

The English Speaking  
Roman Catholic Community on Gozo  
Patron Saint – St. Thomas More  
Our website: www.esccgozo.org  
Seminary guest WiFi: Letmein123!  
Sacred Heart Seminary Chapel – Enrico Mizzi Street , Victoria

7th June 2026

The Most Holy Body and Blood  
of Christ – Corpus Christi  
Celebrated by  
Fr. Loretu Tabone

*The Body and Blood of Christ give spiritual strength and the promise of eternal life.*

First Reading Deuteronomy 8:2-3,14-16

Moses said to the people: 'Remember how the Lord your God led you for forty years in the wilderness, to humble you, to test you and know your inmost heart – whether you would keep his commandments or not. He humbled you, he made you feel hunger, he fed you with manna which neither you nor your fathers had known, to make you understand that man does not live on bread alone but that man lives on everything that comes from the mouth of the Lord. 'Do not become proud of heart. Do not forget the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery: who guided you through this vast and dreadful wilderness, a land of fiery serpents, scorpions, thirst; who in this waterless place brought you water from the hardest rock; who in this wilderness fed you with manna that your fathers had not known.'

*The Word of the Lord*

Responsorial Psalm 147:12-15,19-20

(R) O praise the Lord, Jerusalem!

O praise the Lord, Jerusalem!  
Zion, praise your God!  
He has strengthened the bars of your gates  
he has blessed the children within you. (R)

He established peace on your borders,  
he feeds you with finest wheat.  
He sends out his word to the earth  
and swiftly runs his command. (R)

He makes his word known to Jacob,  
to Israel his laws and decrees.  
He has not dealt thus with other nations;  
he has not taught them his decrees. (R)



♪ Hymns for Today ♪

517 O Bread Of Heaven  
730 This Is My Body  
578 One Bread, One Body  
Welcome Back Marcel

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 10:16-17

The blessing-cup that we bless is a communion with the blood of Christ, and the bread that we break is a communion with the body of Christ. The fact that there is only one loaf means that, though there are many of us, we form a single body because we all have a share in this one loaf.

*The Word of the Lord*

Sequence – See attached

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, Alleluia!  
I am the living bread which has  
come down from heaven, says the  
Lord.  
Anyone who eats this bread will  
live for ever.  
Alleluia!

Memorial Acclamation

When we eat this Bread and  
drink this Cup, we proclaim your  
Death, O Lord, until you come  
again

We Pray For

Those in our community and all  
our relatives and friends who need  
our prayers especially **Lilian  
Fitzpatrick and Audrey Pace**  
as well as those who have died

Gospel

John 6:51-58

Jesus said to the crowd: 'I am the living bread which has come down from heaven. Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever; and the bread that I shall give is my flesh, for the life of the world.' Then the Jews started arguing with one another: 'How can this man give us his flesh to eat?' they said. Jesus replied: 'I tell you most solemnly, if you do not eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you will not have life in you. Anyone who does eat my flesh and drink my blood has eternal life, and I shall raise him up on the last day. For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink. He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood lives in me and I live in him. As I, who am sent by the living Father, myself draw life from the Father, so whoever eats me will draw life from me. This is the bread come down from heaven; not like the bread our ancestors ate: they are dead, but anyone who eats this bread will live for ever.'

*The Gospel of the Lord*

Communion Reflection

MAGNIFICA HUMANITAS

19. The Church is present in the world as a sign of unity for the entire human family. She recognizes today's questions and challenges as the current setting in which to carry out her particular vocation of listening, dialogue and service, and of being responsive to everything concerning the lives of contemporary men and women. This involvement in people's lives helps the Church understand ever more clearly that her mission has a historical scope and entails a responsibility for the way in which social relations are built. For this reason, she cannot consider herself a stranger to the forces shaping society. On the contrary, the Church actively participates in the processes by which society grows and is organized, and she offers her own contribution to the creation of a more just and fraternal society. Pope Francis emphasized this historical dimension of the Church's mission: "No one can demand that religion should be relegated to the inner sanctum of personal life, without influence on societal and national life, without concern for the soundness of civil institutions, without a right to offer an opinion on events affecting society." (Pope Leo Magnifica Humanitas)



After listening to today's readings let us now consider the following :  
**Fr Henry Wansbrough's reflection.**

This is the final section of Jesus' great discourse in the gospel of John on the Eucharist, delivered in the synagogue at Capernaum. It is in the form of a synagogue-sermon, commenting in turn on the phrases of Psalm 78, 'He gave them bread - from heaven - to eat'. Jesus explains that these words are truly fulfilled not by Moses' historic gift of manna in the desert, but by the Father's continuous and repeated gift of Eucharistic bread. The discourse has the same pattern as the Mass, instruction followed by eating. The first two sections of the discourse were about God's gift of revelation in Christ, which is accepted and assimilated by belief in the teaching of Jesus. Now we come to the final section on God's gift of Christ as food. Particularly striking are two points. Firstly, the stress on eating; the word used for 'eat my flesh' is full of the reality of eating; it really means 'chew', and designates the sacramental eating as a real assimilation of the nourishing food. The second point is that 'my flesh for the life of the world' links firmly to the Last Supper: the Christ that we receive is the Christ at the very moment of his redemptive act of self-offering, an act which continues throughout time and into eternity. What is the best way to prepare for Holy

**And from Fr. Robert Draper**

The poem 'Christmas' by John Betjeman ends 'No love can with this single Truth compare, that God was man in Palestine and lives today in bread and wine: The theological doctrine of the Incarnation and the doctrine of what can be called the 'Real Presence' in the Eucharist are brought together by the poet to articulate a faith that insists on the reality that God is intimately engaged and involved with humanity. Somewhat like the doctrine of the Trinity that last week's feast dealt with, the feast of the Body and Blood of Christ can seem to demand an 'explanation' - an investigation into 'how'. Since the initial discernment of these two truths, scholars, saints and ordinary men and women have grappled with these matters to articulate them, and we can give thanks for their endeavours as we ponder these mysteries. In one sense, John in his Gospel has responded to the many questions raised, and his response is not to go into the 'mechanics' of how bread and wine become the body and blood of the Lord, but simply to insist on it in an emphatic way: 'the bread that I shall give, is my flesh for the life of the world'. Chapter 6 of John's Gospel is a long and profound teaching on the Eucharist - one of John's deliberate commentaries following an action - in this case the feeding of the five thousand - just like the teaching following the meeting with the woman at the well, the man born blind, and the raising of Lazarus. The section of Chapter 6 we have today is the final part, where Jesus builds up from teaching about living on the word that comes from the mouth of the Lord, to feeding on the flesh and blood of Jesus himself. In the passage from Deuteronomy we are given today, Moses calls the people to remember what God has done for them in feeding them with manna. Paul reminds the Corinthians that sharing communion is sharing in Christ. John in this Gospel is quite graphic insisting that it is physically sharing in the bread and wine that we share in the body and blood of the Lord - and that this is the true manna, the real food that leads to eternal life. Today's readings all remind us of the centrality on the ancient teaching on the Eucharist - this is indeed the Lord. We are called today to rejoice in this true participation in flesh and blood of the Lord which makes us one with him and one another. God encounters his people in many ways - but as Betjeman wrote, a key truth is that 'He lives today in bread and wine'.

**Pope Leo XIV's prayer intention for June**

**For the values of sports**

Let us pray that sports be an Instrument of peace, encounter, and dialogue among cultures and nations, and that they promote values such as respect, solidarity, and personal growth.

**FOR YOUR DIARY  
See also Community  
Noticeboard attached**

Commencing **Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> May**, and on the 15 Wednesdays up to the feast of the Assumption of Our Lady on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> August, there will be a **Mass in English at Ta Pinu at 11.15a.m.** Readers are needed for these masses please.

**11th June 2026 3.30 pm** Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in English at Ghasri church followed by refreshments.

**Birthdays in June**

- 17th Johanna Marks
- 28th Francesca Coen

**Money Matters**

**The collection for last Sunday was € 181.16**  
**All monies collected are deployed to cover the costs of running our community and for good causes**

**Eucharistic Ministers**

07-Jun-26	Johanna Marks	Monique Sant Georges
14-Jun-26	Ben Miltenburg	Iain Dando
21-Jun-26	Johanna Marks	Ben Miltenburg
28-Jun-26	Mary Newman	David Felice Pace
05-Jul-26	Iain Dando	Monique Sant Georges

**Readers Rota – If you would like to join please contact Johanna on johannamarks3@gmail.com**

07-Jun Readings	Johanna Marks	Prayers	Stella Woodgate
14-Jun Readings	Vince Vella	Prayers	Mary Newman
21-Jun Readings	Stella Woodgate	Prayers	Andy Young
28-Jun Readings	Andy Young	Prayers	Johanna Marks
05-Jul Readings	Johanna Marks	Prayers	Angelika Camilleri

**Chaplain Fr. Loretu Tabone**  
**21561824/99001829**

Email: 32northnadur@gmail.com

**Council Members:**

**John & Veronica Grech 21551180**

*David Felice Pace 79560051*

*Marcel & Sylwia Grech-Marguerat 77051050*

*Johanna Marks 99950596*

*Mary Newman 77047872*

**Would you like to join us on the Council and help in running our community?**

**Contact johannamarks3@gmail.com**

## SEQUENCE – CORPUS CHRISTI

Sing forth, O Zion, sweetly sing  
The praises of thy Shepherd-King.  
In hymns and canticles divine;  
Dare all thou canst, thou hast no song  
Worthy his praises to prolong,  
So far surpassing powers like thine.

Today no theme of common praise  
Forms the sweet burden of thy lays –  
The living, life-dispensing food –  
That food which at the sacred board  
Unto the brethren twelve our Lord  
His parting legacy bestowed

Then be the anthem clear and strong,  
Thy fullest note, thy sweetest song,  
The very music of the breast:  
For now shines forth the day sublime  
That brings remembrance of the time  
When Jesus first his table blessed.

Within our new King's banquet-hall  
They meet to keep the festival  
That closed the ancient paschal rite:  
The old is by the new replaced;  
The substance hath the shadow chased;  
And rising day dispels the night.

Christ willed what he himself had done  
Should be renewed while time should run,  
In memory of his parting hour:  
Thus, tutored in his school divine,  
We consecrate the bread and wine;  
And lo – a Host of saving power.

This faith to Christian men is given –  
Bread is made flesh by words from heaven  
Into his blood wine is turned;  
What though it baffles nature's powers  
Of sense and sight? This faith of ours  
Proves more than nature e'er discerned.

Concealed beneath the two-fold sign,  
Meet symbols of the gifts divine,  
There lie the mysteries adored:  
The living body is our food;  
Our drink the ever precious blood;  
In each, one undivided Lord.

Not he that eateth it divides  
The sacred food, which whole abides  
Unbroken still, nor knows decay;  
Be one, or be a thousand fed,  
They eat alike that living bread  
Which, still received, ne'er wastes away.

The good, the guilty share therein,  
With sure increase of grace or sin,  
The ghostly life, or ghostly death:  
Death to the guilty; to the good  
Immortal life. See how one food  
Man's joy or woe accomplisheth.

We break the sacraments; but bold  
And firm thy faith shall keep its hold;  
Deem not the whole doth more enfold  
Than in the fractured part resides:  
Deem not that Christ doth broken lie;  
'Tis but the sign that meets the eye;  
The hidden deep reality  
In all its fullness still abides.

Behold the bread of angels, sent  
For pilgrims in their banishment,  
The bread for God's true children meant,  
That may not unto the dogs be given  
Oft in the olden types foreshadowed,  
In Isaac on the altar bowed,  
And in the ancient paschal food,  
And in the manna sent from heaven.

Come then, good shepherd, bread divine,  
Still show to us the mercy sign;  
Oh, feed us still, still keep us thine,  
So may we see thy glories shine  
In fields of immortality.

O thou, the wisest, mightiest, best,  
Our present food, our future rest,  
Come, make us each thy chosen guest,  
Co-heirs of thine, and comrades blest  
With saints whose dwelling is with thee.

# Community Noticeboard



 **CATENIANS**  
**Happy Birthday!**  
**118 years old this month!**

The Catenian Association was formed on 11th June 1908 at the direction of Bishop Louis Casartelli, the fourth Catholic Bishop of Salford




Today our point of contact with the Catholic Church is Louis Casartelli's successor Bishop John Arnold, the 11th Roman Catholic Bishop of Salford. The Catenians wish Bishop John a Happy Birthday for 12th June

**Still Going Strong!**  
**Are you still missing out?**

**Catenian Association**  
 in Gozo  
**Interested?**  
 Contact one of us:  
 Reg on 79923118  
 Lorne on 79452685  
 George on 79008936  
 Vince on 79022692

The Catenian Association Limited | Unit 5, Oak Court | Pilgrims Walk | Prelogis Park | COVENTRY | CV5 4QH  
 Registered Company Number 00894133

**Fundraising Event in Aid of the Guatemala Mission Foundation**  
 26th June 2026. See attached flyer and menu. Maybe you could get a table together.

**VIAF 2026**  
 29th Edition



**OPENING ORCHESTRAL CONCERT**  
 Simon Schembri (Guitar)  
 Malta Philharmonic Orchestra  
 Philip Walsh (Conductor)

An evening of Spanish and Latin American music, including 4 Rodrigo's Conciertos de Aranjuez

**Friday 12 June 2026 - TEATRU ASTRA 20:00**

Free entrance, but patrons are advised to make seat reservations by sending an email to info@viaf.org.mt



## Feast of St Thomas More

As mentioned last week, on Sunday 21st June we shall be celebrating our mass for the Feast of our Patron Saint, St. Thomas More (Feast Day 22nd June)

After mass we shall be holding a gathering in the hall or outside, weather permitting, to which all are welcome. Finger food will be available. There is no charge for this and it would be lovely to see as many of us as possible at the celebration.



FR. JOSEPH CAMILLERI'S  
**GUATEMALA  
MISSIONS  
FOUNDATION**

# Majjalata

with live music by  
**X-TEND**

**26th June**  
MARSA SPORTS CLUB  
**7.30pm**  
**€45 PER PERSON**

**+356 7970 3918**  
BOOKINGS CONFIRMED UPON PAYMENT

Payments can be  
made through Revolut  
or BOV Mobile App

## Menu

Start the evening with a touch of sparkle,  
with a chilled glass of Prosecco

### SHARING PLATTER

A delightful selection of local flavours

Bigilla, sundried tomatoes, marinated butter beans,  
stuffed olives, gbejniet, galletti & warm focaccia

### MAIN COURSE

Traditional Suckling Pig

Tender, slow-roasted pork with crisp, golden skin,  
roast potatoes, and kapunata (Maltese ratatouille)

### DESSERT

Carrot Cake

Delicately spiced, cake made with fresh carrots and  
finished with a smooth cream cheese frosting

### BEVERAGES

A glass of wine and still & sparkling mineral water  
included with the above menu

For any dietary requirements or allergies kindly  
inform us one week prior to the date of the event