Franciscan Monastery Tour - Suggested Discussion Questions

1. When was the Franciscan Order founded?

2. Who founded the order?

3. What is the Custody of the Holy Land?

4. List some of the various works the Franciscan Friars do in the Holy Land.

5. What is the name of the founder of the Franciscan Monastery? In which altar is his likeness? Why?

6. What is the Jerusalem Cross? Where in the church did you see the Jerusalem Cross?


8. What is the oldest church of Christianity? Why

9. What is St. Joseph holding in his hand? What is his profession?

10. What is the name of the covering over the main altar? What is on the columns of the covering? Why?

11. What is the height of Calvary?

12. How many other people were hung on a cross to die on Good Friday with Jesus? What is the name of the Good Thief?

13. Who is standing at the foot of the cross?

14. Where was the body of Jesus placed prior to burial? Why?

15. How far is Calvary from the Holy Sepulchre?

16. What does the word “replica” mean? Where are there replicas in the Franciscan Monastery?

17. What is the name of the architect of the Franciscan Monastery? Which shrine did he build?

18. What is the name of the small chapel where the Lord was buried?

19. Which three apostles were with Jesus at the Transfiguration?
20. What is the Stigmata? Who is the first person to have had the Stigmata?

21. Where is the skull portrayed? What does it symbolize?

22. What are the three orders in the Franciscan Order?

23. What do the three knots on a friar’s habit symbolize?

24. What is the name of the Mother Church of the Franciscan Order? Why did St. Francis love it so much?

25. Who are the grandparents of Jesus?

26. Which Spanish king and queen helped fund the Crusades? Where is their likeness?

27. Where was St. Anthony of Padua born? What is the name of the religious order that he originally joined before he became a Franciscan?

28. What is the name of the young girl from Assisi who was so impressed with St. Francis and his life of prayer and poverty that she wanted to lead a similar life?

29. What is St. Clare holding in her hands? Why?

30. What is the name of the wealthy widow who was a follower of St. Francis and who appeared at the door of the friary with cookies that he liked as he was very sick and ready to die?

31. What is the Annunciation? In which city did it take place? Whose house was it?

32. Where did Jesus spend his childhood?

33. Why were people buried in the catacombs? Is anyone buried in the Roman catacombs now?

34. Why did people decorate and draw paintings in the catacombs? Do you remember one of the drawings? Describe it and explain its significance. How many miles of catacombs are there?

35. Why are the catacombs important to us today?

36. Name some of the picture/symbols that you saw in the catacombs.

37. What does the fish symbolize? What does the peacock symbolize? Where are they located?

38. What is a relic? Which two saints relics are in the Franciscan Monastery catacombs?

39. What was the profession of St. Benignus? Why was he killed?
40. In which chapel do we especially remember our departed friends and relatives?

41. What is the name of the person who gave his gravesite for Jesus’s burial?

42. What is the symbol of a martyr that you saw in the catacombs?

43. Who is the patron of music? Why? How and why was she killed?

44. Which belief did St. Cecilia affirm as she lay dying?

45. Who is St. Innocent? About how old was he when he did? How did he die?

46. In which city was Jesus born? Where was he born—in a house, a hospital? Why was he born there? Were many located near to Bethlehem?

47. In which month do we have a special devotion to Mary? The Holy Souls? The Sacred Heart?

48. What is the feast day of St. Francis? St. Anthony?

49. What did you like most about the tour?

50. What did you like least about the tour?