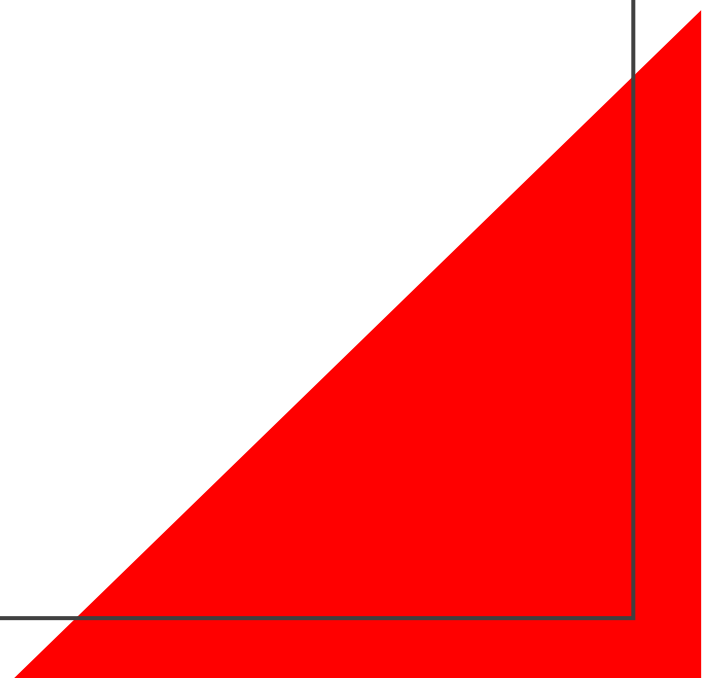


Malta during COVID-19

Rev. Matthew Pulis

RC Priest Archdiocese of Malta & PhD Candidate Pastoral Theology,
University of Malta



Context Pre-COVID

- Malta was preparing to welcome Pope Francis (Pentecost 2020)
 - Initiatives gearing up for this event:
 - Prayer booklet to be disseminated in the parishes across the island merging contemporary Christian art (by Maltese artists) and new meditations / prayers
- The Archdiocese was about to launch the Pastoral Plan 2020-23
 - A Church that **listens** (the Word of God and the espoused theology)
 - A Church that **welcomes** (everyone is welcomed in communion)
 - A Church that **accompanies** (accompanying with 'mercy and patience the eventual stages of personal growth' *(EG, 44)*)
 - A Church that **goes forth** (a missionary church which is enculturated)

New web-only initiatives – Diocese wide

- soter.church.mt

σωτήρ

[sōtēr - saviour]

"At Easter man is restored
to his lost dignity
and is, consequently, "given hope".
This is salvation"

Franciscus



New web-only initiatives – Diocese wide

- soter
 - Traditional prayers (Via Crucis, Via Matris, 7 moments) – replacing the physical booklet and in time for Holy Week
- beKIDS.mt



Mathieu Smith Rossignaud

6 years old



Upload Prayer Blog

 Sunday Liturgy

 Prayer Corner

 Heroes

 Know Your Faith

THIS WEEK



Are we ready?

—
Dad Sunday In Ordinary Time



St Martin's bag

—
Prayer Spaces at Home and A prayer for

New web-only initiatives – Diocese wide

- soter.church.mt
 - Traditional prayers (Via Crucis, Via Matris, 7 moments) – replacing the physical booklet and in time for Holy Week
- beKIDS.mt
 - Supporting parents in forming their children in the Christian faith with games, videos, podcasts and crafts + the Sunday Liturgy & Prayer corner
- rethink.mt



Socially lonely?

CHURCH IN SOCIETY
Matthew Puls 03/11/2020
3 minute read



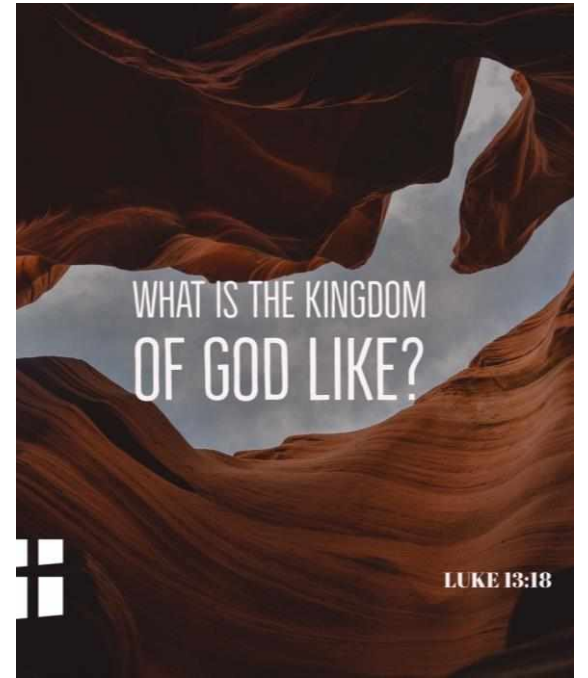
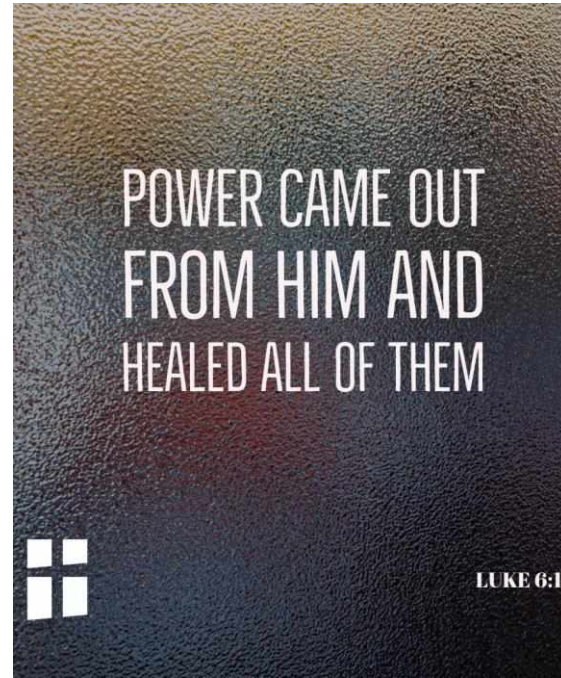
Trauma – 3 years later

POLITICS AND ECONOMICS
Nadia Delicata 30/10/2020
3 minute read



New web-only initiatives – Diocese wide

- soter.church.mt
 - Traditional prayers (Via Crucis, Via Matris, 7 moments) – replacing the physical booklet and in time for Holy Week
- beKIDS.mt
 - Supporting parents in forming their children in the Christian faith with games, videos, podcasts and crafts + the Sunday Liturgy & Prayer corner
- rethink.mt
 - A digital platform for reflection (5 entry points: politics & economics, our common home, tech, art, Church in society)
- Daily gospel reflection



Daily gospel reflections on Facebook



New hybrid models of Church (daily mass on TV)

COVID-19 SOLIDARITY BOXES

COVERING THE BASICS*



- Food (non-perishable)
- Vegetables & Fruit (fresh)
- Cleaning & Laundry
- Personal Care
- Baby & Nursery
- Stationery & Hobby

BOLSTERING WELLBEING IN HOUSEHOLDS FACING FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES

COST PER BOX

2 Adults & 2 Children €185.19 	2 Adults, 1 Child & 1 Infant €248.08 
1 Adult & 2 Children €165.03 	2 Elderly People €132.12 
Food, including Vegetables & Fruit (fresh) 	2 Adults, 1 Child & 1 Infant €83.40
Household & Personal Care 	2 Adults, 1 Child & 1 Infant €69.67
Baby, Stationery & Hobby 	2 Adults, 1 Child & 1 Infant €95.01

*The items in the boxes differ according to household type. They include non-perishable foods, as well as some vegetables and fruit which store well; but additional fresh foods would need to be added to make full, healthy meals for around 14 days. Special items have been included for households where there is an infant and/or children, and to cater for feminine hygiene and elderly dental needs. Reusable face masks have also been included. Some of the cleaning, laundering and waste management materials should last more than 14 days.

www.caritasmalta.org

COVID-19
CORONAVIRUS

Mental Health

Taking care of your Mental Health

Practical advice on maintaining health during the COVID-19 pandemic

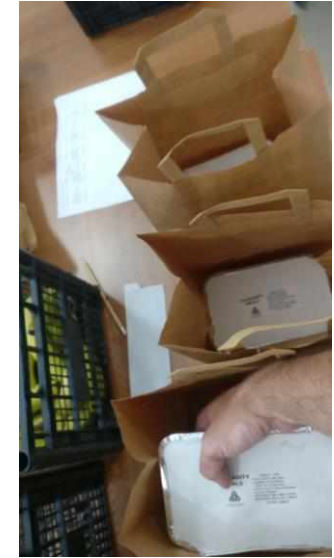


Take slow deep breaths. Breathe in through your nostrils and concentrate on the temperature of the air as it goes in (cool) and as it comes out (warm). This can help you to remain calm.

Mental Wellbeing
HELPLINE 1770

Health Promotion & Disease
Prevention Directorate

COVID-19
HELPLINE 111



New ways of doing charity



New initiatives in different parishes

Annual village feasts made much simpler and streamed online





New initiatives in different parishes

- Annual village feasts made much simpler and streamed online
- **Digital rosaries in different hamlets**

New initiatives in different parishes

- Annual village feasts made much simpler and streamed online
- Digital rosaries in different hamlets
- **Eucharistic processions around the parishes**



NISMA'...U NIKBER

P Glenn Attard O Carm
L-Erbgħat 11, 18, 25
Novembru 2020

Seawj permezz ta:

New initiatives
in different
parishes

- Annual village feasts made much simpler and streamed online
- Digital rosaries in different hamlets
- Eucharistic processions around the parishes
- **Online formation through Streaming**



New initiatives in different parishes

- Annual village feasts made much simpler and streamed online
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- Eucharistic processions around the parishes
- Online formation through Streaming
- **Online Bible Formation**

Online Bible Study Group



Weekly* virtual meetings in small groups (not more than 8) to reflect further and share together on Sunday's Gospel.

*no commitment



New initiatives in different parishes

- Annual village feasts made much simpler and streamed online
- Digital rosaries in different hamlets
- Eucharistic processions around the parishes
- Online formation through Streaming
- Online Bible Formation
- Domestic Church prayer
- **Lectio Groups**



...oved by the conviction that the Word of God is essential for any Christian who wants to take his...
...ose coming regularly to the liturgy, but not making part of a community, to join a small number o...
...e Word of God. These groups (usually made up of a maximum of 10 people) meet once a month ar...
...ord of God influence and empower their lives.

...ese groups are led by other lay members of the communities present at the Oratory, who have be...
...ars in their respective communities. The small groups offer the possibility, through contact with...
...journeying alone, while, also sharing experiences, so as to shed light on each other's life journey

New initiatives in different parishes

- Annual village feasts made much simpler and streamed online
- Digital rosaries in different hamlets
- Eucharistic processions around the parishes
- Online formation through Streaming
- Online Bible Formation
- Domestic Church prayer
- Lectio Groups
- **Weekly gospel reflections aimed at children & youths**



"IR-RIEDA TA' MISSIERKOM"
Mt 10, 26

FIL-PARROCCA TA' HAD-DINGLI

f LIVE XANDIRA DIRETTA

9:30AM | OMELIJA GHAT-TFAL

HAŻ-ŻGHAŻAĠH

Tajbin f' Hajjitna

10 TA' MARZU 2020 | 9PM
KNISJA ĠESU NAZZARENU,
SLIEMA

Post-COVID – The Maltese Church is enriched with:

- A deeper understanding of its **Catechetical mission & Catechesis is now in HYBRID mode (helping parents get involved in their child's formation)**
- While our go-to nature (as Catholics) remains the sacraments and sacramentals, as a Church we are thinking more **broadly**
- Parish priests were challenged to think outside the box and thus, prepared to move from an offline Church to a **hybrid model of Church**
- The Bishop entered the house of many families and many feel we are **one flock**
 - + Thinking from **Parish** → **Diocese**
- **Started implementing** the Pastoral Plan (... **journeying together**)
- Increase of **prayer life** in families
- Starting a new project as a Diocese to host & manage all the **parish websites** to make them centres for **digital pastoral activity** rather than mere noticeboards.