



# The Society of Catholic Priests Conference 11-14 June 2012

Thank you for booking a place on this year's conference, the first international conference we have held. We are delighted that so far over 80 people have booked to come from each of the three provinces of the Society.

It is now time for some practical details as flights must be booked.

## **Arrival**

Please plan to arrive at the Conference centre from 1300 hours on Monday 11 June. The first conference session will begin at 1500 hours.

Whether you are flying into Campino or Fiumicino airports you will arrive at Termini Station in Rome.

For those flying into Campino the cheapest option is to take one of the many buses that go direct to Termini. The Terravision coach costs €6 for a single journey.

From Fiumicino there are also coaches and a direct train service.

If you want to come by taxi please do not accept offers from people touting inside the airport terminal. Instead go to the Taxi rank outside arrivals and look for a taxi with 'Comune di Roma' on the side and Taxi on the roof of the car. They must have a meter which must be switched on. The journey should cost you €40 from Campino and the driver knows that. But some drivers will try to charge you more. A taxi from Termini to the Residenza will cost you something like €25. Please also remember that in Rome taxis also charge an additional €2.50 per person.

When you arrive at Termini buy a bus ticket from one of the newsstands in the terminal. It will cost you €1.

Then go the bus stands at the front of the station – beyond all of the hoardings surrounding the building works. Look for stand L where the 64 bus begins. This is what it looks like.



On entry stamp your ticket in the machine.

**BEWARE OF PICKPOCKETS** on this bus. It is a popular bus for tourists as it is the only one between Termini and the Vatican.

Stay on the bus. The journey will take approximately 25 minutes and the stop you want is the one immediately after exiting the tunnel. The stop is called Cavalleggeri (S Pietro).

It looks like this



It is the yellow sign on the other side of the road beside the wall near the indoor Audience Hall.

When you are off with all your luggage head back towards tunnel.



Then turn left as on the edge of this picture and then down into the subway. There are steps or a slope. Follow the tunnel and through the other end going up the long slope. Follow the pavement.



Cross the small road where the people are standing in this picture and the Residenza is opposite. The entrance is through the white stone portico. We will be waiting to greet you inside.

**The name and address of the Conference Centre is Residenza Madri Pie ,Via Alcide De Gasperi, 4 – (Cavalleggeri) - 00165 Roma Tel. +39.06.63.19.67.**

**What to bring**

Please make sure you have some Euros with you. You will need those to get your tickets for the coach, bus, train or to pay for the taxi.

The average weather for June in Rome is

High 28.0 °C Low 14.0 °C Rainfall 4.06 cm

So there is no need to bring warm clothing.

Clergy may wish to bring a cassock for the General Audience but there is no requirement to wear one. Bishops should be in cassock as they are on the front row! It would be good if the clergy did wear a clerical collar for the Audience as we will be welcomed by the Holy Father as a group. Our guests should wear whatever they think appropriate but no shorts or bare shoulders please.

Members of SCP are asked to bring an alb and white stole for the final concelebrated Mass.

There will not be a formal dinner and the rest of the time will be relaxed.

### **The Conference Programme**

This is still being finalised but is very much as advertised.

### **The end of the Conference**

We will end the Conference by 2.00pm on Thursday 14 June. You are then free to go. By that stage we will have checked out of our accommodation and will have made our way to the English Church, All Saints, where we will have our meeting and final Mass.



The address of the church is

Via del Babuino, 153 00187 Rome

If you are making your way back to Termini from there it is very easy. Via del Babuino leads to the Spanish Steps and there is a station there called 'Spagna' on Line A, the metro which will take you back to Termini.



You will be able to use your travel card on the metro.

This is some advice always given by the Anglican Centre.

### **When in Rome.....**

#### **Buses and bus/metro tickets**

Single journey bus tickets must be franked in the yellow machine when you get on the bus at either the front or rear door. Do keep your ticket for inspection as failure to produce a valid ticket means you will be fined 50euros. Your ticket is valid for 75 minutes and allows any number of bus journeys during that time. On the underground however a ticket is valid for one journey only.

#### **Bar etiquette**

Bars are an all-important aspect of Roman life and you will no doubt have time to savour some of our coffee culture while you are here. One feature that surprises visitors is the Roman habit of ordering and drinking an *espresso* while standing at the bar. If you wish to sit down to be served by a waiter the cost increases quite a lot. Always pay at the cash desk before ordering at the bar, and keep your receipt when you leave the bar.

#### **Meal times and modes**

There are now many bars and quick eateries catering to tourists where you can eat at almost any time of day. However restaurants will normally only seat customers between about 12.30 and 2.30 and from 7.30 pm until 10.30.

#### **ID**

In Italy you are expected to carry some form of ID with you, ideally a photocopy of your passport. Leave your passport in the hotel safe just in case you are targeted by pickpockets on the buses. Reporting and replacing a lost passport could take up most of your time in Rome.

#### **Money**

The quickest and easiest way of obtaining Euros is by using a major debit card at an ATM. Travellers' cheques are not recommended: cashing these in at a bank may be rather time-consuming and your passport is also required.

Most restaurants, shops and other businesses will accept credit cards, but it is advisable not to lose sight of your card during the transaction as cloning does occasionally happen. You may wish to make sure you have a pin code for your credit card before you leave home, as this is becoming more generally accepted than a signature.

**Personal safety**

Rome is generally speaking a very safe city and you will probably feel quite comfortable in the city centre even when out and about late at night. However the common sense rules about staying alert still apply, particularly for women returning to a hotel alone at night.

We hope that this helps with your planning and look forward to being with you in Rome.

Andrew Nunn  
Rector General