

Feast of Our Lady of Loreto

2009 Official Program of Activities

This translation into English was made by Ghajnsielem.com for the benefit of the foreigners living among us, the emigrants and all English-speaking people.



Thursday 13th August

Consecration of the Parish Day

9.00am - Mass followed by solemn adoration and eucharistic benediction in preparation for the feast.

7.30pm - Concelebrated Pontifical Mass led by Gozo Bishop Mgr. Mario Grech in occasion of the 20h anniversary of the consecration of the new Parish Church with the solemn singing of the Vespers and the incensing of the crosses

Friday 14th August

8.15pm - A night of silence and prayer at 'Ta Pinu' Sanctuary. The Ghajnsielem community will join the rest of the Gozo diocese in this vigil of prayers on the occasion of the feast of the Assumption of Our Lady. Transport at 7.30pm.

Saturday 15th August

Solemnity of the Glorious Assumption of the Virgin

Being a day of obligation, mass is performed as per Sunday's schedule

Sunday 16th August

Thanksgiving Day for the Catholic Priesthood

Open Day at Radju Lauretana Studios.

10.00am - Thanksgiving Mass led by Fr. Anthony Bajada. Lauretana Choir will animate the mass.

Monday 17th August

8.00pm – Mass at the Tower zone. Confession is available from 7.30pm onwards. Transport provided from Main Square at 7.30pm. A small banquet will be held afterwards.

Tuesday 18th August

Today we take part in the diocesan pilgrim at Mgarr, Malta

Wednesday 19th August

Day dedicated to our relatives who started the journey to the eternal life

As a preparation for the feast, it would be worth and deserving if we make some form of fasting throughout the day

8.00pm – Holy Mass at the Ghajnsielem Cemetery presided by Archpriest Can. Frankie Bajada.

8.30pm - Joyous mota marking the start of the official Feast Celebrations

Thursday 20th August

First day of the Novena – Vocations Day

During the Novena days, a charity campaign will be held. Preserves and financial donations can be left adjacent the artal of Our Lady of Loreto

6.30pm - Recitation of the rosary

7.00pm – Solemn concelebration presided by Archpriest Can. Frankie Bajada, in which the investiture of new altarboys takes place.

8.30pm – GHAJNSIELEMFEST '09 – Musical Talent show organized by the Ghajnsielem Local Council. The show will take place in the main square and broadcasted live on Radju Lauretana.

Friday 21st August

Second day of the Novena – Catholic Engagement Day

6.30pm - Recitation of the rosary

7.00pm – Solemn concelebration with the participation of members of the local religious orders and Eucharistic communities. The children who this year received the First Holy Communion and Holy Confirmation are also invited.

9.00pm – BBQ at 'Fuq il-Ghajn' Street. All emigrants are invited to attend.

Saturday 22nd August

Third day of the Novena – Children's Happiness Day

9.00am - Animated Holy Mass for all local children. An activity will then be held at the Parish Center

6.15pm - Recitation of the rosary, Salve Regina and Eucharistic Celebration followed by Novena Mass

Sunday 23rd August

Fourth day of the Novena – Charity Day

An Open Day will be held at the St Joseph Band Club which will include a classic vechiles show at 9.00am, a talent exhibition at 11.00am and several activates cultural shows from 7.30pm onwards. The general public is invited to attend.

10.00am – Holy Mass led by Fr. Joseph Farrugia with special prayers for the married couples especially those who this year are celebrating 25, 50 and 60 years of marriage. Lauretana Choir will animate the mass.

5.00pm – Holy Mass and presentation of the babies and children to Our Lady of Loreto

Monday 24th August

Fifth day of the Novena – Consecrated and Apostolic Life Day

6.30pm - Recitation of the rosary, Salve Regina and Eucharistic celebration.

7.00pm – Solemn concelebration with the participation of all members of the local religious orders

8.15pm – Band March by St Joseph Band starting from Garden Street and ending in the main square.

10.00pm – Titular statue taken out of its niche among the Marian hymns of the present crowd. Last feast collection.

Tuesday 25th August

Sixth day of the Novena – Youths Talent Day

6.30pm - Recitation of the rosary and Eucharistic celebration.

7.00pm – Solemn concelebration with the participation and animation of the local youths

9.00pm – The St Joseph Band will perform a musical program in the main square under the direction of Director Sunny Galea and Ass. Director Frankie Debono. The concert starts with a short band march from the Band Club's premises.

Wednesday 26th August

First day of the Solemn Triduum in preparation for the Solemnity – Emigrants Day

6.30pm - Celebration of the Vespers

7.00pm – Solemn concelebration led by Archpriest Can. Frankie Bajada. Sermon delivered by Can. Mikiel Borg. Hymn, antiphon and Eucharistic benediction. All emigrants are invited to take an active part in this ceremony.

9.30pm – Marian vigil of prayers in the main square led by Fr. Emmanuel Magro.

Thursday 27th August

Second day of the Solemn Triduum – Priest Vocations Day

6.30pm - Celebration of the Vespers

7.00pm – Solemn concelebration led by Fr. Joe Cardona. Sermon delivered by Can. Mikiel Borg. Hymn, antiphon and Eucharistic benediction.

9.30pm – Traditional Band March from Simirat Street ending in the St Joseph Band Club premises. St Joseph Band will be joined by Qala's 'Ite ad Joseph'.

Friday 28th August

Third day of the Solemn Triduum – Hope of the Holy Cross Day

9.00am – The sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick is administered to the sick and the elderly members of the parish.

6.00pm – Celebration of the Vespers

7.00pm – Solemn concelebration led by Mons Joseph Zerafa. Sermon delivered by Can. Mikiel Borg. Hymn, antiphon and Eucharistic benediction.

9.00pm – Nadur's 'Mnarja' band will play a short band march from J. F. De Chambray Street and then perform a musical program in the main square.

9.30pm – Grand demonstration with the statue of 'Our Lady of Home' starting from Mgarr Road ending in the main square. The St Joseph Band and Xaghra's 'Victory' Band will take part.

12.00am – The statue will be elevated onto its pedestal in a unique way among the chanting of 'Ave Maria' and 'Viva x-Xemx'. A huge fire-planes display will follow.

Saturday 29th August

Conclusion of the Solemn Triduum

8.30am - Pontifical concelebration presided by Mons. Giovanni B. Gauci, Vicar General of the Diocese. The Te Deum hymn concludes the solemn Triduum.

5.15pm – St Joseph Band plays marches from Cordina Street.

6.30pm – The St Joseph Band and the members of the religious orders will then accompany the solemn procession of the Relic which departs from the Old Parish Church. The procession will be led by Vigarju Mons Giovanni Bosco Gauci.

7.00pm – Celebration of the First Verpers of the Solemnity, presided by Archpriest Can. Frankie Bajada.

8.00pm – Mass

9.00pm – Victoria's 'La Stella' Band will play a band march from Garden Street followed by a musical program in the square.

9.30pm – Traditional "Marc ta' lejlet il-festa" starting from Hamri street and ending in the main square. Band marches performed by the St Joseph Band and Xaghra's 'Victory' Band.

12.00am – Grand ground-fireworks and musical display

Sunday 30th August

Feast of Our Lady of Loreto

Mass at 5.00am, 6.00am, 7.00am, 8.00am

9.00am - Pontifical Eucharistic Concelebration of the Solemnity presided by the Gozo Bishop Emeritus, Mons Nikol Cauchi. The 'Cappella Diacono' under the direction of Mons. Gwann Galea will animate the concelebration.

Mass continues at 11.00am, 4.30pm, 5.30pm

5.15pm – Band March from Sannat's 'Santa Margerita' Band starting from Hamri street and ending in the main square.

6.30pm – Solemn Vespers led by Arcpreist Emeritus Mons, Joseph Zerafa.

6.30pm – The St Joseph Band Club will start a short band march from the Apparition Square (Fawwara Street).

7.30pm – Appearance of the statue of 'Our Lady of Loreto'. A Pontifical Procession will then start along the main streets. The St Joseph Band proudly accompanies the procession with the performance of religious hymns.

7.45pm – Victoria's Leone Band will perform a musical program in the main square.

10.25pm – The procession arrives in the main square ending with a triumphal entrance of the statue. Arcpriest Can. Frankie Bajada will then execute the popular antiphon and Eucharistic celebration.

11.00pm – Band march by St Joseph Band starting from Apparition square and ending at midnight in the main square.