

# Letter to the Church in Gozo of Mgr. Mario Grech Bishop of Gozo

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## Prayers for Rain

Dears,

The lack of rain is having an effect on arable land and its fruit. My heart has been touched by the anxiety of many farmers who are seeing the soil deteriorating through the unusual drought.

In these circumstances, our belief in omnipotent God the Creator leads us to lift up our hearts to Him in a hopeful prayer for timely rainfall. Our current knowledge of weather forecasting should not affect in any way our faith in the providence of God who guides everything and considers the needs of His human children.

Therefore, as was done by our forefathers in the past, we are called to exhibit our faith in the Creator and turn to Him in humility and faith as children of a Merciful Father who is in heaven and who “raises the sun on both the wicked and the good, and make rain fall on whoever is good and also on whoever is evil” (Mt 5.45).

Therefore, I am calling on the farmers and all God’s people on our island to take part in a Penitential Pilgrimage with the statue of Jesus the Redeemer, with prayers for rain, that I will be leading next Sunday, 28<sup>th</sup> February 2016, from the Qala parish church to the Jubilee Sanctuary of the Immaculate Conception. The pilgrimage starts at 4.00pm and Holy Mass will be celebrated in the Sanctuary on arrival.

Full of hope in the help of our Mother Mary, we ask also for the intercession of Saint Isidorus, Patron of farmers.

I give you my blessing.

Issued from the Bishop’s Curia, Victoria, today, Friday 19<sup>th</sup> February, 2016.

+ Mario Grech

Bishop of Gozo.

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To be read during Saturday evening Masses and on Sunday, 20 and 21 February, 2016.