

Register now to join the Friends of the American Cathedral in Paris and the Virginia Theological Seminary

for a Pilgrimage to

"The Grace and Glory of Gothic France"

May 15 through May 24, 2027

The Virginia Theological Seminary and The Friends of the American Cathedral are collaborating to offer a pilgrimage to the great cathedrals of France. The itinerary will include private guided visits to the cathedrals of Reims, Rouen and Chartres, among other beautiful and deeply moving sites, with wonderful organ music mixed in. Special highlights include a Eucharist in Chartres Cathedral, a privately guided tour of the restored Notre Dame de Paris Cathedral, and a bilingual Eucharist at the American Cathedral in Paris, the gathering church of the Convocation of Episcopal Churches in Europe. We will be joined by an expert in medieval art and architecture who will be our private guide for bespoke cathedral tours.

American Cathedral parishioner, Francie Plough Seder, has offered her substantial expertise in designing and organizing pilgrimages, alongside the Rev. Barney Hawkins of VTS who has led many similar pilgrimages to rave reviews. Bishop Mark Edington, in charge of the Convocation, is an enthusiastic supporter.

VIRGINIA THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

The American Cathedral in Paris
FOUNDATION • FRIENDS

Grace and Glory of Gothic France

May 15–24, 2027 • Pilgrimage Itinerary

Day 1 | Saturday, May 15, 2027



Bienvenue! Arrive independently in Paris; hotel staff will help you settle in.
Early evening: **Welcome presentation and lecture** on Paris history, Gothic architecture and its transformation of Christians' relationship with God, with art historian **Iveta Slavkova**.
Evening: Welcome dinner at L'Elysée Saint Honoré or similar. Overnight: 4-star Hotel Royal Garden Champs-Elysées.

Day 2 | Sunday, May 16, 2027



Morning: Eucharist at **the American Cathedral**. Lunch on your own (restaurant suggestions provided).
Afternoon: Guided interior and exterior visit of Notre-Dame de Paris Cathedral with specialist guide Iveta. Dinner on your own; overnight at the Hotel Royal Garden Champs-Elysées.

Day 3 | Monday, May 17, 2027



Morning: Depart by private coach for Saint-Denis; tour **Saint-Denis Basilica** with Iveta. Group lunch at Le Café de France or similar. Continue to Reims for an afternoon guided visit of **Saint-Rémi Basilica**, blending Romanesque and Gothic architecture. The basilica houses the remains of St. Rémi, who baptized Clovis, the first Christian king of France, in 496. Group dinner and overnight at the 4-star Radisson Hotel Reims or similar.

Day 4 | Tuesday, May 18, 2027



Morning: Depart with Iveta for a guided visit of **Reims Cathedral**. Lunch on your own (restaurant suggestions provided). Travel by coach to **Maison Ruinart** for a private tour and tasting at the region's oldest champagne house. Group dinner at the hotel; overnight at the Radisson Hotel Reims or similar.

Day 5 | Wednesday, May 19, 2027



Travel by private coach to Amiens for a guided visit of **Notre-Dame d'Amiens Cathedral**, the largest Gothic cathedral in France, with Iveta. Group lunch in Amiens. Continue by coach to Rouen. Group dinner and overnight at the 4-star Hôtel Littéraire Gustave Flaubert or similar.

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Day 6 | Thursday, May 20, 2027



Travel by private coach to **Saint-Ouen Abbey** for a visit and organ recital on its **Cavaillé-Coll organ**. Lunch on your own (restaurant suggestions provided). Guided visit of **Notre-Dame de Rouen Cathedral**, frequently painted by Monet. Group dinner and overnight at the 4-star Hôtel Littéraire Gustave Flaubert or similar.

Day 7 | Friday, May 21, 2027



Travel from Rouen toward Chartres, stopping at **Notre-Dame du Bec-Hellouin**, where Saint Anselm developed his Ontological Argument for God's existence, an underpinning of the Episcopal Church. Lunch at the Auberge du Vieux Donjon. Continue to **Chartres** for a preliminary independent visit of the cathedral and town. Dinner and overnight at the 4-star Hotel Le Grand Monarque. Evening: **Son et Lumière** at Chartres Cathedral.

Day 8 | Saturday, May 22, 2027



Morning: Private Eucharist in the crypt of **Notre-Dame de Chartres Cathedral**, followed by a guided visit of Chartres Cathedral with British expert **Malcolm Miller**. Group lunch, then return to Paris by private coach. Early evening: **bilingual Eucharist** at the American Cathedral, followed by a farewell **cocktail dînatoire** and reflection by Bishop Mark Edington.

Day 9 | Sunday, May 23, 2027 · Trinity Sunday



Morning: Eucharist at **the American Cathedral** in Paris, including an opportunity to appreciate its renovated organ. Group photograph on the cathedral choir steps. Lunch on your own and free time to explore Paris. Overnight at the 4-star Hotel Royal Garden Champs-Elysées.

Day 10 | Monday, May 24, 2027

Check out of your hotel and make your own way to the airport for departure. Ce n'est qu'un au revoir!

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May 15–24, 2027 • Registration and Terms

Cost per person

- $8,800 sharing a room
- Single room supplement: $2,000
- Additional: gratuities for guides, drivers, porters, servers and others.

Paris accommodation reductions

- No Paris hotel, double/twin room: $800 per person reduction
- No Paris hotel, single room: $1,500 per person reduction

What is included?

- Hotel accommodations as indicated in the itinerary or similar
- All meals as indicated in itinerary, including breakfast. Most meals in restaurants specializing in local cuisine, plus two glasses of wine at dinner.
- Professional, English-speaking guides and tour organizer
- Complete program of tours as described in the itinerary
- All entrance fees, admissions, and parking fees
- Private luxury coach and friendly, professional driver

What is excluded?

- International and domestic airfares, airport taxes
- Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages above and beyond what's listed above
- Visas (if needed depending on travelers' nationality)
- Gratuities for guides, drivers, porters, servers
- Some lunches and one dinner
- Personal expenses such as minibar, telephone, laundry, etc.
- Travel and health insurance

Deposit and booking

A deposit of $1,500 per person is required to process a booking.

Checks payable to: Barney Hawkins (for Gothic France 2027).

Deposit fully refundable up to 45 days before the pilgrimage begins.

Mail form and deposit to

The Rev. J. Barney Hawkins IV, Ph.D.
VTS Pilgrimages
P.O. Box 18
Cedar Mountain, NC 28718

For further information, including instructions if you prefer to wire your deposit, please email:
Victoria Elie - velie@VTS.edu
or **Rev. Barney Hawkins** - bhawkins@VTS.edu

Accommodation and other needs

☐ I prefer a single room

☐ I will stay in my own apartment in Paris (double-room reduction)

☐ I will stay in my own apartment in Paris (single-room reduction)

☐ I have travel accommodations or allergies (describe below)

DETAILS / SPECIAL REQUESTS

Registration

FULL NAME(S)

ADDRESS, CITY, STATE, ZIP

PHONE / MOBILE AND EMAIL

SIGNATURE AND DATE

Pilgrim 1 Passport Information

FULL NAME (AS ON PASSPORT)

DATE OF BIRTH | PLACE OF BIRTH

PASSPORT NUMBER

DATE OF ISSUE | DATE OF EXPIRATION

Pilgrim 2 Passport Information

FULL NAME (AS ON PASSPORT)

DATE OF BIRTH | PLACE OF BIRTH

PASSPORT NUMBER

DATE OF ISSUE | DATE OF EXPIRATION