the Synagogue and the Annunciation in

Nazareth, the ruins of Beit She'an, and the Garden Tomb in Jerusalem.

On Day 4, in Jerusalem, we visited the Church of St. Peter Gallicantu, the Cenacle or Upper Room (Room of the Last Supper), the Tomb of King David, and then the Fields of the Shepherds and the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem.

On Day 5, we held a church service at the traditional location of the VII station of the Cross then we had the rest of the day to ourselves. A small group of us were able to make it to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre and see the Tomb that held the body of Christ and Calvary Hill where he was crucified.

On Day 6, we went to the Western Wall, the Temple Mount, and the Via Dolorosa (the Way of Sorrow) which is the 14 Stations of the Cross that ended with a tour of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre.

On Day 7, we far south to the ancient Herodian fortress of Masada, to the ruins of Qumran (Dead Sea Scrolls), and then swam/floated in the Dead Sea itself

On Day 8, we visited the Israel Museum to see a scale model of Jerusalem during the 2nd Temple and the Shrine of the Book that houses, among other documents, the Dead Sea Scrolls and the Aleppo Codex. Afterward, we went to Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial.

On the final day, we visited the Ascension Chapel and Pater Noster Church on the Mount of Olives, the Haas Promenade Overlook of the Old City, the Abu Gosh - Saxum Visitor Center, and then traveled back to Tel Aviv before flying home.

It is almost impossible to put into words how amazing this trip was. This trip

was truly once in a lifetime, and I am so thankful for the opportunity to walk where the Savior walked. I cannot recommend it enough to anyone, whether a Sir Knight, a member of the clergy, or otherwise to go on this Pilgrimage.

Our guides were extremely knowledgeable. Ezra is a living legend in the tourism industry of Israel and our guide in Bethlehem was a knowledgeable and passionate Palestinian Christian woman. While in the Shepherd's Cave and then the grotto below the Church of the Nativity, she spoke with such vigor about living as a Christian: "Every day is Christmas in Bethlehem...Helping our fellow man – this is Christmas. Spreading the message of Christ – this is Christmas. Being kind – this is Christmas."

I wish you Sir Knights all have a blessed and very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

