

Autumn along the Ohio River - Maysville & Augusta, Kentucky

Faith Along the Ohio River

Day 1 — Courage that Changes History

Our Autumn two-day Catholic Road Trip takes us through charming communities along the Ohio River both in Ohio and in Kentucky where **faith, American history, courage, beauty and a little nostalgia** come together. Here is a glimpse of the places we'll experience along the way.

Pres. Ulysses S. Grant Birthplace — Point Pleasant, Ohio

We'll begin our journey where the story of America's 18th president began. This modest home along the Ohio River was the birthplace of **Ulysses S. Grant**, who would rise from humble beginnings to command the Union Army during the Civil War and later serve two terms as president. It's a wonderful introduction to a day centered on **courage, freedom and human dignity**.

Pres. Ulysses S. Grant Boyhood Home & Schoolhouse — Georgetown, Ohio

We'll continue following Grant's story in the community where he grew up. We'll see his boyhood home and schoolhouse until he went to West Point, and learn about the tannery operated by his father. These simple places help us see the young man behind the famous general and president—and how family, work, education and character helped shape the person he would become.

John Rankin House — Ripley, Ohio

Perched high above the Ohio River, the Rankin House tells one of the most powerful stories of our journey. Presbyterian minister **John Rankin and his family assisted freedom seekers escaping slavery**, and their home became an important stop on the Underground Railroad. From the hilltop, we'll be able to look across the river toward Kentucky and better understand what that crossing meant to someone seeking freedom.

This stop beautifully connects with the Catholic Social Teaching principle of the **Life & Dignity of the Human Person**.

John P. Parker House — Ripley, Ohio

The story becomes even more remarkable when we learn about **John Parker**, who was born enslaved, purchased his own freedom, became a successful businessman and repeatedly risked his life helping others escape slavery.

Rankin and Parker give us two very different stories joined by one conviction: **another person's life and dignity are worth standing up for**.

Dinner Bell Restaurant — Ripley

After a full day of history, we'll slow down and enjoy supper together in Ripley. This is where one of my favorite parts of a Catholic Road Trip happens naturally—good food, conversation, laughter and friendship around the table, and some good southern home cooked foods.

Then we'll cross the **Ohio River into Kentucky** and settle in for the night in historic Maysville.

Day 2 — Faith That Builds Community

St. Patrick Catholic Church — Maysville, Kentucky

Our second day begins in the best possible way—with **Mass together at St. Patrick Catholic Church**.

After spending Day 1 hearing stories about courage and human dignity, we'll begin Day 2 considering two more principles of Catholic Social Teaching: **Solidarity and the Common Good**—recognizing that we belong to one another and are called to care about the well-being of our entire community. St. Patrick Church will also be the recipient of our special **Blessings Along the Way** for this Catholic Road Trip. Each Companion will be invited to bring non-perishable food items that we'll leave with the parish for local outreach. It's one simple way for us not only to visit a community, but also to **leave a blessing behind**.

The Gardens of St. Patricks

We'll visit the beautiful Gardens of St. Patrick and experience the **life-sized Stations of the Cross**. We will enjoy an included lunch here on the grounds.

"The Gardens at St. Patrick's is a six-acre spiritual sanctuary set on the historic grounds of St. Patrick Cemetery in Maysville, Kentucky. Designed as a place of reflection, devotion, and renewal, the Gardens invite visitors to step into a living interpretation of Christ's final journey. Here, serenity meets spirituality, offering a tranquil escape from the bustling world. Our mission is to create a nurturing environment for all who seek solace and inspiration through nature's beauty."

Rosemary Clooney House & Museum — Augusta, KY - Then it's time for some FUN!

We'll travel along the Ohio River to Augusta and visit the former home of legendary singer and actress **Rosemary Clooney**. The museum celebrates her remarkable career and includes an extensive collection of costumes and memorabilia associated with the beloved classic movie **White Christmas**. (Stars: Bing Crosby, Rosemary Clooney, Danny Kaye, Vera-Ellen)

Top Songs from *White Christmas*:

- **White Christmas**: Sung by Bing Crosby, this famous tune is a timeless holiday classic about wishing for a traditional snowy Christmas.
- **Sisters**: Performed by Rosemary Clooney and Vera-Ellen, a playful, catchy duet about sibling loyalty.
- **Count Your Blessings (Instead of Sheep)**: A soothing, gentle ballad sung by Bing Crosby that earned an Academy Award nomination.
- **Snow**: A cheerful, upbeat tune performed on a train by Bing Crosby, Danny Kaye, Rosemary Clooney, and Vera-Ellen.
- **The Best Things Happen While You're Dancing**: A lively dance number performed by Danny Kaye and Vera-Ellen.
- **Gee, I Wish I Was Back in the Army**: A nostalgic and humorous look back at military life by Bing Crosby and Danny Kaye.
- This town is also where actor George Clooney grew up and still visits often. His parents still live in the house he grew up in and Rosemary was his aunt.

Historic Augusta, KY

We'll also have time to discover Augusta itself—a picturesque river town filled with historic homes, small shops and beautiful views of the Ohio River.

Augusta Bourbon Distillery — Optional

I just need a count, so be sure to mark this on the Registration Form if you want to go to this.

YOU pay the Distillery at the door. “The River Proof Barrel Experience” is a one-of-a-kind Kentucky Bourbon Trail Experience. This interactive, educational, and entertaining tasting is great for avid bourbon lovers and nondrinkers alike. Pop a bung, thief a pour, and make some friends all while learning about what makes Kentucky Bourbon so special.”

Price: \$29 plus tax for those tasting, \$12 plus tax for those not tasting but would like to enjoy the experience. The group can pay right before the experience directly.

FYI - no bourbon required to have fun on this Catholic Road Trip though!

Beehive Augusta Tavern for Supper

Before heading home, we'll gather one more time around the table for supper in Augusta—a chance to share stories, laugh about the past two days and enjoy our final meal together before boarding the motor coach for home.

The Beehive Augusta Tavern offers farm-to-table dining, well-crafted cocktails, and the world's finest bourbon.

The building was constructed in 1796 on land granted to a veteran of the Revolutionary War. Over the decades, the building has been a private residence, a general store, and a pharmacy. It was also the office for the ferry to Boudes Landing, which you can still take or just watch from our windows today.

Meals Included for this Road Trip: Thursday Lunch; Friday Breakfast & Lunch



More Than a Getaway

We'll encounter **American history and the Underground Railroad, Catholic faith and prayer, beautiful fall scenery, small-town Kentucky, Rosemary Clooney and *White Christmas*, wonderful meals, friendship and plenty of fun.**

And Along the Way... Of course, the destinations are only part of a **Catholic Road Trip**.

We'll include in each day **Morning Prayer, the Rosary and an Evening Reflection**, enjoy Road Trip Tunes, share a few Catholic Smiles and Journey Ponders, and make time for Sacred Quiet. It's two days intentionally filled with all four of our Catholic Road Trip Pillars:

FAITH • FRIENDSHIP • FORMATION • FUN

(If you have not traveled yet with us, you will soon find out what these things mean!)

I hope you'll come along! **Travel with Purpose. Return with Joy. Live the Faith!**