



Throughout the month of October we shall be starting our Sunday celebrations with recitation of the Rosary. Please aim to be seated by 9.45 am.

The English Speaking Roman Catholic Community on Gozo

Patron Saint – St. Thomas More

Our website: www.escgozo.org

Seminary guest WiFi: Letmein123!

Sacred Heart Seminary Chapel – Enrico Mizzi Street, Victoria

25th October 2026
30th Sunday Ord A
Celebrated by
Fr. George Debrincat

You shall love the Lord your God

First Reading Exodus 22:20-26

The Lord said to Moses, 'Tell the sons of Israel this: "'You must not molest the stranger or oppress him, for you lived as strangers in the land of Egypt. You must not be harsh with the widow, or with the orphan; if you are harsh with them, they will surely cry out to me, and be sure I shall hear their cry; my anger will flare and I shall kill you with the sword, your own wives will be widows, your own children orphans. "'If you lend money to any of my people, to any poor man among you, you must not play the usurer with him: you must not demand interest from him. "'If you take another's cloak as a pledge, you must give it back to him before sunset. It is all the covering he has; it is the cloak he wraps his body in; what else would he sleep in? If he cries to me, I will listen, for I am full of pity.'"

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm 17(18):2-4,47,51

(R) I love you, Lord, my strength.

I love you, Lord, my strength,
my rock, my fortress, my saviour.
My God is the rock where I take refuge;
my shield, my mighty help, my stronghold.

The Lord is worthy of all praise,
when I call I am saved from my foes.
(R)

Long life to the Lord, my rock!
Praised be the God who saves me,
He has given great victories to his king
and shown his love for his anointed.
(R)

Memorial Acclamation
We proclaim your death, O Lord
and profess your Resurrection
until you come again



Hymns for Today

215 God Is Love

478 Make Me A Channel Of
Your Peace

765 Walk With Me O My Lord

**Second Reading 1 Thessa
lonians 1:5-10**

You observed the sort of life we lived when we were with you, which was for your instruction, and you were led to become imitators of us, and of the Lord; and it was with the joy of the Holy Spirit that you took to the gospel, in spite of the great opposition all round you. This has made you the great example to all believers in Macedonia and Achaia since it was from you that the word of the Lord started to spread – and not only throughout Macedonia and Achaia, for the news of your faith in God has spread everywhere. We do not need to tell other people about it: other people tell us how we started the work among you, how you broke with idolatry when you were converted to God and became servants of the real, living God; and how you are now waiting for Jesus, his Son, whom he raised from the dead, to come from heaven to save us from the retribution which is coming.

The Word of the Lord

We pray For
Those in our community
especially **Lesley Dando and**
Lilian Fitzpatrick and David
Pace soon to undergo an
operation and all our relatives
and friends who need our prayers
as well as those who have died

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia Alleluia!!

Open our heart, O Lord,
to accept the words of your Son.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 22:34-40

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees they got together and, to disconcert him, one of them put a question, 'Master, which is the greatest commandment of the Law?' Jesus said, 'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second resembles it: You must love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments hang the whole Law, and the Prophets also.'

The Gospel of the Lord

COMMUNION REFLECTION

Merely to remain true to the faith is not enough. Certainly we must preserve and defend the treasure of truth and grace that we have inherited ... But neither the preservation nor the defence of the faith exhausts the duty of the Church in regard to the gifts it has been given. The very nature of the gifts which Christ has given the Church demands that they be extended to others and shared with others. ST POPE PAUL VI FROM Ecclesiam Suam (1964)



Remember to set your clock back 1 hour
2.00 am Sunday 25th October



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

Familiarity with Jesus' answer to the question about the greatest commandment blunts our awareness of its startling directness. Many answers could be given, perhaps singling out any one of the ten commandments as the greatest, the most important basis of society. A frequent answer to the question was and is the Golden Rule which exists in many cultures: 'Do not do to another what you would not have done to you'. This is basically a selfish answer, protecting one's own interests. By contrast, Jesus' answer hits home, turning us away from self to God. 'Love' (not 'obey' or 'adore' or 'fear' or 'reverence') is the command. Love is not simply the warmth of companionship or of sex, but is the willing generosity of mother to helpless young child or daughter to helpless old parent, of wife to alcoholic husband or husband to paralysed wife, seeking no reward but the happiness of the receiver. Paul gives a useful check-list about love in chapter 13 of his first letter to the Corinthians. John's first letter provides a useful summary: 'No one who fails to love the brother or sister whom he can see, can love God whom he has not seen'. How do we put into practice this commandment to love?

And from Fr. Robert Draper

The passage from Exodus deals directly with the most vulnerable in society; the stranger, the widow and orphan, the poor and the indebted. It is notable that it is God who directly orders Moses to say these words - this is not some social convention, but the formal word of God. If 'religion' is allowed to be seen as simply a personal world view and reduced to private opinion, then there is no room for such pronouncements as these. In a world where 'rational self-interest' is seen as an acceptable attitude then the opposing demands from the book of Exodus ring out as a resounding challenge. One of the striking things noted about Pope Francis is his constant emphasis on looking out for and looking after the poor. In this he is simply reiterating the words given to Moses, and this emphasis has been a constant part of authentic Catholic teaching down through the ages. In the gospel Jesus addresses this aspect of faith when he very deliberately links love of God with love of neighbour. Faith cannot be lived out as an individual preference, some sort of inner universe: the Judaeo-Christian tradition always insists that faith is lived out in the world and expressed actively and effectively.

Eucharistic Ministers

25-Oct-26	Johanna Marks	Ben Miltenburg	David FP
01-Nov-26	David Felice Pace	Monique Sant Georges	
08-Nov-26	Ben Miltenburg	Iain Dando	
15-Nov-26	Johanna Marks	Ben Miltenburg	

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

25-Oct Readings	Johanna Marks	Prayers	Stella Woodgate
01-Nov Readings	Stella Woodgate	Prayers	Rachel Holland
08-Nov Readings	Chris Holland	Prayers	Angelika Camilleri
15-Nov Readings	Rachel Holland	Prayers	Chris Holland
22-Nov Readings	Stella Woodgate	Prayers	Sylvia Fernandes

**Pope Leo XIV's prayer intention
For October**

For mental health ministry

Let us pray that mental health ministry be established throughout the Church, helping to overcome the stigma and discrimination of persons with mental illnesses.

FOR YOUR DIARY

4th November 4.00 pm Bible Study Group at Manresa House . See Notice

12th November 3.30 pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at Ghasri church followed by refreshments

Lectio Divina – Bible Study

At the meeting with Fr Magro last Sunday it was decided that Lectio Divina meetings will be held every Wednesday at 4.00 p.m. at Manresa Retreat House. It was agreed that a planning session will be held at Manresa on Wednesday 4th November at 4.00 p.m. All are invited.



Money Matters
The collection for the
Missions last Sunday
was € 304.80

CELEBRATIONS IN OCTOBER

ANNIVERSARIES

30th Camila & Allan Mantovan/
Macedo

Prayer to St. Michael the Archangel

Holy Michael, the Archangel, defend us in the day of battle. Be our safeguard against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; and do thou, Prince of the heavenly host, by the power of God cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who wander through the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen

Chaplain Fr. Loretu Tabone
21561824/99001829

Email: 32northnadur@gmail.com

Council Members:

John & Veronica Grech 21551180
David Felice Pace 79560051
Marcel & Sylvia Grech-Marguerat
77051050
Johanna Marks 99950596
Mary Newman 77047872