JAPAN

November 8—15, 2020

Trip Itinerary
ACCOMMODATIONS

**NAGASAKI | NOVEMBER 8—11**

For three nights we will stay at the Garden Terrace Nagasaki, which has expansive views of the city skyline.

*2-3 Akizukimachi, Nagasaki, 850-0064, Japan*

**UNZEN | NOVEMBER 11—12**

We will spend one night at the Kyushu Hotel, in the Unzen-Amakusa National Park.

*320 Obamacho Unzen, Unzen, Nagasaki 854-0697, Japan*

**TOKYO | NOVEMBER 12—15**

For the remaining three nights, we will be at the beautiful Shangri La Hotel in the heart of Tokyo.

*Japan, 〒100-8283 Tokyo, Chiyoda City, Marunouchi, 1 Chome-8-3*
Please note the schedule is tentative and subject to change.

There will be mild (>15 minutes, little to no incline) to moderate (15-25 minute, little to no incline) walking throughout the trip. Accommodations will be made when possible.

**Sunday, November 8 | Arrival | Mild Walking**

We suggest flying directly to Nagasaki. (There is typically a layover in Tokyo.) Transfers will be arranged for you from the Nagasaki Airport or train station. For those arriving on an early flight, there will be a travelers Mass at 5:00 pm, followed by dinner at the hotel. There will also be a 9:30 pm travelers Mass at the hotel for those arriving on later flights.

**Monday, November 9 | Nagasaki | Moderate Walking**

As we begin our journey in Nagasaki, we will delve into the history of Catholicism in Japan, beginning with the time of the early missionaries, which saw a flourishing of faith in the Nagasaki region. This was followed by a 250 year period of “hidden Christianity,” during the government-imposed ban, when Christians practiced their faith in secret. After an introductory talk at the hotel, we will celebrate Mass and visit the Museum and Monument of the 26 Martyrs, which is dedicated to St. Paul Miki and his 25 companions. They are considered the first Christians to die for the faith in Japan.

After lunch we will visit Oura Cathedral, which was built by a French missionary in 1864 for foreign merchants, and consecrated as the Church of the 26 Martyrs a year later. It was at this church that Japanese Christians, who had been secretly practicing the faith, first identified themselves. The ban on Christianity was eventually lifted in 1873.

Next to the cathedral is the small house where St. Maximilian Kolbe lived when he first arrived in Nagasaki in the early 1930s. During his time in the region, he founded a monastic community and seminary, and distributed a Japanese version of the publication *Militia Immaculatae*. We will visit the Catholic Hongochi Church that was built in 1964 next to the monastery, and the St. Kolbe Memorial Museum. Guests can also hike up to the Hongochi Lourdes, which is the grotto St. Kolbe built to our Lady. We will close the day with a welcome dinner at Glover’s House Nagasaki ‘Setre.’
Today we will explore the Shinkamigoto region of the Goto Islands, which lie off the western coast of Nagasaki. Christianity was first introduced here in the 16th century and, during the ban, many Christians from the Nagasaki region sought refuge on the islands, where they could more easily practice their faith in secret. There are now nearly 50 churches on the islands. We will visit the Kashiragashima Church and Villages to learn more about the story of these Christians, celebrate Mass in one of the other historic churches, and take in the beautiful scenery of the island. In the late afternoon, we will return to Nagasaki for our last evening at Garden Terrace Nagasaki and enjoy dinner and night views of the harbor.

In the morning we will celebrate Mass at the Immaculate Conception Cathedral (Urakami Cathedral). Although the original church was destroyed by the atomic bomb, remains of the wooden statue of Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception was found by a trappist monk at the site of the explosion; the statue now resides in a small chapel of the new church. Afterwards we will visit the Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Museum and walk through the Peace Park, ending at the Memorial to the Servant of God Takashi Nagai, the Catholic physician who survived the atomic bombing and wrote *The Bells of Nagasaki*. After lunch we will transfer to the Kyushu Hotel in the Unzen-Amakusa National Park.
In the early afternoon we will fly to Tokyo for the remainder of our trip. After free time, the group will rejoin for Mass at Catholic Kanda Church, established in 1874 by French missionaries and dedicated to St. Francis Xavier. After Mass, there will be an interactive Yakiniku dining experience, a popular cuisine in Tokyo where diners grill pieces of meat and vegetables over griddles at the table and dip them in specialty sauces.

Friday, November 13 | Kanazawa | Mild Walking

On Friday we will take a bullet train to Kanazawa, a city on the west coast of Japan that is often called "little Kyoto." This beautiful city has the same cultural appeal of Kyoto but on a more manageable scale. After Mass and lunch there will be time to explore the city’s beautiful gardens, and historic neighborhoods. We will return to Tokyo in the late evening.
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15 | DEPARTURE

Private transfers will be arranged from the hotel to either of the Tokyo airports (Narita or Haneda). For those with later flights, transportation will be provided to the English Mass at St. Ignatius Catholic Church at noon.