

Friends of the American Cathedral and Virginia Theological Seminary join to discover

The Grace and Glory of Gothic France Pilgrimage

May 15 – 24, 2027

Itinerary (Subject to Confirmation)

Day 1 Saturday, May 15, 2027



Bienvenue! Arrival in Paris (on your own). Hotel Staff will help you get settled in your hotel.

Early Evening - Welcome presentation and short lecture on Paris history, Gothic Architecture, and how it transformed Christians' relationship with God with Art Historian Iveta Slavkova.

Welcome dinner in a restaurant (near hotel) L'Elysées Saint Honoré or similar.

Overnight at 4* 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 visit of **Notre Dame de Paris Cathedral** (interior and exterior) with specialist guide Iveta.

Dinner on your own (restaurant suggestions provided).

Overnight at 4* hotel Royal Garden Champs Elysées.

Day 3 Monday, May 17, 2027



Morning - Meet your private coach for a morning in Saint Denis

Tour **Saint Denis Basilica** with Iveta.

Group Lunch in Saint Denis at Le Café de France or similar.

Meet your private coach for a trip to **Reims**.

In the afternoon, enjoy a guided visit to **Saint Rémi Basilica in Reims** with its intimate blend of Romanesque and Gothic architecture. The basilica houses the

remains of St Rémi, the bishop who baptized Clovis, the first Christian king of France, in 496 with Iveta.

Group dinner and overnight in Reims at the 4* Radisson Hotel Reims or similar.

Day 4 Tuesday, May 18, 2027



Morning - meet your coach and your specialist guide at the hotel for a guided visit to **Reims Cathedral** with Iveta.

Lunch on your own (Restaurant suggestions provided).

Meet your coach to travel to **Maison Ruinart** for a private tour and tasting of the region's oldest champagne. **Group dinner** at the hotel. Overnight at the 4*

Radisson Hotel Reims or similar.

Day 5 Wednesday, May 19, 2027



Meet your private coach for a **day trip to Amiens**.

Guided visit of **Notre Dame d'Amiens Cathedral** with Iveta. **Group lunch** in Amiens. After lunch, board your private coach to travel to **Rouen**.

Group dinner. Overnight in a 4* hotel in Rouen, hôtel Littéraire Gustave Flaubert or similar.

Day 6 Thursday, May 20, 2027



Abbaye de St Ouen*, for a visit and organ recital on the Abbey's Cavaillé Coll organ.

Lunch on your own (Restaurant suggestions provided).

Guided Visit of **Notre Dame de Rouen Cathedral** (frequently painted by Monet)
Guide TBA.

* Jean-Baptiste Monnot, the organist at Saint Ouen, is also an expert consultant on the American Cathedral in Paris' organ renovation project.

Day 7 Friday, May 21, 2027



Morning - Travel from Rouen to Chartres. First stop: **Notre Dame du Bec-Hellouin**, where Saint Anselm lived and developed the Ontological Argument of the existence of God, an underpinning of the Episcopal church. **Lunch** at the **Auberge du Vieux Donjon**. After lunch, continue to Chartres to enjoy a preliminary visit of Notre Dame de Chartres and the town on your own. **Dinner and overnight** at the 4 *Hotel le Grand Monarque in Chartres. Evening - Attend

the *Son et Lumière* at Chartres Cathédral.

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 in Chartres. After lunch, meet your private coach to return to Paris.

Early Evening – Bilingual Eucharist at the **American Cathedral in Paris** 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 time to appreciate the renovated organ.

Group Photo on the choir steps at the American Cathedral.

Lunch on your own with free time to explore Paris.

Overnight in 4* **Hotel Royal Garden Champs Elysées.**

Day 10 Monday, May 24, 2027

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