

The English Speaking Roman Catholic Community on Gozo

Patron Saint—St. Thomas More

Our website: www.esccgozo.org

Sacred Heart Seminary Chapel—Enrico Mizzi Street, Victoria
Sunday Mass 10.00 am (Confession available beforehand—please allow ample time)

2nd Sunday Ordinary (C)

19th January 2025

Celebrated by
Mons. John Muscat

God's Promise of Joy

First Reading Isaiah 62:1-5

About Zion I will not be silent,
about Jerusalem I will not grow
weary, until her integrity shines
out like the dawn
and her salvation flames like a
torch. The nations then will see
your integrity, all the kings your
glory, and you will be called by a
new name, one which the mouth of
the Lord will confer. You are to be
a crown of splendour in the hand
of the Lord, a princely diadem in
the hand of your God; no longer
are you to be named 'Forsaken',
nor your land 'Abandoned', but
you shall be called 'My Delight'
and your land 'The Wedded'; for
the Lord takes delight in you and
your land will have its wedding.
Like a young man marrying a
virgin, so will the one who built
you wed you, and as the
bridegroom rejoices in his bride,
so will your God rejoice in you.

The Word of the Lord

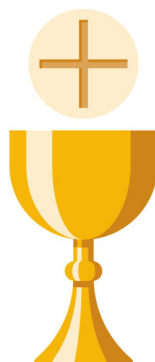
Responsorial Psalm

95(96):1-3,7-10

(R) Proclaim the wonders of the Lord
among all the peoples.

O sing a new song to the Lord,
sing to the Lord all the earth.
O sing to the Lord, bless his name.
(R)

Proclaim his help day by day,
tell among the nations his glory
and his wonders among all the
peoples. (R)



Second Reading 1 Corinthians 12:4-11

There is a variety of gifts but al-
ways the same Spirit; there are all
sorts of service to be done, but al-
ways to the same Lord; working in
all sorts of different ways in differ-
ent people, it is the same God who
is working in all of them. The par-
ticular way in which the Spirit is
given to each person is for a good
purpose. One may have the gift of
preaching with wisdom given him
by the Spirit; another may have the
gift of preaching instruction given
him by the same Spirit; and another
the gift of faith given by the same
Spirit; another again the gift of
healing, through this one Spirit;
one, the power of miracles; another,
prophecy; another the gift of recog-
nising spirits; another the gift of
tongues and another the ability to
interpret them. All these are the
work of one and the same Spirit,
who distributes different gifts to
different people just as he chooses.

The Word of the Lord

Give the Lord, you families of
peoples,
give the Lord glory and power;
give the Lord the glory of his name.
(R)

Worship the Lord in his temple.
O earth, tremble before him.
Proclaim to the nations: 'God is
king.'
He will judge the peoples in
fairness. (R)

♪ Hymns for Today ♪

651 Sing of Christ, Proclaim His Glory
80 Bind Us Together
285 Here I Am, Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia Alleluia!
Your words are spirit, Lord,
And they are life:
You have the message of eternal life.
Alleluia!

Gospel John 2:1-12

There was a wedding at Cana in Galilee.
The mother of Jesus was there, and Jesus
and his disciples had also been invited.
When they ran out of wine, since the wine
provided for the wedding was all finished,
the mother of Jesus said to him, "They
have no wine." Jesus said, "Woman, why
turn to me? My hour has not come yet."
His mother said to the servants, "Do what-
ever he tells you." There were six stone
water jars standing there, meant for the
ablutions that are customary among the
Jews; each could hold twenty or thirty
gallons. Jesus said to the servants, "Fill the
jars with water," and they filled them to
the brim. "Draw some out now," he told
them, "and take it to the steward." They
did this; the steward tasted the water, and
it had turned into wine. Having no idea
where it came from – only the servants
who had drawn the water knew - the stew-
ard called the bridegroom and said,
"People generally serve the best wine first,
and keep the cheaper sort till the guests
have had plenty to drink; but you have
kept the best wine till now." This was the
first of the signs given by Jesus: it was
given at Cana in Galilee. He let his glory
be seen, and his disciples believed in him.

The Gospel of the Lord

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 and those who have died.

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for January

Let us pray for migrants, refugees, and those affected by war, that their right to an education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be respected.

After listening to today's readings let us now consider the following reflections:

Fr Henry Wansbrough's reflection.

Year C is the year of Luke's gospel, but we start with this reading from John which recounts the symbolic beginning of Jesus' ministry. It is full of riches. After the first reading from Isaiah it is impossible not to see this 'sign' (as John calls it) as a sign of that final wedding-feast of God and his people. Furthermore, in Jewish thought, water represents the Law: in an arid land water is the sign of life and is precious – just so, the Law of God is precious and gives life. Jesus transforms this water of the Law into the wine of the New Covenant – and in such generous quantities: over one hundred gallons of wine! Then there is Mary's part: Jesus says his Hour has not yet come (and the reader knows that the Hour of Jesus will be the moment of his exaltation at the Cross and Resurrection), but Mary's confident plea is a reminder to us of the power of her intercession. She will be mentioned no more in this gospel till she is present at the Cross, sharing the passion of her Son and joined to the Beloved Disciple to form the first Christian community. Why did Jesus choose to do this as his first miracle?

And of Fr. Robert Draper

Apart from the Mass of Christmas morning, it is a long time since we have read from John's gospel in the Liturgy. When compiling the Lectionary, it was decided that the second Sunday in Ordinary time should always have a gospel of John, the evangelist who states unequivocally: 'The Word became Flesh' and so tie the time of the Incarnation into the time of Christ's ministry. Today's gospel is the wedding feast at Cana, the third of the great epiphanies revealing who Christ is. John never calls Jesus' great works 'miracles', they are signs, and signs indicate something: 'This was the first of the signs given by Jesus; it was given at Cana in Galilee. He let his glory be seen and his disciples believed in him.' The sign he gives is remarkable by its extravagance, not only is there a vast amount of wine, but it is the best wine. But it is a sign that reveals his glory - who he is - and it is given for one purpose only - not to impress, but so that his disciples might believe in him. By giving this sign at a wedding, John wants us to appreciate how Jesus is fulfilling the great marriage covenant motif of the Old Testament - the always faithful God who weds the unfaithful Israel. In this scene Jesus' address of his mother as 'woman' and his insistence that his hour has not come will resonate with John's Passion account - the fulfilment of the covenant that reconciles the new Israel to God. What John calls 'signs' require interpretation, and such an interpretation requires the reader to enter deeply into the Mystery which is Christ, if the full meaning is to become apparent, and Christ is to be known, and his disciples to believe in him.

Money Matters



The collection for last Sunday was €157.40. All monies collected are deployed to cover the costs of running our community and for good causes

PRAYER AT THE END OF MASS

As suggested by His Holiness, Pope Francis:

Holy Michael, 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 thrust down to hell, Satan, and all wicked spirits who wander through the world for the ruin of souls.

Dates for your Diaries

- 21st Jan 2025: 4.00 pm to 5.00 pm Bible Study Group in English at Santa Lucija Church
- 22nd Jan 2025. Annual Ecumenical Service. See attached flyer.
- 26th Jan 2025 Community Lunch €16 Valley View. Booking form outside chapel
- 13th Feb 2025 3.30 pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in English at Ghasri followed by refreshments

January Celebrations

Birthdays

- 14th Hazel Cranston
- 31st Tom Welch

“My mother thinks I am the best. And I was raised to always believe what my mother tells me” - Diego Maradona

Readers Rota

19-Jan Readings	Vince Vella	Prayers	Stella Woodgate
26-Jan Readings	Stella Woodgate	Prayers	Rachel Holland
02-Feb Readings	Rachel Holland	Prayers	Chris Holland
09-Feb Readings	Chris Holland	Prayers	Mary Newman
16-Feb Readings	Tom Welch	Prayers	Andy Young
23-Feb Readings	Andy Young	Prayers	Mary Newman
02-Mar Readings	Mary Newman	Prayers	Vince Vella

Contacts:

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

The Legion of Mary in Gozo
in collaboration with the Diocese of Gozo
and the Anglican Congregation of Our Lady
and St George Gozo has the pleasure to
invite English-speaking persons
of all denominations for the

Annual Ecumenical Service

on the occasion of the Octave of Prayer for Church Unity
Wednesday, 22th January 2025 at 16.00 hours
at the Parish Church of St Paul's Shipwreck, Munxar.



*Wishing you all heavenly blessings for the
new year and we hope to meet you.*