



MALTESE E-NEWSLETTER

The Journal of Maltese Living Abroad

Connecting Communities

Editor: Frank L Scicluna OAM MQR Email: maltesejourna;@gmail.com



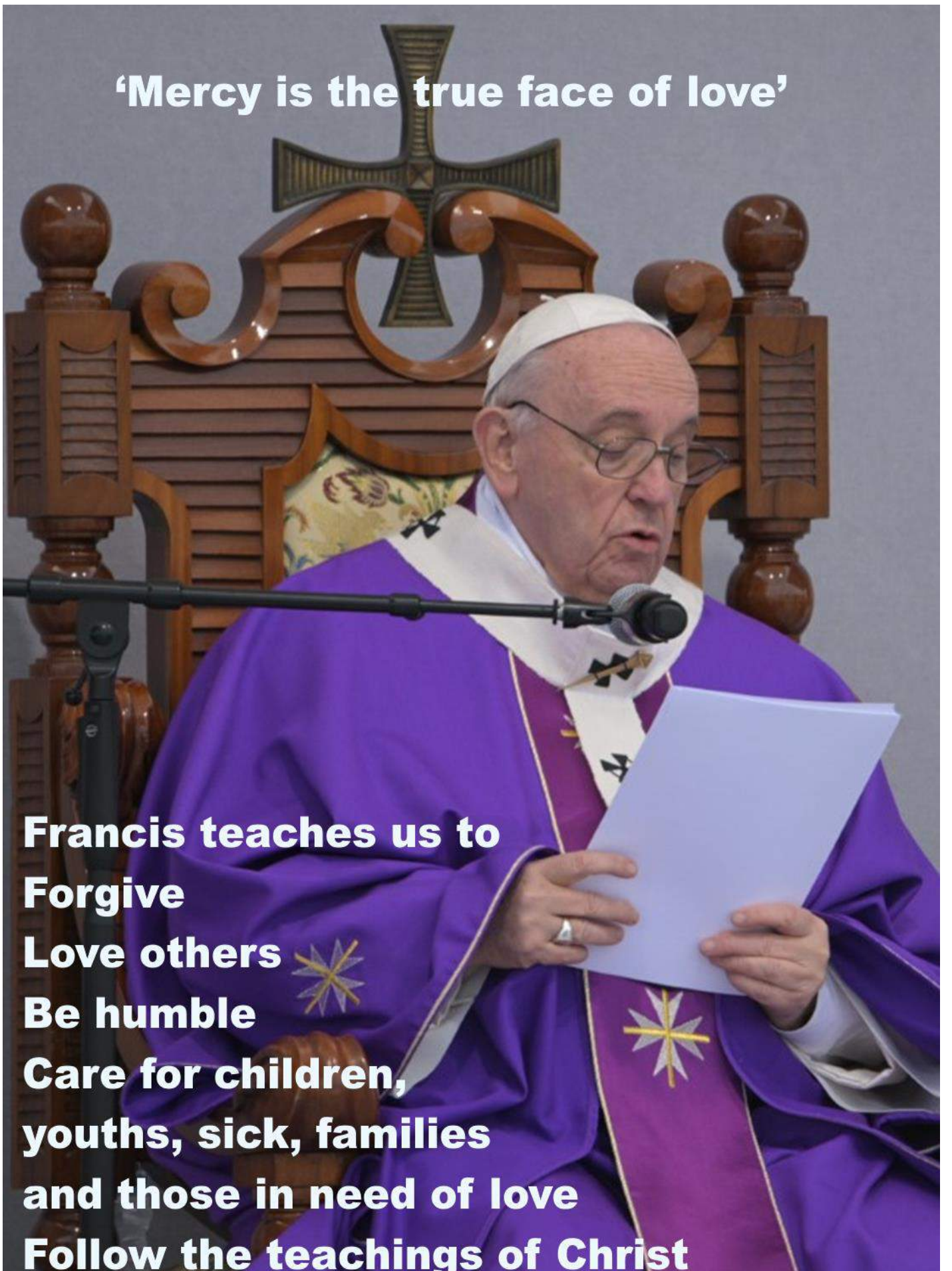
Pope Francis at the Presidential Palace
in Valletta during his official visit to
His Excellency Dr. George Vella
President of the Republic of Malta
2 April 2022



Malta is the
❤️
of the Mediterranean
**THE HISTORICAL VISIT OF
POPE FRANCIS
TO MALTA AND GOZO**
2 and 3 April 2022



‘Mercy is the true face of love’

A photograph of Pope Francis seated on an ornate wooden throne, speaking into a microphone. He is wearing a white zucchetto, glasses, and a purple cassock with a white stole. He is holding a white sheet of paper. The background is a plain grey wall.

**Francis teaches us to
Forgive
Love others
Be humble
Care for children,
youths, sick, families
and those in need of love
Follow the teachings of Christ**



Pope visits Malta, refuge of St. Paul, in Mediterranean mission

Francis makes his first visit to Malta Saturday where he is expected to ask the heavily Catholic country to do more to help migrants who have risked their lives trying to cross the Mediterranean to reach Europe.

Pope Francis begins a two-day visit to Malta on Saturday during which he will visit a migrant centre and likely renew calls for an end to the Ukraine war. The visit to the tiny island nation was scheduled two years ago but has been delayed by the coronavirus pandemic, and now comes as war in Ukraine unleashes a new humanitarian emergency across Europe, with millions fleeing their homes.

Francis said on Twitter Friday that his "journey in the footsteps of the Apostle Paul" would be an "opportunity to know at first hand a Christian community with a millennia-old history".

Francis, who will visit a migrant centre during his two-day trip, is likely to renew calls for an end to

the war while reminding the world not to overlook those who continue to risk their lives at sea trying to reach Europe from North Africa.

"The pope comes to our island as a herald and messenger of reconciliation and mercy not only in the Mediterranean basin, but throughout the world," the Archbishop of Malta Charles Scicluna said in Italy's Christian Family magazine published Friday.

The 85-year-old pontiff's visit to Malta follows those of his predecessors Benedict XVI in 2010 and two visits by John Paul II, in 1990 and 2001. The country's history is steeped in Catholicism going back to St. Paul, who is believed to have been shipwrecked on Malta en route to his execution in Rome.

About 85 percent of Malta's 516,000 inhabitants say they are Catholic believers. Catholicism is part of the constitution and Malta is the only European Union country that completely bans abortion.



VALLETTA, Malta (AP) — Pope Francis prayed Sunday for an end to the “sacrilegious” war in Ukraine and for the world to show kindness and compassion to refugees as he concluded a two-day visit to Malta that was dominated by his concern for the devastation unleashed by Russia’s invasion.

Though short, the trip has been particularly taxing for the 85-year-old pontiff, who is suffering from painful strained right knee ligaments. He struggled repeatedly Sunday to get out of his chair and his limping gait from sciatica was so pronounced that he frequently had to grab onto the arm of an aide. Francis opened his second and final day in Malta by visiting the Grotto of St. Paul in Rabat, where the Apostle Paul stayed after being shipwrecked off Malta en route to Rome in AD 60. According to the biblical account of the period, the Maltese people showed Paul unusual kindness, and he responded by preaching and healing, bringing Christianity to the islands.

Francis has used his visit to Malta to drive home his call for Europe to show the same welcome to migrants and refugees that the Maltese showed St. Paul. He has expanded that message to express his gratitude for the welcome Europe has shown Ukrainian refugees fleeing the Russian war and his hope that same generosity could be extended to others. “No one knew their names, their place of birth or their social status; they knew only one thing: that these were people in need of help,” Francis said in a prayer in the grotto. “Help us to recognize from afar those in need, struggling amidst the waves of the sea, dashed against the reefs of unknown shores.”

Current-day Malta has long been at the heart of the European debate over refugee policy. The country of a half-million is frequently criticized by humanitarian aid groups for refusing to let rescue ships dock at its ports; The government argues it has one of the EU’s highest rates in processing first-time asylum applications relative to the

MALTESE E-NEWSLETTER 419 SPECIAL EDITION

POPE'S VISIT TO MALTA AND GOZO – April 2022

population, and says other, bigger European countries should do more to shoulder the burden. Just this week, a German aid group urged Malta to take in 106 migrants rescued off Libya; Malta demurred and on Saturday the mayor of Palermo, Sicily, said the city was ready to welcome them. Upon arriving in Valletta on Saturday, Francis thanked Malta for the welcome it has shown newcomers, and blasted as “sordid” the European Union policy that trains the Libyan coast guard to return smuggled migrants back to shore. Human rights groups have documented gross abuses at the Libyan detention centers where the returned migrants are then housed.

After praying at the St. Paul grotto, Francis celebrated an outdoor Mass in Valletta and planned an afternoon visit to a shelter run by volunteers that can house around 50 migrants and provide them with educational and medical services.

At the end of Mass, Francis asked for prayers for peace in Ukraine, a day after he blasted Russia's invasion as “infantile” and based on “anachronistic claims of nationalistic interests.”

He urged the faithful to “think of the humanitarian tragedy unfolding in the martyred Ukraine, which continues to be bombarded in this sacrilegious war. May we be tireless in praying and in offering assistance to those who suffer.”

The Mass drew an estimated 20,000 people, many of them waving the yellow and white flags of the Holy See and a few Ukrainian ones. Among them was Alina Shcherbyna, a 25-year-old Ukrainian who arrived in Malta just over a week ago after fleeing her bombed-out home in Dnipro, leaving behind her parents, who are both doctors and had to remain.

An Orthodox Christian, she said she was attending the Mass to accompany the Maltese host family who took her in after a solo train and bus journey that took her to Poland, Germany and the Netherlands before she flew to Malta on the advice of a friend. Carrying Ukrainian and Vatican flags, Shcherbyna said she wanted to ask the pope and the world for prayers for Ukraine, saying she still cannot believe what has happened in the matter of a few weeks.

“At school we were studying a lot about the Second World War, about bomb shelters and about this disaster, and we thought it was impossible in present time. We thought it had ended in 1945 and that was it. But now, it's really shocking for all of us,” she said.

Shcherbyna expressed gratitude for the welcome she had received in Malta. “I think it's a nice place to be to recover after all of this, because of the sun, the sea and the people are really nice here to me. It's very good.”







Migrants are not statistics but flesh and blood people with faces and dreams, dreams that are sometimes dashed, Pope Francis said on Sunday afternoon before leaving Malta.

The Holy Father closed his two-day apostolic visit by stopping at the Peace Lab in Hal Far.

The Peace Lab was founded by Fr Dionysius Mintoff, a Franciscan friar, believed deeply in the need for an open and unrestricted meeting-place, where people of all backgrounds and attitudes could come together.

In 1971, Fr Mintoff led a group which carried out educational and practical work to strive for social justice and human rights. They embarked on an experiment in fostering solidarity and moral values based on Christian beliefs, without excluding any other belief.

The site was originally part of an airfield which saw intensive air combats during World War II. It includes a church and a number of rooms, surrounded by extensive gardens.

The change from a military station to a peace centre was the result of direct political action.

Over the years, the Peace Lab has been offering shelter and hospitality to a number of migrants and refugees from Mali, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Ivory Coast, Sudan, Cameroon, Bangladesh, Pakistan and Iran.



Pope Francis bids farewell to Malta
Pope Francis departs from Malta, concluding his two-day
Apostolic Journey to the island nation.

**GRAZZI
PAPA
FRANGISKU**

**THANK YOU
POPE
FRANCIS**

Francis prays for end to 'sacrilegious' war in Ukraine and compassion for refugees - 'I will do whatever I can', says Pope on



possibility of Ukraine trip

Pope Says He Is Considering A Trip To Ukraine Pope Francis made the comment to a journalist while traveling to Malta. Pope Francis say he is considering a trip to Ukraine. While on a flight to Malta on April 2, a journalist traveling

with him asked Francis whether he was considering an invitation to visit the Ukrainian capital Kyiv.

Pope Francis has prayed for an end to the "sacrilegious" war in Ukraine and for the world to show kindness and compassion to refugees as he concluded a two-day visit to Malta that was dominated by his concern for the devastation unleashed by Russia's invasion.

Though short, the trip has been particularly taxing for the 85-year-old pontiff, who is suffering with strained ligaments in his right knee.

Francis opened his second and final day in Malta by visiting the Grotto of St Paul in Rabat, where the Apostle Paul stayed after being shipwrecked off Malta en route to Rome in AD 60.

According to the biblical account of the period, the Maltese people showed Paul unusual kindness, and he responded by preaching and healing.

Francis has used his visit to Malta to drive home his call for Europe to show the same welcome to migrants and refugees the Maltese showed St Paul. Pope Francis said prayers on Sunday (April 3) in St. Paul's Grotto as he visited the Basilica of St. Paul in Rabat on the second day of his trip to Malta.

He expanded that message to express his gratitude for the welcome Europe has shown Ukrainian refugees fleeing the Russian war and his hope the same generosity could be extended to others.

"No one knew their names, their place of birth or their social status; they knew only one thing: that

these were people in need of help," Francis said in a prayer in the grotto.

"Help us to recognise from afar those in need, struggling amidst the waves of the sea, dashed against the reefs of unknown shores."

Malta has long been at the heart of the European debate over refugee policy.

The country of 500,000 people is frequently criticised by humanitarian aid groups for refusing to let rescue ships dock at its ports.

The government argues it has one of the EU's highest rates in processing first-time asylum applications relative to the population, and says other, bigger European countries should do more to shoulder the burden.

Upon arriving in Valletta on Saturday, Francis thanked Malta for the welcome it has shown newcomers, and blasted as "sordid" the European Union policy that trains the Libyan coast guard to return smuggled migrants to shore.

Human rights groups have documented gross abuses at the Libyan detention centres where the returned migrants are then housed.

Francis asked for prayers for peace in Ukraine, a day after he blasted Russia's invasion as "infantile" and based on "anachronistic claims of nationalistic interests".

He urged the faithful to "think of the humanitarian tragedy unfolding in the martyred Ukraine, which continues to be bombarded in this sacrilegious war."

The Mass drew an estimated 20,000 people, many of them waving the yellow and white flags of the Holy See and a few Ukrainian ones.

Among them was Alina Shcherbyna, a 25-year-old Ukrainian who arrived in Malta just over a week ago after fleeing her bombed-out home in Dnipro, leaving behind her parents, who are both doctors.

"At school we were studying a lot about the Second World War, about bomb shelters and about this disaster, and we thought it was impossible in present time," she said.

"We thought it had ended in 1945 and that was it. But now, it's really shocking for all of us," she said.



L-ARĊIDJOĊESI TA' MALTA

STQARRIJA MILL-ISQFIJJIET TA' MALTA U GĦAWDEX

L-Isqfijiet ta' Malta u Għawdex jirringrazzjaw minn qalbhom lill-poplu Malti u Għawdxi għall-merħba mimlija ferħ, għożża u fidi li taw lill-Qdusija Tiegħu

I-Papa Franġisku f'din "l-art imdawla", kif għoġbu jsejjaħ lil pajjiżna.

L-Arċisqof ta' Malta Charles Jude Scicluna, l-Isqof ta' Għawdex Anton Teuma u l-Isqof Awżiljarju Joseph Galea-Curmi qalu li dawn kienu jumejn li nisslu f'qalbna ferħ u paċi, u li saħħew fina l-fiduċja li bħala pajjiż nistgħu nagħtu kontribut biex jilma l-wiċċ sabiħ tal-bniedem.

L-Isqfijiet għandhom fiduċja qawwija li din iż-żgħira tas-suċċessur ta' San Pietru f'pajjiżna ser issaħħaħ l-enerġiji tagħna sabiex "inroddu lura s-sbuħija tal-wiċċ tal-bniedem", inpoġġu l-persuni dgħajfa fiċ-ċentru tal-għażliet tagħna, u li bħala Nsara nsibu l-ferħ tagħna fl-impenn biex inwasslu l-Aħbar it-Tajba. Apprezzament partikolari lill-mijiet ta' persuni li taw ħinhom, l-enerġija u l-professjonalità tagħhom sabiex din iż-żgħira setgħet issejtni: il-Kumitat Organizzattiv tal-Knisja u l-Kumitat Organizzattiv tal-Istat, il-Forzi tal-Ordni u l-Korpi Dixxiplinati, l-awtoritajiet tas-saħħa, il-Kulleġġ tal-Kappillani u l-parroċċi, il-voluntiera, l-impjegati tal-Kurja u entitajiet oħra tal-Knisja, il-media lokali u l-mezzi kollha tax-xandir li kienu ta' servizz lil min segwa mid-dar, u kif ukoll lil kull min ta l-kontribut tiegħu.

Pope Song – Welcome Here

Deeper than the seas
Stronger than awarded bravery
Richer than our history
Bigger than our dreams could ever be

There's a love
The whole world knows
It's a love that's kind to all

You're welcome here
Let your love reign down
Into our hearts again

(Yeah) You are welcome here
Lord we lay it down
Let this land be yours again

Teach us generosity
And kindness that will welcome those in
need
A people of integrity
That stand for life
And human dignity

There's a love
The whole world knows
It's a love that's kind to all

Alleluia
Together in this land
Alleluia
We sing
Alleluia

On Christ the Rock we stand
Alleluia
We sing

Music and lyrics: Fr Rob Galea





President of European Parliament Metsola in Ukraine



European Parliament President Roberta Metsola in Kiev: "Putin will not go unpunished, we will help you rebuild Ukraine"

"You can count on the EP for your aspirations to join the EU. And third, we will help you rebuild Ukraine": said the President of the European Parliament, Roberta Metsola, on a visit to Kiev.

The President of the European Parliament, Roberta Metsola, flew to Kiev today to attend a session of the Ukrainian parliament. "I am honored to be here in Kiev today. I wanted to be here in person, not only to be able to participate in your invitation to the extraordinary session of the Ukrainian parliament, but also to meet you after the difficult weeks, in which you have shown extraordinary courage. Your strength has inspired the whole world," she said during a press conference alongside the president of the Rada, the Ukrainian parliament, Ruslan Stefanchuk.

She continued: "Our thoughts are always with you, with the families of those who have lost someone because of the war. The European Union is on your side, that's why I'm here today." In the afternoon, as soon as she arrived in the Ukrainian capital, Metsola

had published a photo of the embrace exchanged with Stefanchuk, writing: "The resistance and courage of the Ukrainians have inspired the world. I am in Kiev to give a message of hope. We are with you."

Metsola then made three promises to the speaker of the Ukrainian Parliament: "Let me make you three promises. First, Putin's criminal invasion of your country puts Russia in direct confrontation with Europe, the international community and the world order. It is not something we will let him do undisturbed. Secondly, the European Union recognises your European ambitions and aspirations to be a candidate country: you can count on the full support of Parliament. And third, we will help you rebuild your cities when this illegal and unjustified war is over. We have already provided you with financial, military and humanitarian assistance: this will continue, it will increase. We will take care of your families forced to flee, but we will make sure that they can return home safely."



Today we will celebrate a significant milestone in the life of Bishop Charles. Bishop Charles was born in Malta in 1952, and the maths suggest that he will be celebrating his 70th birthday today!! We congratulate him on this wonderful moment in his journey of life. Bishop Charles came to Australia with his family, when he was only thirteen years old.

He was ordained a priest in 1977, by Archbishop James Gleeson, for the Archdiocese of Adelaide.

He carried out many, and varied responsibilities in the Archdiocese of Adelaide, finishing up being the Administrator of St Francis Xavier Cathedral. After serving the Archdiocese for over 40 years, he was consecrated the fifth Bishop of the Diocese of Darwin on 26th September 2018.


Since then, he has spent himself generously, travelling our diocese from one end to the other.

Bishop Charles has embraced our diocese and made it home.


We thank God for Bishop Charles and pray that he enjoys his 70th birthday. May he enjoy good health and inspire this diocese for many years. Thanks. Bishop Eugene.

Today is my 70th birthday! I remember so many years ago, my grandfather turned 60 and I thought that he was so old! As I look back on my life there are so many people and things that I am grateful for. I was blest with a happy childhood. The first grandchild in the family was a little girl, my sister died during birth two years before I was born. It broke my parent's hearts.

Bishop Gauci is an avid reader and supporter of the MALTESE JOURNAL. On behalf of the readers I would like to wish our great friend AD MULTOS ANNOS



MALTESE GUILD OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA
Members and friends meet every Tuesday
at the Maltese Cultural Centre
6 Jeanes Street, Beverley SA 5009
for lunch, bingo, billiards, cards
and social gathering
from 10am till 3pm



MALTESE SENIOR CITIZENS ASSOCIATION
Members and friends meet every Friday
at the Council Hall
49 LeHunte Street, Kilburn SA 5084
from 9.30am till 3.30pm
Lunch, billiards, bingo and other entertainment

Since this journal is based in Adelaide, South Australia, we always encourage the members of the community to support the events of our associations. They work hard to look after their members and to preserve the culture of our homeland – MALTA
The Editor



H.E. Giovanni Buttigieg presenting his credential to H.E. Michael D Higgins, President of Ireland during the

State Parties to the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Racial Discrimination. Before this posting Mr. Buttigieg was Executive Director at the European Commission – League of Arab States Liaison Office. He is a great friend of the Maltese Center of New York, and has taken a genuine interest in the Maltese community in New York since his arrival amongst us. The Maltese Consulate is located at the Permanent Mission of Malta to the United Nations 249 East 35 Street, New York NY 10016.

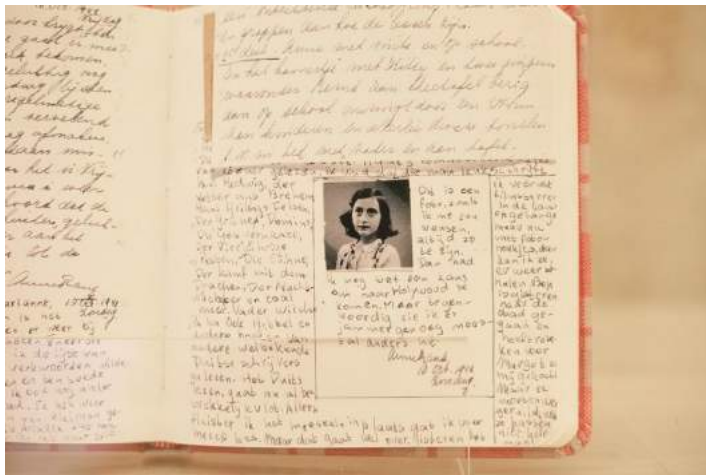
Dear Frank, Thank you for your informative Newsletter. During my time as Consul General for New York, Connecticut and New Jersey, I promoted it widely, with the diaspora, as well as Maltese authorities. I have just been appointed Ambassador to Ireland, and will be doing my best to do the same amongst the Maltese community in the beautiful land. Best greetings, Giovanni Buttigieg

THE NEW AMBASSADOR TO IRELAND

Giovanni Buttigieg was appointed as Consul of Malta for New York, Connecticut and New Jersey as of February 1, 2021 and now he is appointed Maltese Ambassador to Ireland.

Mr. Buttigieg has been serving as Deputy Permanent Representative at the Permanent Mission of Malta to the United Nations in New York since July 2017. Mr. Buttigieg served as Vice-President of the 37th Meeting of the State Parties to the International Convention on Civil and Political Rights and the 28th Meeting of the

Anne Frank exhibition makes it to Malta



The young girl touched the hearts of millions

Times of Malta

Let Me Be Myself. The Life Story of Anne Frank features informative panels on the Jewish girl's life story and also artefacts, videos and an exact copy of her world-famous diary. Photos: Shaun Spiteri/TBWA ANG

The world-famous Anne Frank exhibition *Let Me Be Myself. The Life Story of Anne Frank* has made it to Malta.

Organised locally by the Tayar Foundation for Jewish Heritage in Malta, in collaboration with the Anne Frank House of Amsterdam, the exhibition

is moving around the island, with the next venues hosting the exhibition being Fort St Elmo, Valletta and Il-Ħaġar Museum, in Victoria.

The Tayar Foundation has also created a highly immersive digital experience available to thousands of local schoolchildren remotely. The carefully curated exhibition tells the story of Anne Frank and the Holocaust, challenging visitors to reflect on subjects such as identity, prejudice and discrimination.

The young girl touched the hearts of millions by recounting in her diary, *The Diary of a Young Girl*, how her Jewish family moved from Germany to Amsterdam in 1933, the year the Nazis came to power in Germany. When World War II broke out, the Frank family was trapped in Amsterdam by the Nazi occupation of the Netherlands.

MALTESE E-NEWSLETTER 419 SPECIAL EDITION

POPE'S VISIT TO MALTA AND GOZO – April 2022

"The Tayar Foundation aims to safeguard Jewish heritage in the Maltese islands, raising awareness about the communities that lived in the archipelago and promoting the knowledge of Jewish history as a whole"



Large pictures on display show Anne's happy early childhood in Frankfurt, followed by her immigration to Amsterdam, while several parts of the exhibition show not only photos of the house in which the Frank family hid for more than two years but also photographs and texts concerning the world at the time: the Netherlands under Nazi occupation, deportations and the concentration camps.

Besides 34 detailed panels, Anne's story further comes to life through artefacts, videos and a model of the house

where she hid. In addition, there's a facsimile of her diary that culminated in what has become one of the most famous and well-read books ever.

Let Me Be Myself is primarily aimed at young people aged between 11 and 18. The fully digital experience will be available to over 150 local schools reaching thousands of schoolchildren. However, people of all ages are invited to attend and experience Anne's story, who shaped the history of storytelling through her diary.

The exhibition is an apt reminder of the extent to which some have suffered violations of their basic human rights over the years. And a large proportion of the exhibition thoughtfully encourages visitors to identify with the personal story of Anne and her family, from the rise of the national socialists in Germany to the isolation and discrimination of the Jewish population which included, of course, the Frank family, to the eventual horrors of the Holocaust.

The closing contemporary part of the exhibition contains stories of young people today, exploring four general themes drawn from the story of Anne Frank: identity (which asks visitors how they perceive their own independence); individuals as group members (which questions the way we find ourselves categorised by others); discrimination (which poses the question of how we discriminate and are discriminated against); and response (which asks how we can counter the discrimination we see around us).

The exhibition is supported by the Commonwealth Jewish Council, the Ministry for Education and Sport, the Ministry for Foreign and European Affairs, the Melita Foundation, Lombard Bank and The Alfred Mizzi Foundation, along with other sponsors and partners.

The Tayar Foundation aims to safeguard Jewish heritage in the Maltese islands, raising awareness about the communities that lived in the archipelago and promoting the knowledge of Jewish history as a whole. The foundation is also undertaking the renovation and management of the three historic Jewish cemeteries in Malta at Kalkara, Ta' Braxia and Marsa.

After having been set up at the University of Malta Valletta Campus, the exhibition is currently at the Paola MCAST. It will then move to Fort St Elmo, Valletta between April 20th and June 1, and then at Il-Ħaġar Museum, in Victoria from June 19 to July 25. The exhibition is free of charge. For more information, visit www.jewishheritagemalta.org.



MR. FRANK GRIMA – PRESIDENT **SENIOR CITIZENS ASSOCIATION OF SA**

We would like to advise our members and the Maltese community of Adelaide that on Friday 6 May we are celebrating MOTHERS' DAY at our hall on 49 LeHunte Street, KILBURN, SOUTH AUSTRALIA. Mass will be held at St Brigid Church opposite the Hall and then a special lunch. Mass starts at 10.30 am.

On 29 May 2022 our society is celebrating the 39th anniversary of its foundation. Details of the function will be given later on in this journal.

Top Malta performers lead *Matilda The Musical* Cast



***Matilda The Musical* is set to debut in Malta at the Mediterranean Conference Centre this April, with some of the island's finest performers leading the cast.**

Adapted from Roald Dahl's incomparable children's novel with book by Dennis Kelly and original songs by Tim Minchin, *Matilda The Musical* tells the story of a little girl with a vivid imagination and a sharp mind who dares to take a stand and change her destiny. The much-loved show has enchanted audiences worldwide since its UK premiere in 2010, winning 99 awards – including 24 for Best Musical – across tours of Australia, New Zealand, the US, the UK and Ireland, among others. Having secured the professional rights to the production, Masquerade Malta will now add Malta to the official *Matilda The Musical* international hall of fame.

"The cream of Malta's performance talent has come together to form a cast worthy of the show's local debut, which will be remembered for years to come," says Masquerade's artistic director anthony bezzina. "We are honoured to welcome Rachel Fabri as Miss Honey, Thomas Camilleri as Miss Trunchbull, Alan Paris as Mr Wormwood, Katherine Brown as Mrs Phelps and Sean Borg as the Doctor and Escapologist – all performers with a long history at the very top of Malta's musical theatre scene. Our three Matildas – Leah Grech, Michela Caruana and Michela Deguara – are also no strangers to musicals, already with performance CVs most adult artists would envy. This is truly a cast to be proud of!"

Photo : Masquerade Malta

Joining the extraordinary leads is an impressive supporting cast including Damian Buhagiar,

The Malta debut of the mega, multi-award-winning musical features an appropriately stellar cast- with an egg-citing Easter weekend ticket offer!

Photo : Masquerade Malta



Sarah Micallef Muscat, Ben Tonna, and Francesco Nicodeme, directed by anthony bezzina and musical director Kris Spiteri. Choreographer Ewan Jones and assistant choreographer Valerie Burke, vocal coach Analise Cassar, set designer Romualdo Moretti and costume designer Ernest Camilleri complete the highly experienced creative team behind the scenes.

And this Easter, you and your family can experience the unforgettable Malta debut of *Matilda The Musical* for even less. Valid only for tickets to performances on 16, 17 and 18 April over Easter weekend, if you buy four tickets, you will get two free.

But hurry – this amazing Easter offer is available only from 28 March for a limited time!

Matilda The Musical opens at the Mediterranean Conference Centre, Valletta, at 7.30pm on Saturday 16 April 2022, with further performances throughout April on Sunday 17 at 4pm, Monday 18 at 7.30pm, Friday 22 at 7.30pm, Saturday 23 at 7.30pm, Sunday 24 at 10am and 3pm, Friday 29 at 8pm and Saturday 30 at 3pm and 8pm.

Booking is open
at www.showshappening.com. Further
information is online
at www.masquerademalta.com. content was
supplied by Masquerade Malta



A great Maltese achiever

Dr. Raymond Xerri, former Consul General to Canada by Carmen Galea - Toronto

Almost three years ago, we warmly welcomed Dr. Raymond Xerri, our new Consul General, to the Maltese/Canadian community. To say that we were excited would be an understatement. We had heard a lot of positive news about Dr. Xerri before his arrival, and were keen to embrace his arrival with smiles and gratitude.

Appointed Consul General in July 2019, Dr. Xerri immediately demonstrated great enthusiasm, professionalism, and dedication to assist the Maltese/Canadian community. He generously offered his services to all who sought it, particularly youth and seniors. As a senior myself, and former instructor of the Maltese language for 25+ years in Toronto who has built great relations with previous Consul Generals, I anticipated Dr. Xerri's arrival with much enthusiasm.

Having worked with him these past few years, I was impressed and inspired with his ability to connect and uplift the Maltese/Canadian circle. It was always his pleasure to assist people, even at the community social functions and special events. His educational background in international relations, social and cultural enquiry, and law, made him an exceptional asset. He outstandingly represented Malta. He administered oaths, legalized foreign documents, provided certificates, renewed passports, and provided visas to those hoping to visit Malta, and more.

However, he stands out not only as a professional, but also as a human being. He is

gifted in his ability to connect with people, and to make them feel heard and included. We were blessed to have his guidance, support, and assistance during these past few years, which feel like they

flew by! His indelible impact will be remembered forever in our community. He is already greatly missed. I wish him health, happiness, and a continued successful profession as he returns home to his family in Gozo (Malta). Dr. Xerri "ahna dejjem nibqghu grati lej". Grazzi hafna!!

Short Biography

Dr Xerri is the son of a Gozitan migrant family in the United States where he was born. In 1991, Raymond returned to Malta where he obtained dual American – Maltese citizenship.

He has addressed, chaired and mentored many local, national, continental, regional and international conferences, seminars and gatherings related to politics, diplomacy, international relations, the environment and particularly in the area of diaspora studies.

Dr Xerri is an author, editor and producer of numerous publications, multimedia and multilingual productions. He is also a founder, co-founder and active member of a number of Gozitan, Maltese and internationally-based Maltese diaspora organisations.

Dr. Xerri was also a great friend, supporter, and avid reader of THE MALTESE E-NEWSLETTER. He used to print the journal and distribute it to the members of the Maltese-Canadian community. We received hundred of letters of appreciation for the streling work of Dr. Xerri.

MALTESE E-NEWSLETTER

Read, loved, shared and respected
by Maltese living in Malta
and all over the globe

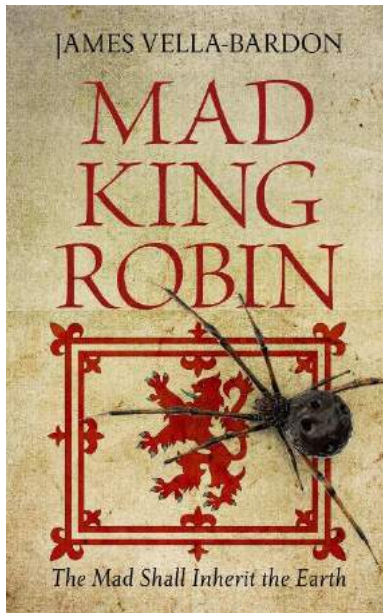
Journal of Maltese Living Abroad

maltesejournal@gmail.com

JAMES VELLA-BARDON

MAD KING ROBIN - COVER REVEAL! Dear all,

I'm very excited to share the cover of my new book, **MAD KING ROBIN!**



This my first title to be first published by my new publisher Tearaway Press and is scheduled for release in April 2022! Following his stylish redesign of The Sheriff's Catch second edition, the talented Catalan cover designer Rafael Andres has worked magic again, in my opinion. He's

created a compelling piece of art to convey a thrilling story which has so far received great feedback both from my editors and lucky readers who had an early sneak peek!

So what's it about then? As hinted in my previous newsletter, it's based on the life of my all-time favourite historical figure: Robert the Bruce. The Bruce easily remains Scotland's most famous medieval king, who often beat the odds with insane bravery throughout his life. He famously pulled off a tactical masterstroke against a much larger English army at the battle of Bannockburn, thereby securing his country's freedom.

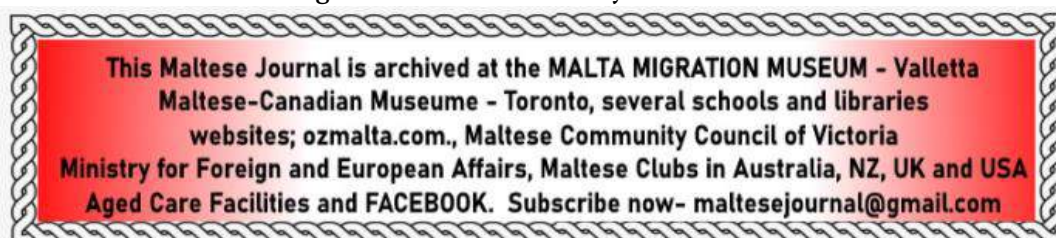
With all the headlines about nationalism and fighting for one's country in the media right now, I think that the story of a plucky smaller nation standing up to a larger and terrifying neighbour should hopefully strike a chord. I hope you'll enjoy reading it as much as I loved writing it! Please watch

this space for the April release date: yes, it will be published sometime next month! I've also included an excerpt from the book at the end of this newsletter, to give you a taste of what's heading your way!

Meanwhile I hope you are all returning to some sort of normality, now that the worst of Covid appears to be behind us. I thought I'd make it through the pandemic unscathed, yet was myself struck down with the virus for the whole of last week. But I'm now back on my feet and back to collaborating with the fantastic, talented people who make up the innovative and groundbreaking Tearaway Press. You may also have spotted their stylish new online ads running in various places which are introducing The Sheriff's Catch to a whole new audience.

And speaking of Sheriff, I have some other great news to share with you about the first Santi instalment: an insanely good audiobook has been recorded in London by the best narrator of historical fiction who's famously read works by the legendary likes of Bernard Cornwell and Hilary Mantel. I was in disbelief at its sheer quality while listening to the audio files, so we are really looking forward to releasing it by July of this year. Do watch this space for the name of the narrator who has done such a terrific job of brining Santiago's first adventure life, as well as the audiobook cover also designed by Rafa. In other great news: Santi's second adventure 'A Rebel North' has been formatted and is scheduled for release in September! So stay posted for the official date of its release. I am also a month away from sending the third Santiago instalment to the editorial team so The Sassana Stone Pentalogy is truly finally back on track again.

That's it for now - once again thank you for your readership - I am truly honoured by it and there's lots of good stuff in the pipeline for 2022 and beyond.





Maltese Tennis Sensation

By Gianluca Barbara
Maltese tennis sensation

FRANCESCA CURMI
(ranked 1,325) has come off the back of a

magnificent three-tournament stint that saw her make a quarter-final appearance in each competition.

Each competition involved an arduous qualification of no less than three matches. But Francesca rose to the challenge and overcame her opposition, even when faced with opponents of higher international ranking.

After getting out of the qualification zone, Francesca met with athletes who, like her, hammered their way through the qualification phase. And more often than not, the athletes were highly ranked. Regardless, 19-year-old Curmi defeated the likes of Italian athlete Federica Bilardo (726), Slovakian Eszter Meri (788), and German athlete Sina Hermann (447) on two separate occasions.

The games were played in Monastir, Tunisia (28th February – 6th March) and Palmanova, Spain (14th – 20th March and 21st – 27th March). All three are classed ITF ranked competitions that call upon athletes to go head-to-head in their journey to increase their international ranking.

In tennis, International Ranking – by way of ITF tournaments – is one's gateway into high-profile, high-level competitions.

Her recent success is doubly impressive considering her return to competition in January this year.

Interference due to COVID-19 restrictions and disruptions in training had caused the 19-year-old to seek a hiatus since last July. Regardless, she kept her form in check by retaining her grueling training regime at Barcelona, Spain, where she currently resides.

Her program, which is overseen by several professionals in the field, sees Curmi take part in a combination of physical and tennis training for as much as six hours per day.

She now has her eyes fixed upon another ITF-ranked tournament in mid-April. Another opportunity for the young starlet to keep her stellar momentum going.

At just 18 years of age, an unranked Francesca made history as the first Maltese tennis player to make it into the finals of a Futures event in Monastir, Tunisia, having beaten W. Morvayova (ranked 561) 2 – 0.

She ended up walking away with a silver medal in the same competition, having lost in the finals.

**MALTESE QUEEN OF VICTORIES BAND
OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA**

**The Pride of the Maltese
Community of Adelaide**



**Feast of Saint Joseph
20 March 2022**

**Joseeph Camilleri
Musical Director**



Best Friends Remain Inseparable 80 Years Later



They say that some friendships endure a lifetime — just look at this squad!

Back in 1935, Pamela Wright, Mary Betteridge, Freda Jackson, and Elsie Marsay met at school and the unique friendship started to flourish

The grandmothers, all of whom are now 89 and widowed, get together for lunch on a regular basis and gossip for hours on the phone every day.

They have attended each other's weddings, vacationed together, and have met their respective great-grandchildren

They were all born and reared in the Victorian coastal town of Swanage, Dorset, and attribute their friendship's durability to

'plenty of laughing.'

They had many childhood adventures, including treks to local sea caverns where they witnessed donkeys lugging stones. Moreover, the group has been a source of moral support following the loss of their husbands.

Malta's Tallest Man Becomes First Local Basketball Player to join Japanese League



By **Jean Paul Azzopardi**

Malta's tallest man, Sam Deguara, has become the first Maltese basketball player to play in a Japanese league after signing with Tokyo Excellence.

Deguara, who measures in at a towering height of 7'5 feet, joined the third division side last October on a one year contract and has featured in the starting line up as a Center. "As you can see, Sam is big! Accepting him is an unprecedented challenge for the team staff and environment. We look forward to him joining and believe that he will be of great help to our team," the club said following the signing of Deguara.

At 7'5 feet, Deguara is by far the tallest man in Malta and, according to his Wikipedia, the tallest man in Italy too. The 29-year-old Maltese national has been a bit of a journeyman around basketball leagues in Italy, Malta, Spain, Canada, the United States, Lithuania, Thailand,

Hong Kong, Chile and most recently, the Philippines. He'll continue his journey with Tokyo Excellence which competes in the third division of Japan's B. League and his impact has already been felt in presence and on the board.

"With my various skills, strong mental strength, size and strength of 225 cm, I will give the best performance to express my gratitude!" Deguara said.



HALEY BUGEJA: THE MALTESE PRODIGY

Yash Thakur digs into the data for one of the up-and-coming stars of women's football.

Aged just 17, Haley Bugeja was awarded the Best Young Player of the Year award in last season's Serie A Femminile.

In many respects,

Bugeja came out of nowhere. Touted as a prodigy back in her home country Malta, she was a relatively unknown figure when she signed a 3-year deal with Sassuolo in 2020 aged just 16.

Then, she made her debut against Napoli. Few players could hope for one debut goal, let alone two: How good will Haley Bugeja go on to be?

GOALS, GOALS AND SOME MORE GOALS

Speaking to *Goal* in March, Bugeja spoke about her hunger for scoring goals:

"When I was growing up, I would always watch Steven Gerrard, he was the Liverpool captain, and Fernando Torres. They would always be scoring goal after goal, week after week.

"For me, I always had this thing that I wanted to score goals, for some reason. It was always a passion for me." It makes sense, then, that Bugeja is an incredibly productive player in front of goal. Hailed as a prodigy in Malta, she became a goal-scoring sensation for Mgarr United in the BOV Women's League (the Maltese Women's First Division), scoring an incredible 140 goals in just 53 games.

She was also making waves on the international stage, earning her first senior cap aged just 14. In 2020, now 16, Bugeja became the youngest player to hit a hat trick in a UEFA qualifier, beating Julie Fleeting's record from 1997. This also conferred upon her the record of becoming the first ever Maltese women to score a hat trick as Malta recorded the first ever competitive win in their history.

This productivity has followed Bugeja to Italy. In her first season playing in the Serie A, she scored 12 goals across 1,112 minutes, ending the season as she began: with a brace against Empoli. By the time the season came to a close, Bugeja was Sassuolo's top scorer and had taken up a place in the top 5 goal scorers in the division.



Bernadette Bennie Blanco

God is so good!
Today was like
Christmas

because I was
gifted by a
special friend
who located this
picture of my
father, Giuzeppi
Gomez Blanco,
from the Malta
archives I had
never set eyes
on it before. It's
very special to

me and makes me miss him and everything from the past. He did a lot of wonderful things that I appreciate more now than ever. I'm remembering how there were 6 girls and we

had to take turns using the hair dryer with the vent and bonnet, so he went out and bought us a beautiful salon hair dryer chair. Or that we all had a free account at Foxy's party store in Corktown and, without complaint, would pick up the tab for us just so that we would never give a thought to stealing. The mound of ironing for a family of 9 and good 'ol Jessie's point system; laundry steam press. Or when he had a heart attack and could no longer do the grass, and I was happy to do it but not physically equipped to pull the cord to get the engine started, so a brand new key-start mower delivered the next day. In Maltese, we call that "coomdita" and I spelled in phonetically = conveniences. Laughing when he tried to say "I brought both boats to the shop," when it came out "I bot bot bots." All I can say is thank you to my friend for resurrecting such good memories.

Mużika Mużika Tickets Are Now Available



By Greta Grech

[https:// lovinmalta.com](https://lovinmalta.com)

A song is a dream your heart sings and these 21 acts will be giving their all on stage with the hopes of being crowned the winner of Mużika Mużika – Festival Kanzunetta Maltija.

Produced by Festivals Malta, this festival aims to bring together various genres of Maltese music in a grand celebration of local talent and Maltese songwriting.

Taking place over three nights – make sure to mark the 21st to the 23rd April on your

calendars.

Kicking things off with the semifinal, a total of 21 contestants will sing their hearts out on stage. Out of these 21, only 12 will get the opportunity to move on to the finals, so make sure to vote for who you want to win!

Next up, on the 22nd April, Mużika Mużika will be celebrating all things Maltese with a night of classics. Bridging the gap between modern sounds and timeless tunes – each act will perform a duet with a guest singer.

Make sure you watch The Classics Night until the very end as the finalists who will be going head to head on the next day will be revealed.

Don't plan anything on Saturday 23rd April as it's the Mużika Mużika – Festival Kanzunetta Maltija Grand Finals!

Switch off your phone, turn up your tv, and don't miss a second of the action as the 12 finalists will be giving it their all to see who will be crowned the winner.

Raymond Bugeja, the Chairman of Festivals Malta says that 'while the level of talent was impeccable last year, [he is] humbled to say that this year it's even better. Not only do [they] have diverse genres of music, including pop, reggeaton, rap, blues, etc, but [they] are also seeing an increased interest in the festival'.

Opening doors for everyone 'fresh new talent as well as several established guest artists' will be taking to the stage to show off their skills this Mużika Mużika.

Being televised on TVM and including a live audience – Mużika Mużika tickets are selling like hotcakes! Get your hands on some tickets via VisitMalta and show your favourite acts some support.

Including the winner of Mużika Mużika il-Vjaġġ Ikompli – each act will interpret their original songs accompanied by the Malta Philharmonic Orchestra. With various surprises waiting to be discovered – Mużika Mużika has already unveiled the spectacular stage which is being built especially for this year's edition.

Let Keith Demicoli, Clare Aguis and Moira Delia guide you through a night of music at this year's Mużika Mużika – Festival Kanzunetta Maltija.

Get excited for more announcements and surprises coming soon, as Festival Malta has a lot of tricks up its sleeve. Check out their Facebook page to keep updated with all of the latest news.



THE JOURNAL THAT IS CONNECTING MALTESE
IN MALTA, GOZO AND THE REST OF THE WORLD

2013 - 2020 - SEVEN YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITIES
BUILDING BRIDGES

maltesjournal@gmail.com





**Hungarian Charity Service
of the Order of Malta**



The Hungarian Charity Service of the Order of Malta is working round the clock to provide aid and assistance to the refugees crossing the border. As a result of the war in Ukraine, more than 150,000 refugees have already arrived in Hungary. The Order of Malta has opened a logistics centre in Berehovo, Ukraine, which is continuously replenished from the central warehouse in Budapest. The Hungarian Charity Service is delivering 5 tons of donations a day to Ukraine, from durable food to diapers, from hygiene items to blankets, bandages and hospital beds. Last week the Order of Malta in Hungary received the aid consignments from the Italian Relief Corps of the Order of Malta which are being distributed in the Ukrainian territory.

Berehovo

The new warehouse set up in Berehovo, few kilometres from the border with Hungary, receives shipments from the Order of Malta once or twice daily. Increasing the commodity stocks is imperative because the shops are no longer being restocked in the Transcarpathian region. The Order of Malta supply system is now delivering to the interior of Ukraine, where shortages are greater. A charity kitchen is also running and lunch is being delivered to the elderly by bicycle to save costs.

Southern Great Plain Region

Shelters for Ukrainian refugees have been set up in Hungary in the cities of Soltvadkert, Zákányszék and Kiskunmaja, and several

Order of Malta Hungary donates to Ukraine 5 tons of aid every day

families are also accommodated in Kecskemét. The region's institutions have tasked the Hungarian Charity Service of the Order of Malta with the support of the families staying in the shelters. 23 donation collection points are operating in the region, where generous donations of food and money are being received. The donations are collected in Kecskemét and transported from there to Berehovo.

Keleti railway station, Budapest The reception and assistance of refugees is still ongoing at the Keleti railway station in Budapest – one of the three most important in the Hungarian capital -, but the Charity Service of the Order of Malta has reorganised its assistance service in agreement with the organisations working on the ground. The Charity Service of the Order of Malta has set up a waiting area, referred to as a “quiet corner”, for mothers with young children, elderly people and people with disabilities. The organisation is strengthening its interpreter and informational service. It also provides organised assistance in finding accommodation and helps with transport for people staying in Budapest. It provides wheelchair, walkers and other medical supplies for people with reduced mobility and disabilities.

Budapest: Rimaszombati Road

The Charity Service of the Order of Malta has opened a new temporary shelter in Budapest, in the municipally owned, vacant dormitory on Rimaszombati Road. The building has the capacity to accommodate 35 people, with the capacity to add 20 extra beds if necessary. The shelter is staffed by 6 volunteers per day.

Budapest: Piroska Road

The 27 rooms in the guesthouse on Piroska Road are operating continually at full capacity, with refugees typically moving on after one or two nights.

St John Malta raising funds for Ukraine humanitarian aid



'Funds will aid those who are on the ground in Ukraine' - Dr Michael Frendo

Michela Tufigno

photo:Johanniter/Deutsch

St John Malta is raising funds for the humanitarian work of their members, who are currently aiding Ukrainian families who are under siege.

The voluntary organisation has already distributed 2,600 relief packs

with necessary items like sugar, flour, rice, oil and personal hygiene articles in the southern Ukrainian city of Poltava, home to 300,000 people, and currently surrounded by the Russian army. "These funds will aid those who are suffering on the ground in the centre of Ukraine," Dr Michael Frendo, Chairmain for St John Malta, said.

Apart from its presence in Ukraine, St John Malta is currently in Poland and Hungary, providing assistance to Ukrainian refugees by providing tents, cots, blankets and food, while also providing medical and psychological care.

St John Malta which forms part of Johanniter International is raising funds to contribute towards the humanitarian work of the Johanniter organisations on the ground in Ukraine and with Ukrainian refugees in neighbouring Poland and Hungary.

Anyone who wishes to help may send donations to this bank account:

St John Malta

BIC: VALLMTMT

IBAN: MT28VALL22013000000013205395015

Reference: Ukraine

Or via PayPal, Debit Card or Credit card on the St John Rescue Corps

In former times, in the Roman Catholic faith, there were multiple rules that forbade certain foods and drinks from being consumed on particular days throughout the liturgical year. Why fasting? Mainly because this was a way to purify the soul, in emulation of Christ's forty days of spiritual retreat in the desert. Without food the soul would be better equipped to attain a state of piety. In olden times, fasting and abstinence were to be observed regularly at least three times a week, that is on a Wednesday, a Friday and a Saturday, throughout the whole year. In the main, abstinence and fasting focused on the elimination of meats, eggs, milk and other dairy products.

There was a time when the rules of fasting and abstinence were very strict indeed. Until the second half of the twentieth century, all those over the age of seven were obliged under penalty of sin not to eat any meat. As from the age of sixty and over were exempt from fasting. Then, after the Second Vatican Council (1964), rules began to be gradually mitigated. Apart from fasting three times a week, there were other days throughout the year when fasting was to be observed, such as on the eve of certain important feasts. These are called fasting vigils. These were carried out on the eve of Pentecost, All Saints Day, Santa Maria and Christmas. Apart from these, there were even other days of fasting, which were held on four other occasions throughout the year.

Maltese food and the Christian Calendar

Greg Caruana – NSW

These were specifically attached to the Advent Sundays, Sundays in Lent, Pentecost and Santu Kruċ, a feast that was celebrated on September 13. In their strictest sense, the rules of fasting required that one



consumes only one meal a day, usually at noon.

Lent is the period in the liturgical calendar when the faithful were meant to reach a high level of spiritual purification by fasting. Lent started on Ash Wednesday,

until Maundy Thursday. However, the days leading to Ash Wednesday, that is, carnival days, were conveniently established for one and all to consume meat, dairy products and fatty foods. Throughout the normal lives of the faithful, another occasion for fasting was also observed. This was related to the mourning of a deceased person. Pots and pans were placed face down in the kitchen symbolically, as no cooked food was to be consumed throughout the following days. In compensation, it was customary for the relatives, who did not live in the same house, to provide food, which they would have prepared themselves, to the mourners in the household.

To make up for the lack of nutrients during fasting, one needed of course to turn to other alternative food stuffs. Bread, the main food of the Maltese, was the most widely eaten because filling. This staple food was eaten with condiments such as olives, anchovy, sardines, herring and other dried and salted fish. Fish soups were also a favourite. Other vegetables were cauliflower, peas, spinach and as from the late 19th century, potatoes. As light snacks, during Lent, are the **sfineġ**, fritters stuffed with anchovy. **Kwareżimal** is a sweet confectionery, made of ground almonds and mixed with flour. After baking in the oven, the kwareżimal is soaked with an amount of honey, and pistachios are spread on top.

Another typical Lent savoury are the **karamelli tal-harub** locust beans pods, and cooled and chipped



Lenten
Sweets



For the 40 days prior to Easter Sunday, during Lent, kwareżimal, almond and honey cakes, are highly prized and enjoyed. In days of old these were "sweets" allowed during this time of year as the sweet does not contain any sugar but is made with almonds, honey, milk, flour and spices.

The only other sweet allowed was the "karamelli tal-harub" - made from carob syrup - which was normally sold on Good Friday during the afternoon processions.

into tasty bits of sweets.

Christmas and Easter also have their own kind of food. Yet these are not obligatory, but merely traditional. On Christmas Day one is accustomed to cook special roast meat dishes for lunch. **Qagħaq tal-ġhasel** are pastry rings stuffed with treacle, associated with Christmas, as is the **imbuljuta** chestnut soup. On Easter Sunday, roast meat is eaten for lunch; it is not uncommon to serve roast lamb. Such pastry is often given a human or animal shape, and this is known in Maltese as **figolla**. Nowadays still given as an Easter present to children. During the Easter Sunday procession, as the statue of the Risen Christ is carried in procession through the streets of the town, children are supposed to raise their figolla in front of the statue to have it blessed by Christ. Then during the month of November there is the commemoration of St Martin of Tours on which day, bags of nuts, such as chestnuts, almonds, hazelnuts, as well as other fruit, such as pomegranate are presented to children in a small handheld bag made of cloth.

NEXT EDITION WILL BE ABOUT ANZAC DAY. IF YOU HAVE ADVERTISEMENTS, ARTICLES, PHOTOS, POEMS WITH THIS ITEM PLEASE SEND THEM TO US. WE LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU

JOSEPH MUSCAT

GRAPHIC CHATS


April 9 - May 22 / 9 avril - 22 mai 2022

TEMISKAMING ART GALLERY
GALERIE D'ART DU TEMISKAMING
325 Farr Dr., Halleybury ON

Opening Reception / Vernissage
April 9: 5 - 7 pm / 9 avril: 17h - 19h

Gallery Hours: Monday to Friday, 10am - 4 pm
Heures d'ouverture: Lundi - vendredi, 10h à 16h

www.josephmuscat.ca
www.temiskamingartgallery.ca



Virtual Unreality 2021, Mix Media, 20 x 30 in.

GRAPHIC CHATS - Temiskaming Art Gallery - April 9 - May 22 - 2022

Who is Joseph?



Joseph Muscat was graduated from the **Ontario College of Art** in 1981, and since then he has exhibited his work extensively in solo and in group exhibitions in Canada, USA, Europe and South America. His work is widely collected in many Public, Corporate and Private collections.

He has received numerous Ontario Arts Council grants and his work has been included in art textbooks and reproduced on book and magazine covers.

He has lectured at the University of Toronto's Faculty of Architecture and has taught Visual Arts part-time with the Toronto District School Board. Joseph Muscat is a member of several Professional Artists Associations.

He was Chair of Propeller Gallery, Toronto between 2010 and 2015, a founding member of Le Labo d'art and a past board director of the Toronto Outdoor Art Exhibition and BRAVOart. He has sat on a number of arts' juries locally and nationally and is a member of Padejo, a three-artist working collective. Mr. Muscat is represented by David Kaye Gallery, Toronto, Danielle Wohl Fine Arts, Palo Alto, California and Guildworks in Bloomfield Ontario.

MMG Concert Band of Victoria· Australia- Harrison Merrifield



We extend our congratulations to Harrison Merrifield on his Graduation from the Bachelor of Music!! What a fabulous achievement!

"We love seeing your passion for music shine through at rehearsals and enrich us all further with the learnings from your studies."

Harrison's passion for music started when he began learning music at the age of 7 with the St Albans Melita Band. Being taught theory and practical by members of the band. Harrison then began conducting at the age of 16.

Harrison also is one of our music teachers at MMG, teaching our brass students. Knowing they are being enriched with his knowledge and passion for music is fabulous. We hope that many of his students follow in his footsteps.



MALTA TO MOTOWN
Bernadette Bennie Blanco
I love this picture. Do you think they all shop
at the same shoe store?

When in Malta there were no Ipads
mobiles, Internet and social media



Spagetti biz-zalza tal-fenek u hobz



Kikkra Kafe' bil-halib u qaghaqa tal-ghasel



Rizzi, imhar, gbejniet u hobz b-zejt



Birra Maltija u Bajtar tax-Xewk

IFTAH L-APTIT - BON APPÉTIT