

# Pilgrim's Guide

## OLHC PILGRIMAGE 2020

Version 1.4 • SJBI 2020



The Road to Restoration

## About the OLHC Pilgrimage

### The Road to Restoration

#### Silence No More - Our Time to Awaken

In response to the current pervasive evil in our culture, Catholics across the world are uniting in America's heartland as a visible sign of resistance against forces destroying all that Christianity holds as good, true, and beautiful. We band together as pilgrims for Christ on a two-day march offering our physical and spiritual sacrifices for the defense of the traditional family, the sanctity of life, and to be a voice for our brethren in the silent majority suffering amongst us in a cultural wasteland of death. Join Catholics from across the Mid-West and beyond for a pilgrimage of reparation dedicated to *Our Lady Help of Christians*. **The Road to Restoration Begins now.**

### The Story

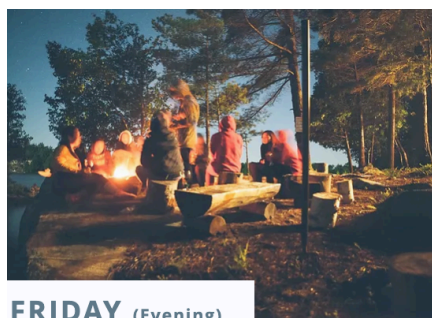
**Our Lady Help of Christians Pilgrimage** is a 35-mile trek to the Benedictine monastery, Our Lady of the Annunciation of Clear Creek Abbey. This pilgrimage was originally established by a group of young boys from the St. John Bosco Institute (Edmond, OK) in the spirit of brotherhood as the next generation of leaders soldiering for Christ. Word of this "American Chartres" by the St. John Bosco Institute's adventurous pilgrims spread quickly world wide among Catholics associated with both the school and monastery... In response to many requests, the youthful boy-soldiers opened up their pilgrimage to fellow Christians wanting to walk alongside them on The Road to Restoration of our Christian Culture.

### Our Lady Help of Christians

**Our Lady Help of Christians** is associated with the defense of Christian Europe, the north of Africa and the Middle East from non-Christian peoples during the Middle Ages. Saint John Bosco was an ardent promoter of devotion to "Mary, Help of Christians", which helped her attain special renown that today includes veneration by many Chinese Catholics. In 2007, Pope Benedict XVI designated 24 May her feast for the Roman Catholics in China facing persecution and restriction from the Chinese Patriotic Catholic Association. Thus, we invoke OLHC to save our nation from the internal attacks against our Christianity and stability of our great nation.

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## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS



**FRIDAY** (Evening)

10/2/20 Campout begins at 5pm

- 4pm Registration Opens
- 7pm St. John Bosco Boys ~  
Knighting Ceremony
- 8pm Campfire & Song



**SATURDAY**

10/3/20 1st Day / 20 miles

- 6am Wake-up Call
- 7am Walk Begins
- 11am Mass & Lunch
- 1pm Walk Resumes
- 5pm Arrive at Campsite



**SUNDAY**

10/4/20 2nd Day / 15 miles

- 6am Wake-up Call
- 7am Walk Begins
- 11am Break
- 12pm Walk Resumes
- 2pm Arrival & Mass at Clear Creek

## TRAVELING TO OKLAHOMA

If you are flying in from out-of-state, there are two airports that are both approximately one hour away from our starting point:

Option 1:

[Tulsa International Airport](#). This airport is approximately 1hr, 12mins away from our campsite Friday night, so please have a ride or [car rental arranged](#). If you have further questions about this, please email us [info@olhcpilgrimage.org](mailto:info@olhcpilgrimage.org)

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Option 2:

[Northwest Arkansas Regional Airport](#). This airport is approximately 1 hr, 4mins away from our campsite Friday night, so please have a ride or [rental car arranged](#). If you have further questions about this, please email us at [info@olhcpilgrimage.org](mailto:info@olhcpilgrimage.org)

ARRIVING FRIDAY EVENING **\*NEW INFORMATION!!\***

**PLEASE DO NOT GO TO THE MONASTERY UPON ARRIVING FRIDAY. The monastery has other commitments scheduled and is not expecting us until Sunday. Our scheduled meeting spot on Friday is 35-miles away from the monastery.**

Please meet at the Friday night campsite, where you will be directed to park. Your cars will be onsite at this resort until you are shuttled back Sunday. The campsite location is

:

**Riverside Resort on the Illinois River  
5116 Hwy 10  
Tahlequah, OK 74464**

AFTER THE PILGRIMAGE & STAYING SUNDAY EVENING

After the pilgrimage ends on Sunday, those of you who wish to stay to another night, we invite you to camp on the monastery grounds after retrieving your vehicle and luggage. Please let us know if you plan to camp so that we have proper space accounted for. Alternatively, you could also stay nearby at a local hotel. (See list below) Also note that the monastery

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GateHouse will be open directly following mass for anyone wishing to purchase items handmade by the monks.

If you will be staying overnight in Oklahoma after the pilgrimage on Sunday, here are options for local accommodations:

### [SEQUOYAH STATE PARK LODGE/CABINS](#)

A beautiful scenic state park along Fort Gibson Lake with a recently updated the hotel lodge, or choose from various sizes of cabin rentals located throughout the property. There is a restaurant in the lodge open to the public. Many people stay here while visiting the monastery - it is about a 20-minute drive from the lodge to the church.

### [BEST WESTERN LOCUST GROVE INN & SUITES](#)

The Best Western Inn & Suites in Locust Grove is about 20-30 minutes from the monastery. It is on the edge of the town Locust Grove, and is situated near a restaurant and large convenience station/gas station. It is about 5 minutes away from local grocery stores.

### MONASTERY ACCOMMODATIONS

We have arranged monastery land to be available for camping on Sunday evening. If you plan to stay further throughout the week, beginning Monday October 5th there may be availability in some of the monastery quarters. Please check with Father [Guestmaster](#) for more information.

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### PACKING LISTS

Below is a list of recommended items and advice from experienced pilgrims purely for your convenience and benefit. Reach out to us with any questions at [info@olhcpilgrimage.org](mailto:info@olhcpilgrimage.org)

#### FOR CAMPING

Tent + Tarp for underneath

Sleeping bags

Flashlight

Food to last 2-3 days (Friday night, Saturday, and Sunday)

Toiletries (Toilet paper, wet wipes, hand sanitizer, facial wipes etc...)

Bug spray

Bag holding camping items, food and other personal items that you won't be carrying on the walk, but will want to access or need at the campsite.

#### FOR WALKING

Good walking shoes

Small Backpack or camel-back backpack

Water

Rosary

Snacks and food for lunch

Blister care & band-aids

Hand Sanitizer/Wet Wipes

Extra pair of socks

Hat/Head covering

Rain Poncho



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### WHAT TO WEAR

There is not an “official” dress code for the pilgrimage, however, because there will be clergy and religious members (such as nuns, monks, and seminarians) present for the duration of the event, please consider more conservative clothing. For instance, **avoiding low necklines, bare shoulders, shorts, tight jeans, exercise leggings or yoga pants as pilgrimage attire would be best out of respect for the company that will be present.**

### FOR PILGRIMAGE

Pilgrims should dress accordingly for an outdoor camping/hiking experience. Good walking shoes or hiking boots, moisture-wicking socks, and a rain jacket or poncho are highly recommended items for all pilgrims. We also encourage clothing that does not leave much skin exposed as we will be walking through wooded areas and tall grass that could contain ticks, mosquitoes, and other pests. Another recommended precaution would be to treat clothing beforehand and have bug repellent handy throughout the duration of the pilgrimage.

### VISITING THE MONASTERY

Our Lady of Clear Creek Monastery is a traditional Benedictine Abbey with its own dress code for visitors.

**Men:** No shorts or sleeveless shirts

**Women:** No bared shoulders, chest or back. No shorts or pants. Please wear a dress or skirt that is long enough to cover the knees when standing and sitting. We ask that out of respect for the monks, pilgrims adhere to the dress code and plan accordingly for their Sunday pilgrimage attire as we will be entering into the Monastery grounds.

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### WHAT TO EXPECT & NOT EXPECT

This year, 2020, represents an opportunity for participants to be a “Founding Pilgrim” with this being the first year the event is open to the public to walk. The pilgrimage organizers want to ensure that all who come to join in this sacrifice feel accomplished and consider returning again for our great Road to Restoration. **In that spirit, please find some key points below about what to expect.**

#### PARKING

There will be an area for pilgrims to leave their vehicles at the first campsite. Pilgrims will leave their vehicles at this location for the duration of the pilgrimage.

#### SHUTTLES

Shuttles from the monastery back to the parking area will be provided on Sunday after Mass. Please be aware that shuttles will only run for a designated time (announced by your Chapter Leader). Pilgrims will be responsible for making sure to catch a shuttle between these times or otherwise make their own arrangements.

#### CAMPSITES

Please note that campsites will be in an open field with minimal facilities provided. There will be designated areas for tents and portable bathrooms but there will be no running water, shower facilities or electricity/ electrical outlets available. Trash cans will be available throughout the campsite. There will not be access to grills or fire pits for cooking. Campsite lighting will be minimal aside from the central bonfire, so the campsite will be dark after about 6:00PM. Pilgrims should plan on bringing flashlights and/or battery-powered lanterns for after-dark.



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### BATHROOMS

Port-a-potties will be available at the campgrounds, but not on the walk itself. Be prepared to use the great outdoors for your bathroom needs on the walk.

### FOOD & WATER

Water bottles will be provided at each campsite and at the lunch break. The organizers are providing a clam chowder and bread at the Friday evening campfire. Saturday evening, they will have broth. **Pilgrims are responsible for making sure they bring enough food to last for the remaining duration of the pilgrimage.** Directions to nearby grocery stores have been provided in this document and on the FAQ page of OLHC Pilgrimage website. It is recommended that you bring food items that will not easily spoil without refrigeration and that do not need to be heated or cooked as there will not be access to a grill or fire pit.

**Recommended food items are: apples and oranges, dried or canned meats, trail mix and granola bars, sandwich ingredients, bagels, instant coffee, etc...**

### TENT SET UP

The campsites will have designated areas for tent set up. Upon arrival at each campsite you will be directed to the area in which you may set up your tent. All pilgrims are responsible for bringing, setting up and tearing down their own tents. Pilgrims are also responsible for clean-up of their area at each campsite.

### TRAIL ACCESSIBILITY

The trail that we will be walking for this pilgrimage will mostly be cross-country through fields and wooded areas. The trail will be uneven, rocky and possibly *muddy*. *Car and handicap accessibility will not be possible for most of the trail.*

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### LUGGAGE TRANSPORT TO CAMPSITES

The tents and all luggage that you will not be taking on the walk with you will be shuttled from the first campsite to the second campsite. You will not have to carry the entirety of your luggage with you on the walk! Pilgrims will be responsible for bringing their campsite luggage to the correct shuttle for loading each morning. Upon arrival at the second campsite on Saturday evening, luggage will be available for pickup at a designated area. Luggage will be shuttled back to the first campsite/ parking area for pilgrims to pick up and pack up in their own vehicle. **No luggage will be shuttled to the Monastery.**

### LUGGAGE SHUTTLES

The shuttles for the luggage will be divided by chapter names and corresponding colors. Pilgrims will be notified prior to arrival as to their assigned color. Pilgrims will be responsible for making sure they have all pieces of their luggage and tents marked with a ribbon or tag of that color. (Please make sure it's securely fastened to your luggage and large enough to be clearly visible.) There will be a "lost and found" section for any luggage that is missing a color-coded ribbon.

### BUG REPELLANT

Please be aware that there will still be many pests out at this time of year. Pilgrims should make sure to have adequate bug repellent for both camping gear and personal use. It is recommended that you treat all camping gear and clothing with bug spray prior to arrival. It is also recommended that you spray the ground with bug spray before setting up your tent. Suggestions for a good brand of bug repellent [spray](#) and [lotion](#) [here](#).

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### MEDICAL STAFF / SHUTTLE BUSES

There will be medical staff on hand at each rest stop for any pilgrims who are in need of medical aid. Pilgrims that find they cannot complete the entirety of the walk may use the medical shuttle buses that will take pilgrims to the next rest stop or campsite.

### CHAPTERS

Each pilgrim, family or group will be assigned to a chapter that they will remain with for the duration of the pilgrimage. A chapter is an organized group of walking companions. Each chapter will have a chaplain and leader (or leaders) that is responsible for accounting for their members and keeping their chapters organized and on schedule.

### MASS

The form of the Holy Mass organized during the pilgrimage for both Saturday and Sunday will be the Extraordinary Form (Traditional Latin Rite), which reverently is also known as the “Mass of the Ages”. It is the sincere desire of the pilgrimage organizers and sponsors that the faithful who participate in this Traditional Latin Mass will experience with joy the rich and fulfilling heritage of the Catholic Faith!

A few things to note about this form:

- The priest will face the altar, whereupon rests the Real Presence of Our Lord Jesus in the form of a Consecrated Host.
- The priest and altar servers make almost all prayer responses for the faithful following along in missals/prayer books.
- Holy Communion is administered by the priests onto the tongues of the faithful as they kneel.

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- Due to the reverent nature of the Mass, the faithful are asked to dress appropriately, which entails complete modesty (Please refer to the section "What to Wear" in this handbook).

### LAST MINUTE PURCHASES

Below is a list of local stores if you need to purchase last-minute items in Oklahoma:

#### [Dollar General](#)

6414 OK-82, Peggs, OK 74452  
(14 miles from campsite)

#### [Antique Cowboy Emporium](#) (Gas & Convenience Store)

6250 OK-82 S toward N 440 Rd., Peggs, OK 74352  
(14 miles from campsite)

#### [Wal-Mart Supercenter](#)

2020 Muskogee Ave, Tahlequah, OK 74464  
(17 miles from campsite)

#### [Reasor's Foods](#) (Grocery)

2001 Muskogee Ave, Tahlequah, OK 74464  
(17 miles from campsite)

#### [WalGreens Pharmacy](#)

1905 S Muskogee Ave., Tahlequah, OK 74464  
(16 miles from campsite)