

★ The Episcopal Diocese of Texas

Join The Diocese of Texas and Virginia Theological Seminary as we discover the transition from Romanesque to Gothic architecture journeying through

# Gothic France 2024

Led by The Rt. Rev. C. Andy Doyle and The Rev. J. Barney Hawkins IV, Ph.D.

November 8-18, 2024



# Preliminary Program

## Day 1: Friday

**Arrival in Paris on your own.** Lodging in a 4-star hotel in Paris (Hotel Royal Garden Champs-Élysées or similar).

Group **Welcome Cocktails and Dinner** in a restaurant.

## Day 2: Saturday

In the morning, your private tour bus and two guides meet you at the hotel for a guided day in Paris.

Guided visit of Notre Dame Cathedral (the exterior), an iconic masterpiece of Gothic architecture, ravaged by fire in April 2019. **Lunch** on your own in historic Montmartre. After lunch, meet your tour bus for a guided visit of the **St Denis Basilica** to learn about the birth of Gothic architecture. Return to the hotel and **Dinner** on your own.

## Day 3: Sunday

Meet your two guides at the hotel for a guided day in Paris (transport pass provided). First, you will tour the **Sainte-Chapelle**, an example of the Rayonnant period of Gothic architecture, commissioned by St. Louis to house Christ's crown of thorns, and a piece of the true cross; and Next your guide will take you to the Conciergerie, an example of the secular use of Gothic architecture, later used as a prison during the French Revolution.

**Lunch** on your own. In the afternoon, your guide will take you to the **Cluny Museum** to view liturgical objects that adorned French Gothic churches, including The Lady and the Unicorn tapestry series woven in around 1500. You'll have free time to explore the museum, observing the link between Romanesque and Gothic architecture.

**Dinner** on your own.





### Day 4: Monday

Meet your private tour bus in front of the hotel for a day trip to **Chartres**.

Guided tour of **Notre Dame de Chartres Cathedral**, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and a unique example of early gothic architecture and its 13<sup>th</sup> century Labyrinth. Group **Lunch** in Chartres. Free time to explore the town of **Chartres** and return to **Paris** with your tour bus at the end of the day. **Dinner** on your own.

### Day 5: Tuesday

In the morning, free time to explore Paris (transport pass provided), its monuments, local markets, shops or to have a coffee on a café terrace. Optional visit to the **Sacré Coeur Basilica** with its mosaic of Christ in Glory and the **Montmartre** neighborhood surrounding the Basilica, including a view over the city. **Lunch** on your own. In the afternoon, meet your two guides for a guided tour of **St. Severin Church** with its flamboyant Gothic architecture, double ambulatory, and

twisted pillar and of **Saint Etienne du Mont**, a magnificent example of the transition from Gothic to Renaissance architecture and a 16<sup>th</sup> century Rood Screen. **Dinner** on your own.

### Day 6: Wednesday

Meet your private tour bus in front of your hotel for a 3-day excursion to **Normandy**. **Lunch** on your own (on the way to Mont Saint Michel)

Visit of **Mont Saint Michel**, a tidal island and pilgrimage destination since the 8<sup>th</sup> century, and **afternoon guided visit** of the **Benedictine Abbey of Mont Saint Michel** and its magnificent views.

Group **Dinner**. **Lodging** in a 4-star hotel in **Bayeux** (Château de Sully or similar)

### Day 7: Thursday

Meet your private tour bus for a guided day trip in **Normandy**. Your first stop will be **Arromanches** to

visit the **D-Day Museum (Musée du Débarquement)** and to view remnants of the artificial port, constructed just after the invasion. **Group Lunch.** Guided tour of the sacred site of **The Normandy American Cemetery and Memorial** in **Colleville-sur-Mer** with a celebration of the **Eucharist.** Visit the World War II **Pointe du Hoc Ranger Monument**, overlooking the English Channel, if time allows. **Group Dinner** in **Bayeux.**

### **Day 8: Friday**

Guided tour of **Bayeux cathedral**, a unique, well-preserved example of Norman Gothic architecture, and the town. Visit the **Bayeux Tapestry Museum**, to learn about the UNESCO World Heritage **Bayeux Tapestry**, a medieval treasure depicting the Norman conquest of England in 1066, and its history. **Group Lunch.**

Meet your private tour bus for a short trip to the **War Correspondents' Memorial**, a monument commemorating those who have given their lives to report the news.



### **Day 9: Saturday**

Meet your private tour bus in front of the hotel to begin your return trip to Paris. Your first stop will be Le Bec-Hellouin for a guided tour of the **Notre-Dame Abbey du Bec-Hellouin.** **Group Lunch.** After lunch, return to your private bus to continue to Paris. **Dinner** on your own.

### **Day 10: Sunday**

In the morning, **The American Cathedral in Paris** will welcome you for an 11 a.m. Eucharist, coffee hour and a look at Gothic Revival Architecture. **Lunch** on your own.

In the afternoon, you will have free time to explore the city on your own (transport pass provided)

**Group farewell dinner.**

### **Day 11: Monday**

Farewell: Check out of your hotel and make your way to the airport for your departure.

Ce n'est qu'un au revoir!