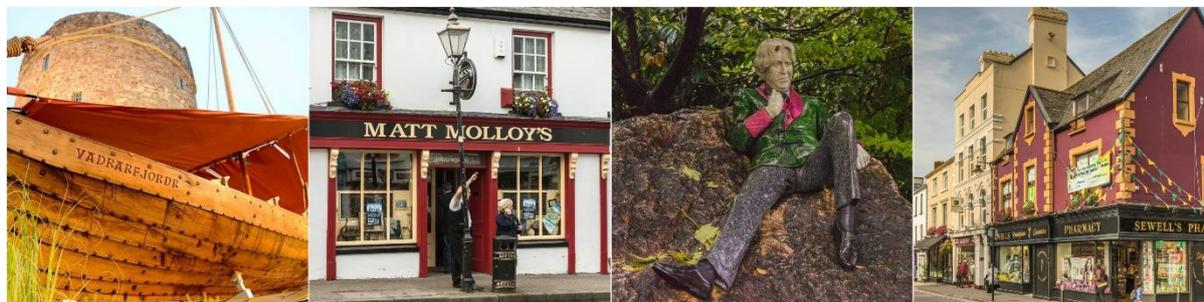


World Meeting of Families IRELAND hosted by Fr. Michael Johnson August 23 to September 03, 2018



Thursday AUGUST 23: Depart USA to Dublin

Depart Minneapolis/ St Paul for Ireland on your overnight flight.

Friday 24: Arrive Dublin

Arrive Dublin and transfer to your city centre hotel with an overview of the city enroute. Afternoon to relax or partake in WMOF events.

Saturday 25: Dublin – Event Participation

Following breakfast enjoy a morning tour to the 6th century monastic settlement of St Kevin at Glendalough. Return to Dublin. WMOF events

Sunday 26: Dublin – Eucharistic Celebration

Solemn Eucharistic Celebration – Due to traffic restrictions today will be a walking day to Phoenix Park.

Monday 27: Dublin to Waterford via Kilkenny

Travel towards the Medieval city of Kilkenny and visit Kilkenny Castle. Later, some free time in the city before heading on to Waterford, Ireland's oldest city for overnight. This evening experience a unique after-hours tour of the Medieval Museum in Waterford with the curator. A chance to see "Heavens Embroidered Cloths", the largest collection of Medieval Vestments in Europe, embroidered in Belgium with fine Italian thread of silver and gold. Dinner at the Munster Bar.

Tuesday 28: Exploring Mount Melleray Abbey and the Vee

This morning we travel to the Cistercian Monastery of Mount Melleray, in Co. Waterford home to Trappist Cistercian Monks in the beautiful rolling countryside. We continue over the Knockmealdown Mountains and the lush green "Vee Drive" that straddles the border of three counties towards Clonmel and return to Waterford for dinner and overnight.

Wednesday 29: Waterford to Killarney

After breakfast, travel west along the Celtic Sea to the small village of Ardmore and the Monastic site of St Declan and its ancient round tower. From here we continue to the Harbour Town of Cobh with a visit to St Colman's Cathedral. Visit the heritage centre that tells of the story of emigration from Ireland as Cobh was the largest port of emigration from the 1840's to mid-1900's, and was also the last port of call for the Titanic. Continue to Killarney and dinner & overnight at your hotel.

Thursday 30: Dingle Peninsula Day Tour

Journey along Dingle Bay as we make our way out to the fishing town Dingle, a brief stop here before we travel along Sleah Head Drive where mountain and sea collide. We see settlements from early Celtic to early monastic amongst the beautiful scenic backdrop. Visit Gallarus Oratory dating from the 7th Century and learn

of St Brendan, believed to have departed from the peninsula as he set sail on his great voyage across the Atlantic Sea. Return to Dingle for some free time and lunch, before returning to Killarney. Tonight, you are free to explore the many restaurants and pubs for dinner at your leisure.

Friday 31: Killarney to Galway via the Cliffs of Moher & Glenstal Abbey

After breakfast, we make our way north towards the city of Limerick and Glenstal Abbey. Home to a Benedictine order of monks and a boarding school for boys, enjoy tea and scones on arrival and a tour of the Icon Chapel in the crypts of the original church. A unique chance to see some priceless orthodox Icons in this beautiful setting. Later, continue out to the majestic Cliffs of Moher rising a sheer 700ft from the ocean. Travel on to Galway for dinner & overnight at your hotel.

Saturday SEPTEMBER 01: Aran Island Day Tour

This morning we take the short journey to the port of Rossaveal and take the ferry to Inishmore, the largest of the three Aran Islands, limestone outcrops that form a barrier at the mouth of Galway Bay. Upon arrival, we take a tour to the 7 churches and a visit to the promontory fortress of Dun Aengus, whose original building dates to 1100BC and its current structure to 500BC. Return to the village and enjoy some free time for lunch and maybe purchase that essential Aran Sweater. Return to the mainland and your hotel for dinner & overnight.

Sunday 02: Galway to Kildare via Clonmacnoise

Making our way east today we travel through the midlands of Ireland and visit to the 6th Century monastic site of St Ciaran at Clonmacnoise on the banks of the River Shannon, the longest river in the British Isles. From here we continue onto County Kildare and to our hotel. Early afternoon check in and a chance to pack and prepare for tomorrows departure. Farwell dinner in your hotel.

Monday 03: Return to USA

Transfer to Dublin airport and check in for your return flight.

Cost per person sharing: US\$2,795.00

Single Supplement: US\$850.00 Singles are limited.

Included in your land only costing:

- 11 nights in first class hotels
- Full Irish Breakfast each morning (excludes day of arrival)
- 6 evening dinners (Based on 3 courses)
- Tea & Scones at Glenstal Abbey
- Ferry to Aran Islands and tour.
- Day tours and transport (where traffic restrictions are not in place) during WMOF. Transportation during post WMOF Tour.
- Professional driver/guide for duration
- Entrance fees: Glendalough, Kilkenny Castle, Medieval Museum, Gallarus Oratory, Glenstal Abbey, Mount Mellera, Cliffs of Moher, Clonmacnoise.
- Donations to churches for use in celebration of Mass



Due to changes that may occur in the event schedule for WMOF we may need to adjust this itinerary to ensure you have the best opportunities to experience this unique journey.

YOUR HOST Fr. Michael Johnson



Fr. Michael Johnson was ordained a priest in 2009. After ordination, he served as parochial vicar at St. John the Baptist in New Brighton and then Epiphany in Coon Rapids before studying canon law at the Catholic University of America. Currently, he is an adjunct professor of canon law at the Saint Paul Seminary School of Divinity and Archbishop Bernard Hebda appointed him as Judicial Vicar of the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis on January 1, 2016.

This will be his first time visiting Ireland.