

# Father Augustine's reflection: Peace beyond words

*The priests in the group continue to share some of their reflections on the pilgrimage. Here's one from Missionary of St. Paul Father Augustine Inwang. - CG*



Father Augustine Inwang blesses himself with water from the Jordan River during a pilgrimage with priests from the Archdiocese of Baltimore. (Catholic Review photo | Christopher Guntz)

As far as I am concerned, the pilgrimage that we made to the Holy Land was a trip of a lifetime. I was blessed to be in the company of those who went on the trip. I am blessed and very privileged to have been in the company of Bishop Denis J. Madden. I don't think my first trip to the Holy Land could have been half as wonderful and spirit-filled as it was if the bishop was not directing the journey.

The high point of the pilgrimage for me was our last day in Tiberias. Early that morning I went out to pray behind the hotel looking at the Sea of Galilee. There it was easy to look across the lake to Nazareth on one side and Capernaum on the other, to imagine all the activities that took place there during the time of Jesus: the Sermon on the Mount (the Beatitudes), the feeding of the 5,000, the primacy of Peter, the walking on the sea, and even Jesus sleeping on the boat. It was an experience that will be difficult to describe. The peace that I felt and favors received while there are beyond words.



Father Augustine Inwang, MSP, prays Oct. 15 at the Western Wall in Jerusalem, one of the most sacred sites in the world for Jewish people and those of many faiths. (Catholic Review photo | Christopher Guntz)

The journey was not just a pilgrimage, it was indeed a retreat. The reflections of Bishop Madden during the Masses celebrated were deep and spirit-filled. I am blessed to have had the opportunity to travel in such a great group of caring and

compassionate priests. I have no doubts that the priesthood is the best profession in the world and I am grateful to God be counted as one his priests. **Fr. Augustine Etemma Inwang, MSP** *Pastor, Transfiguration Roman Catholic Congregation, Baltimore Oct. 26, 2010*