

MARCH 27 - APRIL 3, 2019

ROME PILGRIMAGE 2019



# Finding Crispina Women's Authority in the Early Church

## FutureChurch's 2019 Pilgrimage

ROME, OSTIA  
March 27 - April 3, 2019  
\$2,500 (land only)  
\$2,250 (until Dec. 31)

NAPLES, POMPEII  
April 3 - 5, 2019  
Optional  
\$800 (land and travel)  
\$720 (until Dec. 31)

Pay in full by December 31, 2018  
and receive a 10% discount.

Join Sr. Christine Schenk  
and Russ Petrus as we  
explore the lives of  
Crispina and Her  
Sisters - the women in  
early Christianity who  
shaped salvation history.



17305 Madison Avenue  
Lakewood, OH 44107  
www.futurechurch.org  
216.228.0869



**Educational Director**  
**Christine Schenk, CSJ**



**Spiritual Director**  
**Russ Petrus, M. Div.**

**EDUCATIONAL DIRECTOR CHRISTINE SCHENK, CSJ**, is the founding director of FutureChurch. She led the organization from 1990-2013 and worked to transform a diocesan network of 28 parish councils and 100 parish leaders into an international organization of over 3500 parish-centered activists reflecting the values of Vatican II. Currently she writes an award-winning column "Simply Spirit" for the National Catholic Reporter. Her groundbreaking book *Crispina and Her Sisters: Women and Authority in Early Christianity* details original research into iconic motifs of female authority found in early Christian art and archaeology. Published by Fortress Press, the book won the Catholic Press award in 2018. Chris created and led pilgrimages to Rome sites of women leaders in early Christianity in 2006, 2007, 2013, and 2014. Schenk is one of three nuns featured in the award-winning documentary *Radical Grace*.

**SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR RUSS PETRUS** currently serves as Associate Director for FutureChurch. He holds an M.Div. from Weston Jesuit School of Theology and the School of Theology and Ministry at Boston College. Jesuit-educated and formed since high school, Russ is well-versed in Ignatian Spirituality but has also been heavily influenced by the many Franciscan priests, brothers, and sisters with whom he studied. Prior to joining FutureChurch, Russ engaged in parish and college ministry for over ten years in the areas of life-long faith formation, liturgy coordination, RCIA direction, and music ministry. Russ has developed and facilitated numerous programs and retreats on topics ranging from contemplative prayer to social justice for a variety of audiences. At FutureChurch Russ has created and led dozens of profoundly engaging prayer services and reflections. Along with his many talents, Russ is trained as a classical musician.

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# Finding Crispina

## Women's Authority in the Early Church

### Registration fees

#### ROME

\$2500 (land only)

#### Optional NAPLES, POMPEII

\$800 (land & travel)

**A non-refundable deposit of \$500 is required to secure your place**

**Registration deadline  
February 15, 2019**

(Total balance is due by this date)



The registration fee is for the land portion of the trip only in Rome. You will have to book your own airfare to and from Rome (see pages 4 and 5 for considerations).

The total cost for the land portion of the trip is:

#### ROME

- \$2,500 (double room) (\$2,250 until December 31)
- A deposit of \$500 is required at the time of registration to secure your place. The balance is due February 10, 2019.

This registration fee includes lodging, ground transportation, breakfast and some other meals, guides, entrance fees, and the experience of a lifetime! The price is based on double occupancy, and a minimum of 25 participants. Price subject to change due to economic conditions and fluctuations of the U.S. Dollar vs the Euro.

A few **single rooms** will be available for a **supplemental fee of \$500**.

#### NAPLES, POMPEII (optional trip)

- \$800 (includes land and travel to Naples) (\$720 until Dec. 31)
- This registration fee includes travel from Rome to Naples, lodging (2 nights, single room), ground transportation, and entrance fees.

For more information or to register:  
[www.futurechurch.org](http://www.futurechurch.org) or [www.findingcrispina.org](http://www.findingcrispina.org)

Write:  
Russ Petrus at [Russ@futurechurch.org](mailto:Russ@futurechurch.org)  
or our office manager at [Info@futurechurch.org](mailto:Info@futurechurch.org)

Call the FutureChurch office at 216.228.0869.

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# Finding Crispina

## Women's Authority in the Early Church

### ITINERARY: ROME

**Day 1. Wednesday March 27:** Fly to Rome.

**Day 2. Thursday March 28:** Arrive Rome, Santa Maria Sopra Minerva. To get from the airport to the guesthouse: there will be one coach available to ride to the guesthouse at 11:00am; otherwise, take a taxi (ca. 48Euros); or public transportation (airport shuttle train + local bus or metro). Please plan to arrive at the guesthouse after 12:00 am (earliest check-in); there are many options in the area for lunch on your own. At 2:00 pm, we will depart to visit Santa Maria Sopra Minerva, the only public Gothic church in Rome. It houses the tomb of St. Catherine of Siena, and we will have a prayer service honoring this great female doctor of the Church. The tomb of the Dominican painter Fra Angelico is also here. The Church is close to the Pantheon which we will visit, time permitting. Upon our return to the guesthouse, we enjoy Sr. Chris's lecture: Introduction to the Study of Women in Early Christianity. Dinner is on your own.

**Day 3. Friday March 29:** San Clemente Basilica, the Coliseum, the Roman and Imperial Fora and the Market of Trajan. After breakfast we enjoy Sr. Chris's lecture: Women in Greco-Roman Culture. Then Sr. Chris guides our tour of the fascinating basilica of San Clemente, site of one of the earliest Christian house churches, next to an ancient Mithraic altar at the lowest level. Sr. Chris leads our prayerful reflection honoring early martyrs and women leaders, Saints Perpetua and Felicity. Lunch is on your own at one of the many restaurants enroute to the Coliseum and the Roman Forum. Then we have a guided tour of the Coliseum, the Roman and Imperial Fora and the Market of Trajan. Dinner on your own.

**Day 4. Saturday March 30:** Christian Rome: The Basilica of St. Pudentiana, St. Praxedes Basilica, Basilica of St. Mary Major, Catacombs of Priscilla and Catacombs of Marcellinus and Petrus. After breakfast we enjoy Sr. Chris's lecture on Women and authority in catacomb frescos and early mosaics. We then tour the Basilica of St. Pudentiana, built over a second century House Church, and see the famous apse mosaic from about 400 CE. Then at nearby St. Praxedes Basilica, we view gorgeous mosaics of early women leaders including the famous "Theodora Episcopa" mosaic. Time permitting, we visit the Basilica of St. Mary Major before lunch on your own. In the afternoon, we tour the Catacombs of Priscilla, site of famous frescos of early women leaders, followed by a prayer service in the catacombs honoring St. Prisca. We will then visit the catacombs of Marcellinus and Petrus to view rarely seen frescos of women leading funerary meals, and visit the above-ground tomb of Constantine's mother, St. Helena. After enjoying Sr. Chris's lecture on Women and patronage in early Christianity, we'll have dinner together.

**Day 5. Sunday March 31:** Morning free; afternoon: Mass at Catacombs of Domitilla and Church of Santa Sabina. After lunch on your own, we visit the Catacombs of Domitilla to view the beautiful Veneranda and Petronilla fresco that gives strong evidence for the female exercise of authority in the early Church. This will be followed by mass in the catacombs. We then tour the Basilica of Santa Sabina at the Aventine, built on the site of an early Christian house church owned by the Roman matron, Sabina, who was later declared a Christian saint. After Sr. Chris Schenk's lecture on Women and authority in 4th century sarcophagus art, we'll have dinner together in the Piazza Navona area.

**Day 6. Monday April 1:** Vatican Museums, The Sistine Chapel, Pio Cristiano, and the Excavation beneath St. Peter's. We have a guided tour of the world-renowned Vatican Museums, the Sistine Chapel and the Pio Cristiano Museum where we will view fourth century sarcophagus friezes depicting Christian women teaching and preaching despite prohibitions. After lunch together at the Vatican Museums cafeteria, we meet again to tour St. Peter's basilica and hopefully, the excavations below. After Sr. Chris' lecture on Christian Women in the literary sources of late antiquity, you are free for dinner on your own.

**Day 7. Tuesday April 2:** Ostia. We depart early for Sr. Chris's guided tour of nearby Ostia, a completely excavated early Roman community in a more rural setting on the shores of the Mediterranean. Russ will facilitate a prayer service honoring St. Monica, the mother of St. Augustine, who died in Ostia. Back in Rome, you'll have lunch on your own and a free afternoon and evening before our a farewell dinner together.

**Day 8. Wednesday April 3:** Return to USA. We bid farewell and return home filled with memories of the beauty of Rome and our rich history of women's leadership in the earliest church. We will have one coach available from the guesthouse to Fiumicino airport early in the morning; alternatively, taxis and public transportation as above.

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# Finding Crispina

## Women's Authority in the Early Church

### ITINERARY CONTINUED

#### NAPLES, POMPEII (optional trip)

##### Optional trip to Naples with Sr. Chris

**Day 8 Wednesday April 3:** Travel to Naples, Catacombs of San Gennaro, Basilica of San Gennaro Extra Moenia, The Archaeological Museum of Naples. In the morning, we will travel to Naples via high speed train for a tour of the famous Catacombs of San Gennaro, which date to the second century CE. Here we discover the frescos of Bitalia and Cerula. These two "Women of the Word" are portrayed in an orans (prayer) position with four gospel texts above their heads. After lunch on your own, if desired, tour the nearby fifth century Basilica of San Gennaro Extra Moenia, The Archaeological Museum of Naples or spend the rest of the day enjoying Neapolitan culture and cuisine (dinner on your own).

**Day 9 Thursday April 4:** Day trip from Naples to Pompei and Herculaneum. Once buried under a blanket of ash from Mount Vesuvius' eruption in 79 AD, the city of Pompei wasn't unearthed until the 18th century. We will explore the city where Eumachia and Julia Felix ran successful businesses, including a tour of Julia Felix's large estate.

After lunch together, journey to the coastal town of Ercolana, and the ruins of Herculaneum. Forty percent of the dedicatory statues in the theater and forum areas are of women. Though Pompeii is more widely-known, Herculaneum hosts a wealth of archaeological treasures. Explore ancient monuments, preserved mosaics and fossils nearly 2,000 years old.

Read more about Naples to Pompeii and Herculaneum Full-Day Trip at: <https://www.viator.com/tours/Pompeii/Pompeii-and-Herculaneum-Day-Trip-from-Naples/d24336-5921POMPERCOLANO>

After a final gathering and wrap up, you'll have dinner on your own.

**Day 10 Friday April 5.** Return to USA



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# Finding Crispina

## Women's Authority in the Early Church

### Other Practical Details

While in Rome, we will stay at the Suore di Cristo (Sisters of Christ) guest house. The guest house is in Via Merulana 174 (Google maps: <https://goo.gl/maps/qDYLvMdawpj>). Via Merulana is an ancient street connects St. John Lateran to St. Mary Major; both are within walking distance. To one side of Via Merulana is the most multicultural neighborhood of Rome with many ethnic restaurants (Piazza Vittorio), to the other side is a quiet, upper middle class neighborhood. The Franciscan University (Antonianum) is around the corner. The Colosseum is within walking distance, as is the main train station (Termini).

The guest house has recently been renovated (October 2017) and its distinctive feature is the variety of the rooms - no room is like the other! There is a chapel, breakfast room, and garden space. The sisters have their living quarters in a separate building behind the guest house. Sr. Ernestine from Madagascar, who speaks English, runs the guest house together with a very efficient Polish lady, Renata.

The guest house will be our home for the six days in Rome, providing us with breakfast, a room to listen to talks by Sr. Christine Schenk, a garden space to relax, and a chapel for reflection that's accessible 24 hours. There is a vending machine for drinks and snacks, and wifi connection throughout the house. As with most religious houses in Rome, there is a curfew at 11pm, but the sisters will be happy to give us the key if we ask in advance.

### About this pilgrimage

**Educational director, Sr. Christine Schenk** will offer you a once in a lifetime journey exploring the lives and history of women in Early Christianity. Sr. Chris' groundbreaking research, now captured in her awarding winning book, *Crispina and Her Sisters*, will provide the backdrop for this pilgrimage.

On this pilgrimage you will, "retrieve the memory of influential women whose witness has for too long been invisible or distorted in Christian memory" with the "hope that drawing attention to these ancient images of early Christian women in iconic authority portrayals may help us reset our preconceived mental models."

**Spiritual director and Associate Director, Russ Petrus** will help you enter into the lives of our foremothers of faith through individualized prayer services. Russ' gift for prayer and liturgy will be apparent from the start.

You'll not only reap the benefits of Sr. Chris' new and exciting body of research, you will carry it in your heart in a brand new way as Russ leads you into prayer.

### Airline Tickets Some Considerations

Making airline reservations is a fairly simple process, but if you need help, you may want to contact a local travel agent. You will also want to consider if you want to purchase flight insurance in case you cancel for any reason.

**You will fly into Rome.** If you are joining us for ROME ONLY, **on the final day of the tour, you will depart from Rome.**

**If you wish to join for the Naples, Pompeii trip, you will want to book your flight home from Naples.**

If you want to look at reservations on any online site, you'll want to choose a multi-destination flight.

March 27, 2019: Fly from YOUR CITY to ROME (Arrive March 28, 2019)

April 3, 2019: Fly from ROME to YOUR CITY

ROME, NAPLES, POMPEII

March 27, 2019: Fly from YOUR CITY to ROME (Arrive March 28, 2019)

April 5, 2019: Fly from NAPLES to YOUR CITY

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# Finding Crispina

## Women's Authority in the Early Church

# Registration Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (as it appears on your passport)

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Street address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Person to contact in case of emergency: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (day): \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (evening): \_\_\_\_\_

TRAVEL PLANS NOTE: Participants make their own travel arrangements. You are invited to coordinate your travel with the pilgrimage leaders if you like. Email Russ Petrus at [Russ@futurechurch.org](mailto:Russ@futurechurch.org) or call 216.228.0869.

### STATEMENT OF WAIVER (for insurance purposes):

I agree to hold FutureChurch and their representatives harmless of any and all liability that may arise in connection with participation in this travel/study program.

Your signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### PASSPORT INFORMATION

Passport Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Country of citizenship: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_ (use example format for all dates: 08JUL55) Date of issue: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration: \_\_\_\_\_ (If you do not have a current passport, please return this form now and send the passport information when you have it.)

Please include a copy of your passport when you register.

**Room reservation: (The price is for a double room. There is an additional cost of \$500 for a single room).**

\_\_\_\_\_ Please reserve a double room for me in Rome. Roommate name: \_\_\_\_\_.

*If you do not have a traveling companion and a roommate is not available for you from among the rest of the pilgrims, you will be required to pay the single room fee.*

\_\_\_\_\_ Please reserve a single room for me in Rome.

*There is an additional cost of \$500 for a single room. Single rooms are subject to availability.*

\_\_\_\_\_ I will be joining for the optional Naples, Pompeii trip.

*There is an additional cost of \$800 for the optional trip and includes a single room.*

Payment information (please make sure to add your signature at the bottom)

I am registering \_\_\_\_\_ person (s).

I would like to join for \_\_\_ ROME ONLY portion of the trip \_\_\_ ROME & NAPLES, POMPEII

I am paying by:

\_\_\_\_\_ Check (Payable to FutureChurch - make notation 2019 Rome Pilgrimage)

\_\_\_\_\_ Electronic check (ACH): Routing # \_\_\_\_\_ Account # \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Credit Card: \_\_\_ Visa \_\_\_ Master Card \_\_\_ Discover

Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I am enclosing/or charge my credit card for the deposit only for each person I am registering:

\$500 x \_\_\_\_\_ # persons = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ total non-refundable deposit.

(The remainder of the total price is due by February 15, 2019.)

\_\_\_\_\_ I am enclosing/or charge my credit card for the total trip cost now for each person I am registering for a double room:

\$2500 x \_\_\_\_\_ # person(s) = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (ROME ONLY) or (\$2250 if paid by Dec 31, 2018)

\$3300 x \_\_\_\_\_ # person(s) = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (ROME & NAPLES, POMPEII) (\$2970 by Dec 31)

\_\_\_\_\_ I am enclosing/or charge my credit card for the total trip cost now for each person I am registering for a single room:

\$3000 x \_\_\_\_\_ # person(s) = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (ROME ONLY) (\$2700 if paid by Dec. 31, 2018)

\$3800 x \_\_\_\_\_ # person(s) = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (ROME & NAPLES, POMPEII) (\$3420 by Dec 31)

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

