



ST. JOSEPH BAND CLUB  
GHAJNSIELEM  
A.D. 1928

## Four Day Trip at Palazzolo Acreide, Sicily with St Joseph Band

### Dates

Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> June – Wednesday 30<sup>st</sup> June 2010

### Accommodation

**Hotel Colle Del Acre** - Via Giuseppe Campailla, Palazzolo Acreide

**Hotel Santoro** - Via S. Sebastiano, 21 Palazzolo Acreide

**Hotel B/B Attico**- Via Duca A' Aosta, Palazzolo Acreide

### The Program

*\*schedule is still subject to minor changes*

#### Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> June:

- **3.45am** - Departure from Mgarr with the ferry (*time is subject to change according to the new summer timetable*)
- **7.00am** - Departure from Valletta
- **8.30am** - Arrival in Pozzallo at. A coach will transfer the guests to the hotels at Palazzolo Acreide
- **Free Day** - You will have the opportunity to visit various attractions such as the famous baroque historical center, six different Churches, the villa communal where one can relax and enjoy the Sicilian countryside and the ancient Greek town of Akrai. You can hear the mass in one of the several churches.
- **6.30pm** - Dinner.
- **8.30pm** – Short band march by St Joseph Band
- **9.30pm** – Traditional evening at the villa.

### Monday 28<sup>th</sup> June:

- **9.00am** - Departure for an afternoon of shopping at Auchan and nearby establishments
- **5.30pm** - The St Joseph Band will be present for the start of the "Giro di Gala". The band will join several locals and will march along the streets of the town. Soon after a wooden statue of St. Paul that has been covered by a mantle since the month of January, is carried outside the church amidst the sound of bells ringing, firecrackers and the crowd loudly crying "Viva San Paulu". The corteo ends at when the "Svelata" takes place (8.30pm) in which the image of St Paul is unveiled at dawn
- **8.30pm** – Dinner.
- **9.30pm** onwards – Musical and fireworks show in the main square

### Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> June:

- **9.00am** - The "bread cart" start going across the streets of the town. The cart is a special hand painted pushcart that is used to collect the "cudduri" – donut shaped breads with snake decorations – which are offered by the faithful and then, after being blessed in the church, sold at the highest bidders.
- **1.00pm** – The famous: "a sciuta", the exit, at 1.00 pm, of the relics and the statue of St. Paul from the church. Outside the church the sound of bells ringing, the music of the band, the shouts of the bearers and of the faithful, the firecrackers, the throwing of thousands of pieces of paper with "Viva S. Paolo" written on and of long stripes of coloured paper, called "nzareddi", welcome the procession. In a moment the imposing Baroque façade of the church, which has been decorated since the morning with hundreds of fire crackers and light guns shooting papers, the guns firing, a huge cloud of smoke and by the thousands of "nzareddi" that fall down, wriggling like snakes, over the crowd. After several fireworks, the relic of St. Paul is carried along some of the streets of the oldest part of the town.
- **7.00pm** - Dinner
- **9.00pm** – The St Joseph Band will host a musical program in the main square.

### Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> June:

- **9.00am** – Departure to a whole-day excursion tour to Taormina and Mount Etna. Taormina is a popular and picturesque spot, high above the sea and facing Etna. Etna is the largest active volcano in Europe.
- **8.00pm** – Arrival at Pozzallo
- **9.30pm** - Departure from Pozzallo to Valletta. The trip takes 90 minutes to Valletta.