



Society of the Holy Child Jesus

Louisiana and Mississippi Pilgrimage

Five Days: April 7 – 12, 2024



For more information or to reserve your spot,
please contact the Society of the Holy Child Jesus, Mission Advancement Office,
at 610-626-1400, x1301 or slovascio@shcj.org.



WHAT IS THE COST?

Land Only

\$3,000

Single Occupancy

\$2,800

Double Occupancy

\$2,600

Triple Occupancy

* Price based on a group of 30 travelers.

Initial deposit of \$500 is due
Wednesday, November 1, 2023.

Payment in full is due Friday,
December 15, 2023.

Society of the Holy Child Jesus Group Leaders

Sandra Lovascio

Director of
Mission Advancement
610-626-1400, x1301
slovascio@shcj.org

Emily Wells

Archivist
610-525-8951
ewells@shcj.org

Dear Pilgrims,

More than 175 years ago, Cornelia Connelly, a Philadelphian, wife, mother, and ardent Roman Catholic convert, founded the Society of the Holy Child Jesus. Her inspiring life story, including her conversion to Catholicism, took root in Louisiana and Mississippi in the southern United States.

To celebrate, honor, and learn more about Cornelia's life, we hope you will join us as we embark on a pilgrimage to both states, where we will walk in Cornelia's footsteps and connect with her in new and powerful ways.

As pilgrims, we will learn about the major turning points in her family life and spiritual journey and gain a deeper understanding of who she was. We will visit places that brought great joy to Cornelia, including the St. Louis Cathedral in New Orleans, where she was received into the Roman Catholic Church and Sacred Heart Academy in Grand Coteau, where she taught music.

We will be accompanied by the Society's archivist, Emily Wells, who will provide meaningful and fresh insight into Cornelia's life. We will learn how, while living in Grand Coteau, her faith in God deepened during one of the most tragic times of her life. We will visit the gravesite of Mary Magdalen and John Henry, two of Cornelia's children, and the site where Pierce, her husband, told Cornelia about his decision to be ordained a Catholic Priest and to dissolve their marriage.

We hope you will join us on this pilgrimage, which will be filled with deep meaning and leave you inspired. We will explore the roots of Cornelia's faith in God and discover her anew as a mother, wife, convert, and Founder of the Society of the Holy Child Jesus.

Sincerely,

Mary Ann Buckley, SHCJ
American Province Leader



Please make your air travel arrangements so that your flight arrives at the New Orleans Airport (MSY) before 1:00 p.m., Sunday, April 7, 2024, and your outgoing flight departs from New Orleans Airport after 2:00 p.m., Friday, April 12, 2024. (Travel from Lafayette, Louisiana, to New Orleans Airport is approximately 2 ½ hours.)

PILGRIMAGE DAILY ITINEARY

Day 1, April 7: New Orleans Arrival

Flights to New Orleans Airport (MSY) must arrive before 1:00 p.m. on Sunday, April 7, 2024. Upon arrival at the New Orleans Airport (MSY), we will be greeted at baggage claim by our tour guide and assisted to our motor coach. We will be taken to our hotel, the Wyndham New Orleans - French Quarter, 124 Royal Street, which is within walking distance of beautiful antique shops and art galleries. After check-in, you will have free time to explore the French Quarter before we meet for dinner. (D)

Day 2, April 8: New Orleans

We will meet our tour guide and go to St. Louis Cathedral. After touring the Cathedral, we will visit the Old Ursuline Convent. Built in 1754, the Convent is in the oldest building in the Mississippi Valley. Over the years, the building has had many uses and tenants, including serving as a school, meeting place for the Louisiana Legislature, and the Archdiocesan central office. It is currently a vibrant museum, with both permanent and changing collections. In the Convent's courtyard, we will see a statue of the Venerable Cornelia Connelly and statues of other prominent women religious leaders. Lunch will follow the tour, and the afternoon will be open for sightseeing at your leisure. This evening we will walk to the dock at the end of Toulouse Street in the French Quarter and board the Natchez Steamboat Jazz for a cruise and dinner. (B,L,D)

Day 3, April 9: Lafayette

After breakfast, our motor coach will take us to Lafayette, where we will meet our guide for a walking and panoramic tour of the city of Lafayette. We will visit St. John's Cathedral and St. John's Cemetery and see the 500-year-old mighty oak tree. After checking into our hotel, the Comfort Suites Oil Center, at 114 Rue Fernand, we will meet in the lobby and go to dinner. (B,L,D)

Day 4, April 10: Grand Coteau

Today we will travel to Grand Coteau and tour Sacred Heart Academy, where Cornelia taught and lived. We will have the opportunity to see the house where she lived. We will visit St. Charles Borromeo Church and Cemetery where two of Cornelia and Pierce's children, Mary Magdalen and John Henry, are buried. We will see the Jesuit Spirituality Center at St. Charles College, where Pierce Connelly taught. After lunch, we will head to Opelousas in Grand Coteau. During Cornelia's time, Grand Coteau was made up of plantations, and Opelousas was the closest village. We will tour the Orphan Train Museum and then head back to Lafayette for dinner. (B,L,D)

Day 5, April 11: Natchez

This morning our motor coach will take us to Natchez, Mississippi. We will stop for lunch along the way. When we arrive, we will have a panoramic view and walking tour of the city. We will visit Trinity Church, where Pierce was rector. You will have free time before returning to Lafayette. (B,L,D)

Day 6, April 12: New Orleans Airport

Depart Lafayette following breakfast. Our motor coach will transport us to the New Orleans Airport. Return departure flight to be scheduled for after 2:00 p.m. (B)

B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner

YOUR COMPREHENSIVE TOUR INCLUDES

- Five nights stay in first-class hotels
- Luggage handling at hotels (one piece per person in/out)
- Five restaurant/hotel breakfasts
- Four restaurant lunches
- Five restaurant dinners (beverages available at an additional cost)
- Guided tour service
- All transfers with a private A/C motor coach
- Entrance fees for all sites
- All taxes and gratuities

RATES DO NOT INCLUDE

- Air Fare – each person is responsible for their own air travel
- Personal expenses
- Medical insurance
- Travel protection insurance
- Beverages at meals
- Excessive luggage charges

Our active itinerary requires walking and climbing stairs.





Society of the Holy Child Jesus

Connect with Venerable Cornelia Connelly in powerful and new ways.

“Land Only” Registration Form

Society of the Holy Child Jesus Pilgrimage to Louisiana and Mississippi April 7–12, 2024

Please complete this form and mail it to the Society of the Holy Child Jesus along with your deposit or visit <https://www.shcj.org/american/news-events/walk-the-scared-path-of-venerable-cornelia-connelly>.

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ Middle: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Room: (check one) ☐ Single Occupancy ☐ Double Occupancy ☐ Triple Occupancy

☐ Traveling alone, match me with a roommate,

☐ Solo room by myself.

If double or triple, name(s) of roommate(s): _____

Emergency Contact (Name/Phone): _____

Enclosed is a check in the amount of \$500 for my initial deposit.

Initial deposit due by November 1, 2023. Payment in full due by December 15, 2023.

We strongly suggest that you purchase a travel protection plan to protect your travel investment.

By signing below, I consent to any necessary itinerary changes. I understand that the Society of the Holy Child Jesus highly encourages the purchase of travel protection. I also understand that any fees associated with the trip cannot be waived for any reason. I assume all financial losses associated with this trip.

Signature: _____ Date: _____