



ST. PHILIP
PARISH
HAŽ-ŽEBBUĠ

A note from the editor

Dear readers,

In this special festa issue we thought it appropriate to give **thanks** to God for all the recent good works and events that occurred in our parish. The photos highlight some of these important and indeed historical events.

Mass in English is being celebrated on a fairly regular basis, namely once a month. One must appreciate the effort and commitment made to make this possible, considering the already busy schedule of the restricted priests in the parish. We urge those who have not yet participated in this Mass, to make note of the dates and to come along, so it will bear much fruit!

Connection will be issued on a three monthly basis, so I take the opportunity to wish you a happy feast and an enjoyable summer!

Elizabeth

Quote of the month

"And whatever you do whether in word or deed do it all in the name of Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him"
Colossians 3:17

Connection

ISSUE 20

MAY-JUNE 2010

A Feast of Thanksgiving to God and to our Patron Saint St. Philip

During this year's feast it is appropriate to give thanks to the Lord and to our patron St. Philip of Agira, for all the special events that occurred in our parish throughout the past year. A number of important projects, all involving thousands of euros, were undertaken. Moreover, fruitful work was carried out by members of the clergy, as well as by various parish commissions, religious organisations, and individuals. For all this, we should therefore be thankful, and praise God and St. Philip who, under his patronage, we are working together as a parish.

The visit to Malta of His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI last April was also an important highlight during this year and it continued to fill us with special blessings. Witnessing the Vicar of Christ passing through our village and blessing all the jubilant people who lined our roads enthusiastically in order to see him, is not an event which we experience every year! I hope that his words have touched us and will remain in our hearts and minds forever.

At the end of this year that is especially dedicated to priests, we must also give special thanks to the Lord for all the priests whom He has blessed us with, throughout the years. Let us remember that it is these priests who helped us cultivate and enrich our faith. I feel that we must really give thanks to God for all the spiritual wealth left to us by several priests, hailing from our village and elsewhere, who served in this parish during the past years.

Let us celebrate our feast together as a community that firmly believes in God's love. Let us realise that behind all the work and projects that we undertake, there is His hand that guides us and works through us.

May we celebrate a feast that leads us to live as better Christians and to always give thanks to God. Praise be to God!

God bless you all.

Fr. Daniel Cardona
Archpriest

Main Feast Parish Activities 2010

Saturday 12th June: Day of Reconciliation (Confession is available am & pm)

7:00am: Solemn High Sung Mass; Hymn;
Antiphone & *Te Deum*;

5:30pm: Mass

6:30pm: Solemn Translation (i.e. transfer) of St. Philip's relic; Eucharistic Celebration.
Celebration by Archbishop Emeritus Mons Joseph Mercieca

8:00pm: Community Mass, Homily about St. Philip

Sunday 13th June: Feast Day

9:15 am: The Feast's Solemn Concelebrated Mass, led by Chancellor Mons. Lawrence Gatt.
Panegyric by Rev. Fr. Marcello Ghirlando.

6:00 pm: Solemn Vespers and Procession, followed by Eucharistic Blessing.



Mass in English!

Especially for foreigners

At the newly restored
Our Lady of Angels Chapel,
Our Lady of Angels Street,
Haż-Żebbuġ,

At 12:00pm on Sundays:

**20th June,
18th July &
22nd August**

View Connection on the web:
www.parrocazebbug.com



Restored façade of St. Philip Parish Church. *Photo: Joe Borg*



Archpriest Fr. Daniel Cardona, Architect Conrad Thake and workers involved in the restoration project, look on, as the main cross is finally lowered into place, after having been blessed. *Photo: Joe Borg*



Pope Benedict XVI, in the popemobile is cheered by faithful villagers as he passes by De Rohan Gate. *Photo: Joe Borg*



Congregation attending Mass in English at the beautifully restored Our Lady of Angels Chapel. *Photo: Archives*



Inauguration Ceremony of the restored church façade and the newly installed light system. *Photo: Joe Borg*