An unforgettable pilgrimage to the Holy Land, steeped in prayer, scripture, and worship, and visiting the places associated with the life, death, and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Commencing in the shepherds fields, Bethlehem, we will travel to the Jordan River, and on to the shores of the Sea of Galilee, where we will walk in the very footsteps of Jesus and his first disciples. From the mountain of Transfiguration, we will then set our faces to journey to Jerusalem, via the mystical Judean wilderness, to the Dead Sea, and Masada. Upon arrival in the Holy City, there will be time to follow the Palm Sunday route down the Mount of Olives, to walk the way of the cross through the streets of Jerusalem to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, and to spend some time in prayerful reflection in the garden tomb. The Gospels will come alive, and be for ever read in a new and vivid way, through participation this unique itinerary, following the narrative sequence of the synoptic Gospels, and walking closely with, and in the footsteps of, our Lord. The pilgrimage is jointly led by Bishop Brad Billings and The Revd Dianne Sharrock.

**DAY 1: Saturday 6 January 2018**
**DEPART AUSTRALIA**
Depart Melbourne today on your Thai Airways flight to Bangkok. On arrival, proceed to security and check in for your connecting El Al Israel Airlines flight to Tel Aviv.

**DAY 2: Sunday 7 January 2018**
**ARRIVE TEL AVIV, JAFFA, BETHLEHEM**
We arrive into Tel Aviv this morning, where we are met by our waiting tour guide and driver. We will have a tour of Old Joppa. Transfer to our hotel in Bethlehem for a leisurely afternoon, early dinner and overnight (D)

**DAY 3: Monday 8 January 2018**
**SHEPHERD’S FIELD, HERODIAN, BETHLEHEM**
Our tour starts this morning after breakfast. We'll explore Bethlehem, the city of David and the birth place of Jesus. We will visit first the Shepherd’s Fields, the traditional site where the angels announced the birth of the Messiah to shepherds watching their flocks by night. After a service in one of the cave chapels, we proceed to the nearby Herodian, Herod’s fortress and palace in The Judean Desert. Drive back to Bethlehem to visit the Church of the Holy Nativity, reputed to have been built over the cave in which Jesus was born. Time permitting, explore Bethlehem before meeting at the hotel for dinner and overnight. (B D)

**DAY 4: Tuesday 9 January 2018**
**NAZARETH, JORDAN RIVER, SEA OF GALILEE**
Today we travel Nazareth the boyhood home of Jesus, and the site of the announcement to Mary. We will visit the Church of the Annunciation, decorated with pictures of Mary from around the world. From Nazareth we will proceed to Yardenit, close to where the Jordan River meets the Sea of Galilee, to visit the baptismal site there and for a service to renew our baptismal vows. We will then follow the shores of the Sea of Galilee, through Tiberias, to the Nof Ginosar kibbutz Hotel. (B D)

**DAY 5: Wednesday 10 January 2018**
**SEA OF GALILEE**
We spend today on the shores of the Sea of Galilee, visiting places well known to us from the Gospels. We travel first to Capernaum, where we will see the ruins of the ancient synagogue and a house that may once have been home to Peter. We will next visit Tabgha, where the exhortation of Jesus to Peter ‘feed my sheep’ and the feeding miracle of the loaves and fishes are both commemorated. Here we will celebrate the Holy Communion in one of the outdoor chapels. From Tabgha, a windsiding road takes us to the heights above the Jordan, to the Church of the Beatitudes. This area is associated with the Sermon on the Mount and provides lovely views over the surrounding Galilean countryside. Return to Nof Ginosar for dinner and a relaxing evening. (B D)

**DAY 6: Thursday 11 January 2018**
**CAESAREA PHILIPPI**
This morning we drive to the foot of Mount Hermon, a possible location of the Transfiguration, where Jesus came with his disciples to a ‘high mountain’ at a very pivotal moment in his ministry. Near here is the site of ancient Caesarea-Philippi which we will visit. There will be time to enjoy the natural beauty of the area, as well as to read and prayerfully reflect on the biblical narratives associated with the Transfiguration and Peter’s confession that Jesus is the Messiah. Return to our hotel for dinner and overnight! (B D)

**DAY 7: Friday 12 January 2018**
**JERUSALEM**
In the morning we will see the first century ‘Jesus boat’ recovered from the Sea of Galilee some years ago. We will then take a boat trip ourselves onto the Sea of Galilee, pausing on the lake for a service of prayer and praise before returning to the kibbutz for a free afternoon, dinner and overnight. (B D)

**DAY 8: Saturday 13 January 2018**
**JERICHO, QUMRAN, MASADA, JERUSALEM**
Leaving Nof Ginosar after breakfast, our drive will take us through the Jordan Valley, past the site of ancient Jericho, and into the Judean desert, to the site of Qumran, where the Dead Sea scrolls were found. From there we continue to Masada, Herod’s hilltop fortress where the Jewish rebels made their last stand against an advancing Roman army in 70 AD, and which can be ascended today by cable car, affording incredible views over the wilderness. Finally, we will travel north, to the Holy City of Jerusalem, and then check in to our hotel, the Olive Tree, located opposite St George’s Anglican Cathedral and College. (B D)

**DAY 9: Sunday 14 January 2018**
**JERUSALEM**
Today, being Sunday, we will attend as a group the morning service at St George’s Cathedral. After lunch we will leave for the Shrine of the Book museum, where the Dead Sea Scrolls are housed, and see the remarkable scale model of the ancient city of Jerusalem, which will prepare us for what we will see and experience in the remaining days. (B D)

**DAY 10: Monday 15 January 2018**
**VISIT TO NAZARETH**
Our last day in the Holy Land begins with a visit to Nazareth, the boyhood home of Jesus. Here we will visit the Basilica of the Annunciation, decorated with pictures of Mary from around the world. We will then follow the shores of the Sea of Galilee, through Tiberias, to the Nof Ginosar kibbutz Hotel. (B D)

**DAY 11: Tuesday 16 January 2018**
**RAIL LOUNGE AND TRANSATLANTIC FLIGHT TO LONDON**
We spend the day enjoying the facilities of the hotel lounge before our departure home, flying back to London this evening.

**DAY 12: Wednesday 17 January 2018**
**DEPART FROM LONDON**
Depart London this morning on your El Al flight back to Tel Aviv, where you will be met by your guide and driver. Transfer to your hotel in Tel Aviv for dinner and overnight before returning home on your El Al flight to London. Transfer to Heathrow Airport and return home.

**DAY 13: Thursday 18 January 2018**
**ARRIVE LONDON VIA FRANKFURT**
Depart this morning for Frankfurt, and onwards to London Heathrow. Transfer to your connecting El Al flight for your onward journey back to Melbourne (B D)

**DAY 14: Friday 19 January 2018**
**ARRIVE MELBOURNE**
We arrive this morning into Melbourne and will transfer back into the Tasman Airlines flight to Melbourne, on arrival, collect your luggage and proceed to security and check in for your El Al flight. We will arrive this evening into Melbourne, where you will be met by your waiting transport. Transfer to your hotel in Melbourne for a relaxing evening. (B D)

An overnight pilgrimage to the Holy Land, steeped in prayer, scripture, and worship, and visiting the places associated with the life, death, and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Commencing in the shepherds fields, Bethlehem, we will travel to the Jordan River, and on to the shores of the Sea of Galilee, where we will walk in the very footsteps of Jesus and his first disciples. From the mountain of Transfiguration, we will then set our faces to journey to Jerusalem, via the mystical Judean wilderness, to the Dead Sea, and Masada. Upon arrival in the Holy City, there will be time to follow the Palm Sunday route down the Mount of Olives, to walk the way of the cross through the streets of Jerusalem to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, and to spend some time in prayerful reflection in the garden tomb. The Gospels will come alive, and be for ever read in a new and vivid way, through participation this unique itinerary, following the narrative sequence of the synoptic Gospels, and walking closely with, and in the footsteps of, our Lord. The pilgrimage is jointly led by Bishop Brad Billings and The Revd Dianne Sharrock.

**Bishop Brad** is Director of Theological Education for the Anglican Diocese of Melbourne, and a New Testament scholar, holding a doctorate on St Luke’s Gospel.

**Revd Dianne** the vicar of St Stephen & St Mary Mt Waverley in the Diocese of Melbourne, has led numerous pilgrimages to the sites associated with the New Testament in Turkey, Greece and the Holy Land.
DAY 10: Monday 15 January 2018
JERUSALEM
Drive to Bethany, the home of Mary, Martha and Lazarus. Continue to the Mount of Olives, and have a wonderful view of Jerusalem as we begin our descent on foot, following the path taken by Jesus on the first Palm Sunday. Half way down we will pause in the Church ‘Dominus Elevit’ (‘The Lord wept!’) for prayers. At the bottom of the Mount we will come to the Garden of Gethsemane and the Church of All Nations. Entering the Old City through the Zion Gate we will walk through the Jewish Quarter, to the site of the Pool of Bethesda, and the Upper Room. (B D)

DAY 11: Tuesday 16 January 2018
JERUSALEM
This morning we will proceed to the Western (or ‘wailing’) Wall on the Temple Mount, before commencing the Via Dolorosa or ‘Stations of the Cross,’ a meaning-filled and deeply spiritual walk through the City of Jerusalem, ending at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. On our way back to the Hotel we will call in to the Garden Tomb, another possible site of the burial and resurrection, and celebrate the Holy Communion in one of the outdoor chapels there. (B D)

DAY 12: Wednesday 17 January 2018
DAY OF LEISURE

TOTAL ESTIMATED MAIN PACKAGE PRICE:
AUD $4,850* per person (twin share)  Single supplement:  AUD$595

* Price is based on minimum of 25 participants. Conditions apply. Subject to change.

HOTELS TO BE USED (or similar)
Bethlehem  St Gabriels Hotel (2 nights)
Galilee  Nof Ginosar Kibbutz Hotel (4 nights)
Jerusalem  Olive Tree Hotel (5 nights)

PRICE INCLUDES:
• Return economy airfares Melbourne - Bangkok - Tel Aviv with Thai Airways & El Al Israel Airlines
• Current and departure taxes
• 11 nights’ hotel accommodation in shared twin rooms
• Daily breakfasts and dinners
• Final farewell meal at Middle Eastern restaurant in Abu Gosh
• Transport by deluxe air-conditioned motor-coach
• Whisperer headsets
• All guiding and entrance fees
• Sightseeing as per itinerary
• All tips, portage and gratuities

PRICE EXCLUDES:
• Entrance/sightseeing/meals other than those in the itinerary
• Lunches
• Single supplement
• Travel insurance
• Incidental expenses of a personal nature such as phone calls, laundry, room service etc.
• Any services not listed in ‘Price Includes’ above

WHAT TO DO NEXT:
1. Register your interest & obtain a booking form from Bishop Brad Billings, Rev Dianne Sharrock or the team at Olive Tree Travel
2. To secure your place a deposit of $500 per person will be required by Friday 28th April (unless sold out prior)
3. The final balance payment will be required by 1st November 2017

WHO TO CONTACT:
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katrina@olivetreetravel.com.au
www.olivetreetravel.com.au

Enjoy a free day in the holy city. You may wish to walk into the old city and explore its different quarters; visit the markets; or arrange for a trip to the very moving Yad Vashem, Memorial of the Holocaust. (B D)

DAY 13: Thursday 18 January 2018
FINAL DAY IN JERUSALEM, DEPARTURE
On our final day in the Holy City, we will visit St George’s College to hear about the courses on offer there, to meet the Faculty, and then gather in St George’s Anglican Cathedral next door for a concluding service(tbc). Following a short break for free time, we will transfer to Abu Gosh for our final farewell valedictory meal together at a delicious Middle Eastern restaurant as our time as pilgrims comes to an end. We’ll transfer to Ben Gurion International Airport near Tel Aviv for our flight home this evening. (B D)

DAY 14: Friday 19 January 2018
IN FLIGHT

DAY 15: Saturday 20 January 2018
ARRIVE AUSTRALIA
Arrive back to Australia with wonderful memories from the trip! **Itinerary subject to change**