

THE MALTESE PRESENCE IN NORTH AMERICA



E-NEWSLETTER

Issue 17

AUGUST 2020



**THE MALTESE CANADIAN ASSOCIATION (GOZO) CELEBRATES CANADA DAY,
THURSDAY, JULY 1, 2020**

Courtesy of Maltese Canadian Association (Gozo)

**The Maltese Presence
in North America**
Issue No. 17 August 2020

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EDITORIAL COMMENT

More and more, you the readers are taking ownership of this newsletter. Since, even before the first issue appeared in January 2019, you were making suggestions for such a newsletter and contributing articles. This has since been followed by offers to proofread the issues and to post the back issues and the Table of Contents on the Maltese-American Social Club of San Francisco website. Moreover, you have referred others to me to add to the email lists or have taken it upon yourselves to print off copies to give to others.

In his bulletin for the weekend of July 11th-12th, Fr. Mario Micallef, the pastor of St. Paul the Apostle Parish in Toronto, noted that one couple related to him, with the coronavirus pandemic and the closure of the

churches they have taken to watching the Mass daily on television or the internet and have gotten to reflect on the readings of the day. "This enabled them to start appreciating more the beauty of the Bible and how it nourished them during this time." This struck a chord with me as I have found the daily readings while watching the Mass from home having the same effect. I'm sure others among the readership are having the same experience.

I see this as but another example of how God can bring good out of evil. We are seeing this every day now in how people are relating to family, friends and neighbours during these trying and uncertain times.

Within this issue are three biographical sketches, namely those of Carmelo Borg, Alphonso F. Cutaiair, Jr. and Monsignor Paul John Gauci. I was totally unaware of any of these individuals until they were brought to my attention by Carmen Borg, Gabriella Cutaiair Caldwell and Rena Xuereb respectively.

Over the past month or so restrictions because of the COVID-19 pandemic have eased up somewhat. This is reflected in the accounts of activities within some of the Maltese communities, especially with the celebration of Canada Day by members of the Maltese Canadian Association (Gozo).

Once again, our readers have been provided with another Maltese recipe with American modifications.

Father Mario has given us some more spiritual insights upon which to reflex and Dr. Raymond Xerri has shared with us what the Consulate General in Canada has been doing and plans to do to assist Maltese Canadians both in Canada and abroad, albeit under difficult circumstances.

This issue contains the newsletter's first paid advertisement. (See page 21.) While Joe Sherri is letting people know he is now providing products from Malta to the London, Ontario area, he has been active for some time in the East End

of Toronto, Hamilton, Niagara Falls, Wasaga Beach and Hamilton. In fact, he ships all over Canada and the United States on request.

If anyone else out there is interested in advertising in this newsletter, I can be initially reached at dbrock40@worldline.ca. Likewise, if you have suggestions or potential ideas for articles you can contact me the same way.

In less than two years this newsletter has gone beyond Canada and the United States and is literally received all over the world, e.g. Malta, Australia, the United Kingdom, China, Russia, Egypt, Germany, Turkey and Poland to name but a few of the countries.

How many thousands of individuals read this newsletter each month is impossible to calculate as, from the hundreds who receive this directly from me these individuals are free to, and do, send the issues out to others. Many print off copies to give to relatives and friends who often do not have access to a computer or would just prefer to be in possession of a hard copy.

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GLEANINGS FROM THE SUNDAY BULLETIN

PASTOR'S THOUGHTS...



Fr. Mario Micallef, M SSP, is pastor of St. Paul the Apostle, Toronto, the only Maltese national parish in North America. These "Pastor's thoughts..." are extracts from his commentaries on the Sunday readings which are published in the Parish's Sunday Bulletin.

For the Christian There Is no Love without Giving

Following Jesus means putting him before all else in one's life. This is where conflicts may arise, and when the statement of Jesus, "whoever loves father and mother more than me is not worthy of me" makes sense. because there are times in our lives when those who are closest to us encourage us to do things that are contrary to Jesus' teaching. Often, we hear them telling us to look after our interests first, not to forgive those who do not "deserve" our forgiveness, to ask "What's in it for me?" when you do something to others. The way of Jesus is totally different. Moreover, he knows that once we choose to follow him and live his kind of life, tension within the family might arise. He even speaks about the "cross" that we are to take up in order to follow him. Again, the implication is that of giving one's life to others, for Jesus. The cross was the instrument by which he acted out this act of complete, self-giving love. Indeed, for the Christian there is no love without giving. "God so loved the world that gave his only son," St John says in his gospel when he reflects about the reason of Jesus' coming to the world. 'and it ended, as we saw, with Jesus' own self-giving on the cross.

Our God Is a God Who Love and Who Cares

Very often when things go "wrong" we tend to grumble or find it hard to accept the situation. Jesus knows that the Father is the "Lord" of heaven and earth. He can do anything, and He is good! Often, we take it against God because we do not really know Him, and not knowing Him we do not, therefore, trust Him! Jesus tells us that we can only come to know the Father if Jesus chooses to reveal Him to us. And that is exactly what he has done. Constantly throughout his life Jesus' mission was to help us understand that our God is a God who loves and who cares. He addresses Him as Father (a novelty

for those times or, rather a blasphemy!) and invites us to do the same teaching us the "Our Father". As if that were not enough, he even addresses Him with the familiar term Abba, daddy! Surely, having such a relationship with God would help a lot in difficult times.

....Walking close to Jesus will surely help us in the difficult moments of life. It might not solve the problem or change anything "out there." But it will definitely give us peace as together we rest in the arms of our loving Father.

God's Word Is Like the Rain

....The Word of God often challenges us to examine our lives, change things that need to be changed or improve on how we are living our Christian values. Unfortunately, sometimes we find it too difficult to get rid of these things, and they overcome whatever God would have loved to do in our lives through his Word. I know I need to ask God's help to be really set free from whatever it is in my life that may be stifling God's action in me. Once that process of freeing myself begins, then God's Word will find in me the "good Ground". Once that happens Jesus assures us that good things start happening. It's not important how quick or how much fruit it gives. The important thing is that good things start happening.

Sometimes it takes time for me to start seeing the results. But...God's Word is like the rain that always brings forth growth, even if it takes time.

God Is Not Quick to Judge and Punish

....If it were up to us, we would get rid of those who are evil in our world, and even expel from our churches those who are not up to standard. We are very quick to be jury and judge, when it comes to other people of course! Jesus makes it clear that it is not up to us to judge others. Judgement will happen at the right time, and the only judge is God. In the meantime, He gives us time to change course, to right what is wrong.

Of course, this applies even to ourselves....When judging others, we put ourselves on a pedestal, pretending that we are better than "them". This is a good opportunity to look at our lives, and see what that bad seed is that needs to be removed. This could be our arrogance, selfishness, insincerity, judgements...and the list goes on. As we often hear it said, nobody is perfect" Thankfully, our God is not one who is quick to judge and punish. He gives us ample time to truthfully look at ourselves and put right that which is bad.

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TRIBUTE PAID TO FRANK SCICLUNA

In June 2020 Frank Scicluna retired, after 17 years, as Honorary Consul of Malta in the State of South Australia, Australia. Frank is also and continues to be the editor of the Maltese E-Newsletter – The Journal of Maltese Living Abroad. The following is Dr. Raymond Xerri's tribute to Frank.



I would like to express my profound gratitude and appreciation on behalf of myself, my family and the nearly one million Maltese and Gozitan diaspora spread in 190 countries for your steadfast dedication and hard work over the past lifetime, not only the 17 years you have served as Honorary Consul of Malta to our community in the State of South Australia with such love, passion and dedication but to your unique service to Global Malta.

Global Malta is indebted to you and your team for your sterling service by bridging our diaspora communities everywhere. Our 'Maltese E-Newsletter - The Journal of the Maltese Diaspora' which you edit, has increased the much needed awareness in the Maltese Islands, in continental Europe and around the world that the country of Malta is not just the population of the Maltese in Malta and Gozitans in Gozo, but we are a Global Malta, a global nation with roots and presence everywhere, like any other country around the world.

Thanks to you and your newsletter, Maltese-Canadians have become aware more than ever before of the importance of learning about their compatriots around the world and you have been key to this development and important step.

Frank, thank you so much for your service, your work as a Councillor on the Council of Maltese Living Abroad when I was Director for the Directorate for Maltese Living Abroad, for your friendship and your love for our nation, Global Malta. May God bless you, your family and friends. I sincerely wish you a very happy retirement.

All the best,

Dr Raymond C. XERRI
Consul General of the Republic of Malta
to the Commonwealth of Canada

César A. Zapata Lozada of Puerto Rico has learned that Angelo Serra (1778-1867) of Malta immigrated to Puerto Rico in 1800 and settled in Penuelas in the southwestern part of the Island. There he became a merchant and one of the richest landowners in the area. At one time he owned some 73 slaves. He had 11 children by his wife and two natural children.

READER COMMENTS RELATING TO THE JULY ISSUE

Thank you for another great newsletter. I so enjoy reading about so many Maltese groups in North America....I really appreciate all your work and those of the contributors to this newsletter.

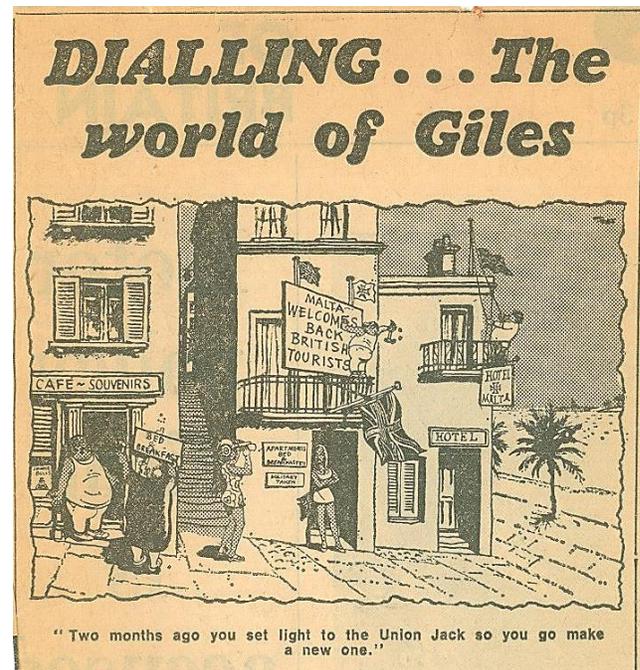
Louise Grech Weglarz, Michigan

Enjoy your newsletter. Keep up the good work.

Barbara Fenech, California

Good issue. Lots of info to digest.

Fred Aquilina, California



THE humour of Daily Express cartoonist Giles has tickled Malta's Premier Dom Mintoff. Soon after Giles's cartoon on Malta appeared in yesterday's Daily Express the island's High Commission phoned asking for the original for Mr. Mintoff.

"The air mail Daily Express was on his desk in Malta by nine in the morning," they said. "Mr. Mintoff has a very fine sense of humour and he has a cartoon collection."

Giles's framed original will soon join Mr. Mintoff's collection.

This undated clipping from the Daily Express of London, England was sent to me by Hilary Neary of London, Ontario.

I'm wondering whether this cartoon was reprinted in any of the annual collections of Giles' cartoons.

I'm curious to know when it originally appeared. Do any of you readers know?

CARMELO BORG: NOT YOUR TYPICAL MALTESE IMMIGRANT: PART I

Carmen Borg and Dan Brock



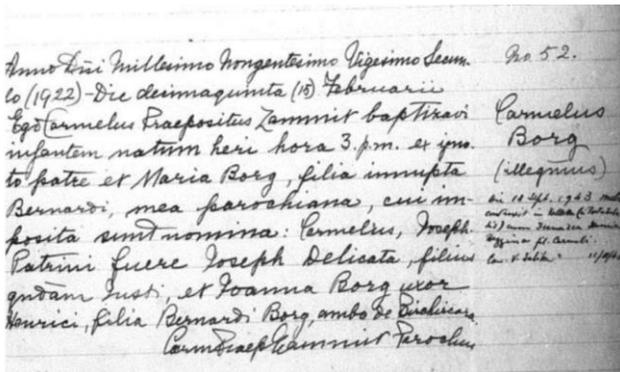
Carmen Borg, daughter of Carmelo Borg, is a (14-year) professional Maltese researcher.

**(maltamade@gmail.com)
(Malta Family Tree Maker)
(BacktoMalta.blogspot.com).**

Carmelo Borg crossed over into Detroit from Windsor in mid-October 1948 seeking to live permanently in the United States.

Unlike the married Maltese males who arrived in North America after World War II Carmelo Borg's family life would not be typical nor was his family background either.

Carmelo Borg was born out of wedlock, on February 14, 1922. His mother, Maria, was the 23-year-old daughter of Bernard and Emelia (Leone) Borg. She named him after his father, Carmelo, but because of his illegitimacy was unable to give him the Psaila surname. Her nickname for him was Gabrieleen after the archangel Gabriel.



Registration of Carmelo's Baptism.

Note: Even if the mother knew the name of the father, if they were not married the baptism always read "father unknown." Writing "illegitimate" on the right-hand side was another stamp of Church disapproval.

Baptismal Register, St. Helen's Parish, Birkirkara

At the age of 26, Maria married Carmelo Briffa. The Briffas were to have a total of seven children, Julian, born in 1927, being the eldest. Maria died at the age of 44 of colon cancer. She was buried within St. Helen's Parish in Birkirkara as her father, Bernard, worked at the church as a stonemason.



Maria (Borg) Briffa, Carmelo Briffa, Julian (seated) and Carmelo Borg (standing) c. 1929

Less than a year after his wife's death, in May of 1943, Carmelo Briffa married Anna Sammut, no doubt to help raise his children.

Carmelo Borg's natural father was Carmelo (Karmnu) Psaila. Carmelo was the son of Antonio and Concetta (Galea) Psaila and was born on March 7, 1896 in Msida. He was a barber by trade.

Some two months after he had impregnated Maria, Psaila applied for and received a passport in August 1921, to immigrate to Tripoli.



**Carmelo Psaila's Passport Photo, 1921.
Note the Rust Stain from the Iron Pin which
Affixed the Photo to the Passport Application**

For generations, the Maltese had immigrated to this former part of the Ottoman Empire. Ottoman Tripolitania was taken over by Italy in 1911 and two colonies, Italian Tripoli and Italian Cyrenaica, were established.

As Italian was the language of the courts in Malta at the time and the Maltese were generally more fluent in Italian than in English it would be relatively easy for the post-1911 arrivals in Tripoli to adjust to their new situation.

Shortly after receiving his passport Carmelo married Mrs. Vittorina Muscat Zammit on September 14, 1921 in Valletta. Vittorina, the daughter of Joseph and Giulia (Marmara) Zammit of Valletta, was a seamstress, her first husband being Edgar Muscat.



Vittorina Muscat Zammit's Passport Photo, 1920

This and the preceding photo courtesy of the National Archives of Malta

Carmelo and Vittorina migrated to Tripoli at the end of 1921. They and thousands of other Maltese coexisted peacefully with the Libyans and the Italians for many years. Carmelo owned and operated a barber shop on Suk el Turk, in Tripoli. Vittorina's millinery shop was located in the same shopping district. Vittorina gave birth to Carmelo's son, Joseph, in September 1924.



Suk el Turk, Tripoli, Libya, 1935

Mussolini came to power in Italy, in 1922, as the first fascist dictator in 20th century Europe.

Gradually, the Maltese Tripolini were faced with the choice of following all the Italian laws or facing the loss of being British subjects, especially in the case of their children. Defying those laws would jeopardize their British status. Most chose the former and ended up in

Italian concentration camps during the Second World War.*

After the invasion of Ethiopia by the Italians in October 1935 Italy received the Aouzou Strip along the northern Chad which was added to Libya through the Mussolini-Laval Agreement.

The Maltese spoke privately about their disdain for Mussolini. Only a few spoke openly and passionately against the Italian rule while speaking highly of Great Britain. One of these few was Carmelo Psaila.

He spent his mornings at the Café Italia in the Piazza dell-Orologio, reading the Italian newspapers, among them the *Avvenire di Tripoli*, and commenting unfavorably in public on every item of news which had a ring of victory for Fascist Italy. He made the same comments to his clients back at the shop and the neighboring shop-keepers. The habit of disparaging Italy got people's attention and soon he was being watched. When he realized he was in trouble he affixed small notices to the mirrors in his shop requesting his clients not speak of political matters. It was too late.

Subsequently, he was arrested and charged with the crime of political defeatism. The Special Tribunal found him guilty on March 24, 1936 and sentenced him to three years and eight months imprisonment after which he would be expelled from the country and sent back to Malta without his family or his passport.

He was one of two men, the other being Robert Ghirlando, a shipping agent and President of the Maltese Community in Tripoli, who were arrested and imprisoned.

Through the intervention of the British Government, however, both men were released a couple months after sentencing and expelled from Tripoli.

Carmelo arrived back in Malta, via the Italian vessel S.S. *Garibaldi*, on June 13, 1936, leaving his wife and child back in Tripoli to manage his affairs.

Vittorina and Joseph were transported to a concentration camp in Italy during the Second World War and after the War returned to Tripoli. Joseph married and started a family while caring of his mother, Vittorina, until her death in 1958.

Back in Malta, Carmelo found employment managing a bar on Strait Street in Valletta in the late 1930s. There he met Rosina Mifsud, daughter of Emanuel and Carmela (nee Briffa) Mifsud. They moved in together and had two daughters, Carmen (b. 1939) and Doris (b. 1942). The girls also had to be given their mother's surname of Mifsud because their parents were not married.

Unfortunately, Rosina died of T.B. in April of 1944 at the age of 33. Because Carmen and Doris's parents

*A recent documentary on this is Mario Xuereb's *Forced Displacement and interment: The Case of the Maltese Tripolini (1910-1945) found on the Internet.*

were not married the Church compelled the children to be put into an orphanage. They were subsequently placed at the Good Shepherd Convent in Balzan under the care of Sister Agnes Azzopardi. After the Church took in the children Carmelo Psaila never saw them again. The two girls stayed in the orphanage until they came of age and went to live with their Aunt Mary and Uncle Sam Balson in Toronto, Canada.

After Rosina's death, Carmelo moved in with his maternal first cousin, Rita Galea, at 66 Ta' Xbiex Coast Road in Msida. There, he managed her bar, The Rita. Rita, who had a daughter, Josephine (b. 1944), cared for Carmelo until his death.



**Carmelo Psaila
and Rita Galea's Daughter, Josephine,
Photographed Inside "The Rita." (c. 1950)**

Carmelo Psaila left this world on November 26, 1957 not knowing any of his children. Along with his family and friends the four children longed to be with him and were left broken hearted.

Meanwhile, his natural son, Carmelo Borg, had grown to manhood. In 1939, he joined the Royal Engineers with the British Army, Malta Division and was assigned to the 16th and the 24th (Fortress) companies. During World War II he was engaged in a range of engineering tasks, including bomb disposal.

Carmelo Borg married Francesca Bezzina, in Valletta, on September 18, 1943. "Kikka," a native of the city, was born on July 10, 1924, the daughter of Carmelo and Maria Stella (Azzopardi) Bezzina. The Borgs started their new life living next to Kikka's mother at 117 St. Joseph Street, Valletta. In quick succession, they had four children—Mary Stella, Rosaria, Anthony "Tony" and Emmanuela "Lily." Their first two daughters died unexpectedly. Rosaria, age 1½, died of acute enteritis on July 15, 1946 followed by Mary Stella, age 2½, 11 days later, of acute bronchitis preceded by the measles.

At the time of the second death of his precious daughters Carmelo attempted suicide wanting to jump off the third story roof of their family unit. The constant howling of a neighboring dog had only made his state of mind worse. Thankfully, a friend of the family talked him down to safety.

Coming to his senses, Carmelo vowed right there and then to get out of Malta. He had seen enough death. All the years of war, the bombings, the death of innocent people, the death of his mother, the death of his grandfather, Bernard Borg, who died in his bed and now the death of his two daughters mentally took him to the point of despair.

Only once had he met his biological father, Carmelo Psaila, and that was after joining the army. He did not like his cruel stepfather Carmelo Briffa. All he had was his wife, Kkika

He wanted a new start. That new start had to be off the island of Malta. He felt it had to be done and that it was his only chance of making it in this world. He didn't have anything left here.

Carmelo then worked at convincing Kikka that they must leave the Island for America. He explained that he had an uncle in Detroit who would help him get a job, a good job. He would send for her and the kids once he got settled.

The maternal uncle, Emmanuele Borg, arrived in New York on the S.S. *Lafayette* on February 20, 1920. From New York City, Emmanuele took a train to 3rd Avenue in downtown Detroit. He settled into his new home at 1563 Abbott Street, located between Sixth and Trumbull south of Corktown, where most of the Maltese lived and immediately started working at Chrysler Corporation nearby. Emmanuel was to enjoy many good years in this middle-class job.

Everything was going to work out great for Carmelo too if he could just move to America. That was his dream ever since he watched over and over the newsreels showing how beautiful America was. His mind was made up. He wrote often to his uncle Emmanuele and made plans for the family to start making their way to the Promised Land.



**Carmelo Borg's Passport
Photo, 1948**

Courtesy of the
National Archives of Malta

To be continued

MONTHLY MESSAGE FROM THE CONSUL GENERAL OF THE REPUBLIC OF MALTA TO CANADA

Ser nagħmlu dak kollu possibbli sabiex gradwalment nifitnu l-Konsulat Ġenerali



**Dr Raymond Xerri,
Il-Konslu Ġenerali /
Consul General**

L-imxija COVID19 tinsab taħt kontrol hawn fil-Kanada grazzi għas-sagrifiċċi kbar tal-maġġoranza assoluta tal-Kanadiżi u mill-komunitajiet kollha li jiffurmaw dan il-pajjiż li koll il-ħalsu l-prezz qares ta' mwiet minnħabba dan l-għadu invizibbli. L-istess ġara fil-komunita' Maltija-Kanadiża.

Issa li dħalna fi Stage 3, li jnvolvi il-ftuħ mill-ġdid tal-Belt ta' Toronto, ifisser li l-Konsolat Ġenerali tar-Repubblika ta' Malta fil-Kanada ser jerġa' gradwalment jiftaħ għall-pubbliku. Fl-ewwel ġimgħat t'Awwissu, il-Konslu Ġenerali ser jaqdi appuntamenti li għandhom x'jaqsmu mall-prokuri, Life Certificate, attestazzjonijiet, registrazzjonijiet tat-Twelid u taż-Żwiġijiet fost materji urgenti oħra. Fl-aħħar ġimgħatejn, ser nibdew nieħdu applikazzjonijiet għaċ-ċittadinanza Maltija.

Hemm eluf t'appuntamenti li akkumulaw f'dawn l-aħħar erba' xhur u li jridu jiġu moqdija. Ovjament, min ċempel l-ewwel ser jiġi moqdi l-ewwel. Huwa kruċjali li jekk għandek appuntament mal-Konsulat Ġenerali rigward applikazzjonijiet taċ-ċittadinanza inti trid iċċempel waqt il-ħinijiet tax-xogħol jew preferibilmint tibgħat fuq l-email: maltaconsulate.toronto@gov.mt. Aħna qed nappellaw biex tieħdu f'it paċenzja waqt dawn iż-żminijiet diffiċli waqt li qegħdin immexxu bl-appuntamenti li kienu għandhom mhux moqdija qabel l-imxija COVID19.

Iċ-Ċittadinanza Maltija hija l-aktar rigal ta' valur li wieħed jista' jiret mill-ġenituri/nanniet

Il-Maltin-Kanadiżi għandhom grazzja kbira li qed jgħixu go post tant sabiħ u kbir bħal ma hu l-Kanada. L-ewwel generazzjoni Maltija emigraw lejn il-Kanada biex iwettqu il-ħolma tagħhom u jibdew ħajja ġdida f'post kompletament differenti ambjentalment minn art twelidhom. Dawn ħadmu u bagħtew ħafna biex jkollhom dar tagħhom, jedukaw lil uliedhom mill-aħjar li setgħu, u assiguraw li jirrispettaw il-kultura Kanadiża u il-mod ta' kif jgħixu ħajjithom biex jintegraw tajjeb tant li wieħed bilkemm jirrealizza li dawn oriġinaw mill-Gżejjer Maltin. Il-Maltin saru litteralment Kanadiżi li jħobbu ħafna dan

We will do our best to serve you as we gradually open the Consulate General

COVID-19 has been placed under control here in Canada with tremendous sacrifice from the overwhelming majority. All communities that make up this country have paid the price with deaths caused by this invisible enemy. This includes our Maltese Canadian community.

Entering stage 3 of opening in the City of Toronto means the Consulate General of the Republic of Malta to Canada is gradually reopening. During the two weeks of August, the Consul General will deal with appointments related to the signing of Powers of Attorney, Life Certifications, Attestations, Birth and Marriage Registrations and as usual with all urgent matters. After the first two weeks, Maltese citizenship applications will be accepted.

There are a few thousand appointments that have accumulated over the past four months and need to be dealt with in order of who called in first gets served first. It is crucial that if you have an appointment to place with the Consulate General related to Maltese citizenship applications you need to call during office hours or preferably send an email on maltaconsulate.toronto@gov.mt. We ask you for your patience during our difficult task of dealing with all the pending appointments.

Maltese Citizenship is the most valuable gift one can inherit from one's parents and/or grandparents

Maltese Canadians are blessed to be living in such a vast, beautiful and great country as Canada. The first-generation Maltese who immigrated to Canada fulfilled the dream of starting a new beginning in a completely different environment than their homeland could offer them. Most endeavoured to work very hard to own their own home and to educate their children to the max. They were careful to ensure that they respected all Canadian values and the Canadian way of life by integrating so well that one can hardly realize that they actually originated from the Maltese Islands. These Maltese immigrants have become truly Canadians who love dearly their adoptive country, but have never forgotten where they came from and treasure both their Maltese and Canadian citizenships.

The second generation of Maltese or partial-Maltese ancestry, since many marry other nationalities, are spilt in their approach to Maltese citizenship. There are those who do not bother obtaining their rights to Maltese citizenship and then there are those to go to great lengths to ensure they can obtain their ancestral citizenship and are really proud of holding dual or multiple citizenships.

il-pajjiż addottiv, imma mingħajr qatt ma jinsew min fejn ġew, li jibqgħu jgħożžu kemm iċ-ċittadinanza Maltija u kemm dik Kanadiża.

Il-Maltin tat-tieni ġenerazzjoni jew dawk li huma nofshom Maltin, meta jiżżewġu u jiġthaltu ma' nies ta' nazzjonalita differenti, jista' jiġrilhom li ma jimpurtahomx aktar li jakwistaw id-dritt tagħhom li jkollhom iċ-ċittadinanza Maltija. Mill-banda l-oħra, hemm dawk li jippruvaw jagħmlu minn kollox biex jakkwistawha u hekk ikunu kburin li jkollhom ċittadinanza doppja jew numru ta' ċittadinanzi.

Il-Maltin tat-tielet sal-ħames ġenerazzjoni jinsabu kważi kollha fil-provincja ta' Quebec, li l-biċċa l-kbira minnhom huma Għawdxin li l-antenati tagħhom telqu minn Għawdex lejn l-Alġerija, It-Tuneżija, il-Marokk, il-Libja u l-Eġittu bejn l-1860 u l-1920 u li fl-1940 sabu ruħhom jaħdmu fi Franza, primarjament f'Marsilja u Lyon, imbagħad f'Pariġi u madwar Franza kollha. Ftit eluf minn dawn iddeċidew li jemigraw minn Franza għal Quebec u għalhekk ħafna minnhom illum jitekellmu bil-Franċiż biss. Peress li ħafna minnhom diġa għandhom ċittadinanza Franċiża, ftit kellhom interess li jakkwistaw dik Maltija, għax tiġa kellhom ċittadinanza Ewropea, dik Franċiża. Pero' mit-tielet ġenerazzjoni 'l quddiem tad-dixxendenza Maltija fi Quebec qed juru interess qawwi sabiex jakkwistaw iċ-ċittadinanza Maltija – il-kursità tal-pajjiż mnejn originaw tibda tidhol.

Jien li twelidt u trabbejt ġewwa l-Istati Uniti tal-Amerika u servejt lil Malta u l-Maltin ġewwa l-Awstralja, ir-Renju Unit, issa bħala l-Konslu Ġenerali ta' Malta fill-Kanada, li għandi dottorati fid-dijaspora Maltija u servejt għal-erba' snin bħala president għad-dijaspori Ewropej kollha, jiena esperjenzajt id-diversi komunitajiet Maltin madwar id-dinja. Mill-esperjenza vasta tiegħi, nikkonkludi li għal Maltin ta' dixxendenza Maltija, iċ-ċittadinanza Maltija hija l-isbaħ rigal li wieħed jista' jiret minn għand il-ġenituri u n-nanniet tiegħu. Il-benefiċċji li jkollok ċittadinanza kulħadd jafhom sewwa, imma għal dawk li ma jafux, Malta għandha passaport b'saħħtu li jgħin biex taċċessa lid-dinja bla xkiel, aktar minn dawk li huma offruti minn pajjiżi ferm akbar.

Li jkollok ċittadinanza Maltija, tisser li tista' taplika għal passaport Malti li jiprovdi l-privileġġ li tgħaddi iċ-ċittadinanza Maltija lit-tfal tiegħek u il-ġenerazzjonijiet futuri. It-tieni, iċ-ċittadinanza Maltija tisser ċittadinanza Ewropea, li ttiprovdi l-possibilità li tgħix, taħdem, tistudja, tiftaħ negozju jew tirtira f'wieħed mis-27 pajjiż tal-Unjoni Ewropea – qisek għandek Kanada oħra barra l-Kanada. Mill-ewwel ta' Jannar 2021, jekk ma jkollokx passaport minn xi pajjiż tal-Unjoni Ewropea, fil-każ tagħkom, passaport Malti, jkollok bżonn xi tip ta' awtorizzazzjoni (bħal visa) biex tkunu tistgħu jżuru l-Unjoni Ewropea. Iċ-ċittadinanza Maltija ttiprovdi ukoll aċċess aktar faċli għal ċerti servizzi f'Malta, bħal servizzi ta' saħħa waqt xi zjara jew dawk edukattivi jekk wieħed jiddeċiedi li jistudja f'Malta.

The third to the fifth generation Maltese are almost exclusively found in the province of Quebec. They are mainly Gozitans whose ancestors left Gozo for Algeria, Tunisia, Morocco, Libya and Egypt between the 1860s and 1920s and in the 1940s found themselves working and living in France, primarily in Marseilles and Lyon, later in Paris and then all around France. A few thousand decided to emigrate from France to Quebec and most only speak French. Since most had French citizenship few bothered to obtain their Maltese one since they already had a European citizenship. From the third generation onwards, however, those of Maltese ancestry in Quebec are showing interest in seeking Maltese citizenship.

Having been born and raised in the United States of America, and served Malta and the Maltese in Australia, the United Kingdom, now as Consul General of Malta here in Canada, having a doctorate in the Maltese Diaspora and served for four years as President of the all-European Diaspora, I have experienced the mosaic of the Maltese Diaspora around the world. One clear conclusion can be reached for persons of Maltese ancestry, Maltese citizenship is the best gift one can inherit from his/her parents and/or grandparents. The benefits of Maltese citizenship are widely known, but for those who are unaware, Malta has one of the most powerful passports, with more access to the world than that offered by passports of far larger countries.

Having Maltese citizenship entitles you to apply to obtain a Maltese passport, which provides you with the privilege to pass on Maltese citizenship to your children and subsequent future generations. Secondly, Maltese citizenship is European citizenship and provides you with the possibility to live, work, study, open a business and/or retire in any of the 27 countries of the European Union. Consider these countries collectively as another Canada outside Canada. From January 1, 2021, if you do not have a passport from any country of the European Union, in your case a Maltese passport, you will require an authorization (in simple words like a visa) to be able to visit these EU countries. Maltese citizenship provides also easier access to an array of services in Malta, amongst them, health and educational services in Malta while visiting or deciding to study in Malta.

The feast of Santa Marija and 78th Anniversary since 'Operation Pedestal'

The feast of Santa Marija is a religious feast, but for all Maltese worldwide it has a far wider meaning. In Malta and Gozo, Santa Marija is the pinnacle feast of every summer, celebrated in at least seven localities in the Maltese Islands on August 15th. Seventy-eight years ago, on this day, Operation Pedestal, known in Malta and with the Maltese worldwide as, *il-Konvoj ta' Santa*

Il-Festa ta' Santa Marija u s-78 Anniversarju mill-'Operation Pedestal'

Il-festa ta' Santa Marija hija festa reliġjuża, imma għall-Maltin kollha madwar id-dinja t'fisser ferm aktar. F'Malta u f'Għawdex, Santa Marija hija l-aktar festa popolari tas-sajf li tiġi iċċelebrata fil-15 t' Awwissu mill-inqas f'7 lokalitajiet differenti tal-gżejjer Maltin. Tmienja u sebgħin sena ilu, f'din il-ġurnata seħħet il-ġrajja tal-konvoj ta' Santa Marija (Operational Pedestal) li kienet operazzjoni militari Brittanika li kienet iġġorr il-provvisti essenzjali lejn il-Gżejjer Maltin f' Awwissu tal-1942 waqt it-Tieni Gwerra Dinjija. F'dak iż-żmien, Malta kienet l-aktar post ibbombardjat fid-dinja mill-Allejati Faxxisti magħruf bħala t-Tieni Assedju l-Kbir ta' Malta, mill-ajru u mill-baħar.

Għalkemm intilfu ħafna provvisti, il-militar Brittaniku irnexxielu iwassal biżżejjed provvisti lill-Maltin u Għawdex ta rriżerva tal-ikel li kellu, biex ikunu jistgħu jkomplu it-taqbida tagħhom. L-aktar provvista importanti kienet dik tal-fjuel li giet imwassla mit-tanker Amerikan *SS Ohio* bl-ekwipaġġ Brittaniku. Il-Konvoj salpa mill-Ingilterra fit-3 t'Awwissu 1942 u għaddha mill-istrett ta' Ġibiltà għal ġol-Mediterran fil-lejl ta' bejn id-9 u l-10 t'Awwissu.

L-Allejati Faxxisti pruvaw jipprevjenu il-ħamsin bastiment milli jaslu Malta billi jibbombardjawhom bla waqfien b'permezz tal-E-boats Germaniżi, MAS Taljani u id-dgħajjes MS, mine fields u attacki bis-sottomarini biex b'hekk għamlu l-aħħar suċċess tagħhom fil-Mediterran. Aktar minn ħames mitt merkant, baħħar tar-Royal Navy u piloti kienu maqtula u ħames minn erbatax-il bastiment markantili biss irnexxielhom jaslu fil-Port il-Kbir fil-15 t'Awwissu fil-ġurnata tal-festa ta' Santa Marija.

Maltin, madwar id-dinja, ftakru f'dan l-episodju kruċjali fl-istorja moderna ta' Malta li bidlet il-kors tat-Tieni Gwerra Dinjija u li ġab il-paċi fl-Ewropa illum.

Viva Santa Marija!

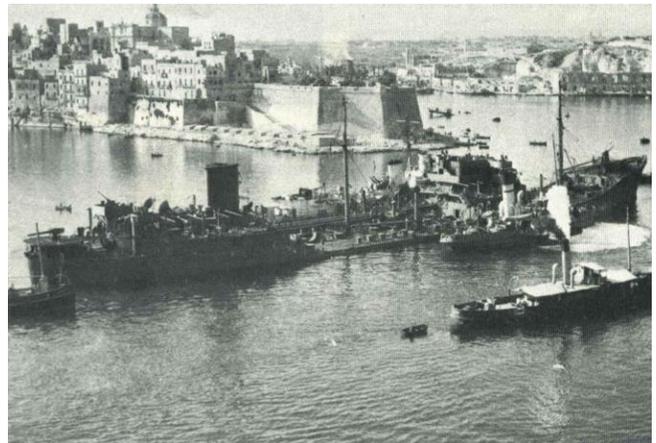


Statue of Santa Marija, Victoria, Gozo

Marija, Santa Marija Convoy, was a British operation to carry supplies to the Maltese Islands in August 1942 during World War II. At the time, Malta was the most bombed area in the world by the Axis forces, known as the second Great Siege of Malta, with air and naval forces.

Despite many losses, enough supplies were delivered by the British for the population and military forces on Malta to resist. The most crucial supply item in Operation Pedestal was fuel, carried by *SS Ohio*, an American tanker with a British crew. The convoy sailed from Britain on 3 August 1942 and passed through the Strait of Gibraltar into the Mediterranean on the night of August 9th/10th.

The Axis attempt to prevent the 50 ships of the convoy reaching Malta using bombers, German E-boats, Italian MAS and MS boats, minefields and submarine ambushes, was the last sizeable Axis success in the Mediterranean. More than 500 Merchant and Royal Navy sailors and airmen were killed and only five of the 14 merchant ships reached Grand Harbour on August 15th, the day of the Feast of Santa Marija.



The *SS Ohio* Limpes into the Grand Harbour Lashed between Two Destroyers to Prevent Her from Sinking

Maltese everywhere remember this crucial cornerstone event in the modern history of Malta and influencing the outcome of World War II and the peaceful Europe of today. *Viva Santa Marija!* Praise to Santa Marija!

Postal Service is still suspended

The postal service of Canada Post is still suspended. The Consulate General of Malta to Canada presented a number of complaints because Maltese Canadians cannot send letters and/or packages to Malta and Maltese-Canadian pensioners in Malta have been without a pension cheque for five months now.

Il-Posta għadha sospiża

Iis-servizz Postali bejn il-Kanada u Malta għadu sospiż. Il-Konsulat Ġenerali ta' Malta ressaq numru ta' lmenti ma' Canada Post minhabba t-tbatija li għaddejjin minnha l-Maltin-Kanadiżi li ma jistgħux jibgħatu ittri jew pakki lejn Malta u l-Maltin-Kanadiżi f'Malta u Għawdex ilhom 5 xhur minn ċekk tal-pensjoni Kanadiża tagħhom.

Il-Facebook Webpage tagħkom

Ibqgħu segwuna fuq il-Webpajġ tal-facebook tal-Konslu Ġenerali tar-Repubblika ta' Malta għall-Kanada, għall-aħbarijiet, aġġornamenti, informazzjoni, l-istorja ta' Malta, tradizzjonijiet, lingwa, kultura u aktar. Informaw anke lill-membri tal-familja, lill-qraba u lill-ħbieb.

Awwissu, x-xahar tal-Festi f'Malta u Għawdex

Awwissu jibda bil-btala ta' Civic Holiday (3 t'Awwissu) fil-Kanada u 29 festa ċelebrata fil-Gzejjer Maltin:- fl-1 ta' Awwissu – San Duminku (il-Belt Valletta), San Pietru (Birzebuġa), il-Madonna ta' Pompei (Marsaxlokk) u l-Madonna ta' Lourdes (San Ġwann) u San Ġużepp (il-Qala) f'Għawdex. Fit-8 t'Awwissu – San Ġejtanu (il-Ħamrun), Malta u San Lawrenz (fir-raħal ta' San Lawrenz) f'Għawdex; fl-10 t'Awwissu – San Lawrenz (Vittoriosa); fil-15 t'Awwissu – Santa Marija Ħal-Għaxaq, il-Mosta, l-Imqabba, il-Qrendi, Ħ'Attard, l-Imġarr u l-Belt Victoria, f'Għawdex. Fit-22 t'Awwissu – Santa Marija f'Ħad-Dingli u l-Imġarr, il-Madonna ta' Lourdes (Poala), Stella Maris (Tas-Sliema), Santa Lena (Birkirkara) u Santa Marija, iż-Żebbuġ, f'Għawdex; fid-29 t'Awwissu – San Pawl (Ħal-Safi), San Ġiljan (San Ġiljan), San Duminku (Vittoriosa), San Ġużepp (il-Manikata), San Bartilmew (il-Għargħur), Maria Regina (il-Marsa) f'Malta u l-festa tal-Madonna ta' Loretu f'Għajnsielem, Għawdex.

Il-Festa t-Tajba u lil kulħadd u Alla bierek lil Malta u lil-Kanada.

LEHEN MALTI

(Maltese Voice)

OMNI 1 Southern Ontario

Saturdays 8:30 a.m.

Mondays 3:30 a.m.

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Wednesdays 11:00 p.m.

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Your Facebook Webpage

Follow us on your Facebook webpage, 'Consulate General of the Republic of Malta to Canada', for news, updates, information, Maltese glorious history, traditions, language and culture and so much more. Tell your family members, relatives and friends.

August the month of Feasts in Malta and Gozo

August starts with the Civic Holiday (August 3rd) in Canada and 29 feasts are celebrated in the Maltese Islands:- on August 1st – St Dominic (Valletta), St Peter (Birzebuġa), Our Lady of Pompei (Marsaxlokk), Our Lady of Lourdes (San Ġwann) and St Joseph (il-Qala) in Gozo. On August 8th – St Gaetan in il-Ħamrun, Malta and St Lawrence in San Lawrenz in Gozo; on August 10th – St Lawrence (Vittoriosa); on August 15th – The Assumption of Our Lady in Ħal Għaxaq, il-Gudja, il-Mosta, l-Imqabba, il-Qrendi, Ħ'Attard, l-Imġarr and Victoria, Gozo. On August 22nd – The Assumption of Our Lady in Ħad-Dingli and l-Imġarr, Our Lady of Lourdes (Paola), Stella Maris (Tas-Sliema), St Helen (Birkirkara) and in the Assumption of Our Lady in iż-Żebbuġ in Gozo; on August 29th - St Paul (Ħal-Safi), St Julian (St Julian's), St Dominic (Vittoriosa), St Joseph (il-Manikata), St Bartholomew (il-Għargħur), Maria Regina (il-Marsa) in Malta and Our Lady of Loreto in Għajnsielem, Gozo.

Happy Feast to all and may God Bless Malta and Canada.

GALLETTI (WATER BISCUITS)

Lisa LiGreci



Last month Lisa shared her recipe for kapunata (caponata)

Here's a quick and easy recipe that is perfect for snacking or summer picnics. Galletti (aka water crackers) are a traditional Maltese snack. They are thin and crispy and make a perfect addition to a platter filled with tasty items like olives, cheeses, anchovies, and your favorite dips like bigilla.

I first discovered galletti when a club member at the Maltese American Community Club of Dearborn came back with a bag from Malta and brought it to one of our events. I said to myself, "Well I can't get them here, but I know I can make them myself." I did a little research on the internet and found many recipes. This is my interpretation of the recipe I landed on.

Ingredients:

- 2 cups unbleached all purpose flour
- 2 cups semolina flour
(Any variety or combination of flours like whole wheat also works well with this recipe. You can use just all purpose flour as well.)
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1 tsp. instant yeast
- ½ tsp. sugar
- ½ cup warm water
- 2 tbs. melted butter (olive oil may be substituted)
- Extra warm water

**Directions:**

1. Dissolve the yeast & sugar in ½ cup warm water until the mixture is frothy.



2. In a large bowl, combine the flour & salt.
3. Mix in the melted butter.



4. Add the yeast mixture and mix well.

5. Add more warm water as you need it to ensure a doughy consistency. When done, the dough should not be sticky.
6. Knead the dough 5 minutes, then place in a large greased bowl, cover with plastic wrap and let dough rest for an hour.
7. Knead the dough again 5 minutes and cut into 4 small portions.
8. Roll out the portions as thinly as possible. A pasta machine works for this.



9. With a round cutter, cut the pastry into small circles. I like bigger galletti and use a small ceramic dish, but a clean empty 6 oz. tomato paste can makes nice bite size crackers.



10. Polk holes to avoid puffing up while baking. Place circles on lightly floured oven trays. and bake at 355F for 12-15 minutes or until golden brown.



11. Serve with a platter filled with a variety of cheese, olives, cured meats, anchovy, and your favorite dips like bigilla.

**ALPHONO F. CUTAIAR, JR.:
Convicted of the Murder of
Jimmy Logue's Wife**

Gabrielle Cutair Caldwell

In the May 2020 issue Gabrielle told of the early life of Alphonso Cutaiar, his employment as a barber, his relationship with Jimmy Logue and the disappearance of Logue's wife who was also Alphonso's aunt and stepmother.



The current pandemic, however, has prevented the completion of this account until now. Therefore, some

of the material found in the May issue has been repeated here.

Alphonso Francis Cutaiar, Jr. and Sarah Elizabeth "Sally" Camp were married in April 1879. In May they moved into Alphonso's quarters over his barber shop at 1250 North Eleventh Street in Philadelphia. The couple, as well as the neighbors around them, complained of a horrible smell coming from the kitchen. They assumed it was coming from a drain to the outhouse out back. Alphonso and Sally continued to live in the house for almost a year. The foul odor coming from the kitchen, however, made Sally so sick that they were forced to move away.

By March of 1880, Alphonso had sold the house. After that, there were many tenants who lived there.

Over the next several years, Sally and Alphonso were to have five children: William Wykoff (1880-1966), Mary Emily (1881-1965), David Willis Kerr (1884-1970), Albina Frances "Bene" (1886-1934) and Ella Jane Colgan (1887- 1919).

Alphonso was still earning a living as a barber in Philadelphia as late as 1885. By 1890, however, he appears to have been an insurance agent. It was about this time that he unsuccessfully tried to cash in a life insurance policy on Percy Logue (1871-1935), the son of Jimmy and Johanna (Gahan) Logue, whom Alphonso claimed had died. In 1891 and again in 1893 Alphonso is listed as a clerk.

Then, on October 16, 1893, a carpenter repairing the former Cutaiar residence on North Eleventh Street, tore up the floor boards in the kitchen and discovered the skeleton of a woman.

There was a handkerchief tied around the neck, the brass heels of a woman's shoes and a woman's suitcase. A gold ring was recovered from the scene and inside the inscription read "J.L. to J.L."

The police were called in and the remains were sent

to the Coroner's office. While investigating, they learned that Jimmy and Johanna Logue used to own the building. Because of Jimmy's criminal career, they assumed that he was to blame for the murder of his wife. A warrant was put out for his arrest but they were unable to locate him.



Newspaper clipping

Almost two years later, on March 5, 1895, Logue appeared at the Coroner's, Samuel H. Ashbridge's, residence to give himself up. Jimmy claimed to have been in Chicago when he heard the news. He came back as soon as he was able, having to raise the money to pay his way.



Jimmy Logue in 1895

The coroner escorted Jimmy to the station house where he was locked up for the night under an anonymous name. Ashbridge was intent on solving the mystery himself without help from the police department and asked for the assistance of one detective only. The director at the police department agreed and Jimmy was taken to City Hall where he became the "mysterious prisoner of the sixth floor."

The first step needed was to obtain a statement from Jimmy. On March 6th, he talked freely and gave details of his time in New York with his wife and how they had returned to the city and purchased the North Eleventh Street house and business for Alphonso. Jimmy noted that he and Johanna had left Philadelphia for New York on February 20, 1879, taking a trunk with them. They went to the house of a friend and Jimmy left Johanna there while he and his friend travelled to Boston, Albany and Springfield. He returned to New York and the friend's wife told him that Johanna had disappeared.

When he was unable to locate her, he had sent the telegram to Alphonso back in Philadelphia.

Because he had perjured himself so often, the coroner and detective assumed that Jimmy's statements were a lie and they set out to find witnesses to prove or disprove the information that he had given them. Step by step they went over the statements and were able to corroborate all of them. Jimmy had told the truth! Now suspicion rested on three people Alphonso and the journeyman and the apprentice who had been employed by him.

On April 6, 1895, Jimmy swore out a warrant for Alphonso's arrest and six days later he was taken into custody. When arrested, Alphonso was operating a grocery store at 4929 Lancaster Avenue in Philadelphia, with his wife and children. Sally, who was some two months pregnant at the time, was to carry on the business with the help of her children for at least another year.



Delivery Wagon for Alphonso's Grocery Store.

According to the Late Richard W. Cutaiar, Sr. in His Book *A salute to the Mushroom over-the-road driver* (1978), the Photograph Was Taken in 1896 and the Young Lad in Front of the Wagon Is His Father William W. Cutaiar, the Eldest Son of Alphonso and Sally Cutaiar

The journeyman, Fritz Eakert, was found at a barber shop in New York and had a clear, straight-forward story to tell. Harry Fricke, the apprentice, was found in

Philadelphia, and was described as a "nervous, excitable young German who had always been a trifle unsteady in mind." When he discovered that he would

be questioned in the case, he became "unhinged and it became necessary to send him to the insane department of the Philadelphia Hospital." After he was admitted, it was discovered that Alphonso, Sr., Alphonso's father, was the superintendent of the ward and the apprentice was quickly transferred to another ward.

sign. Others in the rear of the courtroom sobbed. Alphonso's attorneys asked for a new trial. Jimmy Logue remarked that he was pleased with the verdict.



Newspaper Clipping of Cutaiar after His Conviction

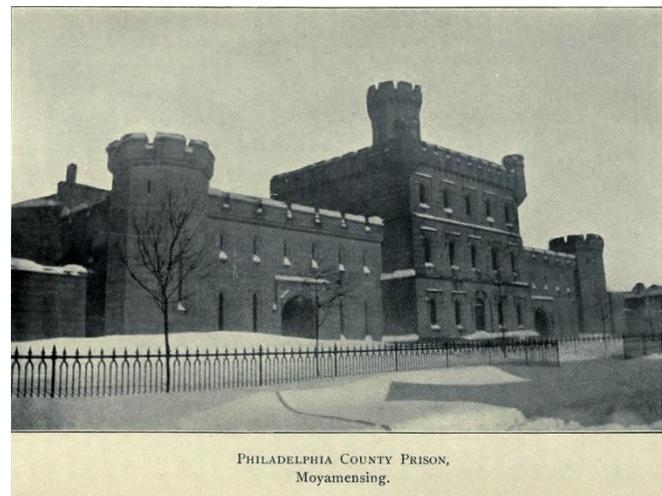
On June 23rd, Alphonso was denied a new trial and the death sentence was upheld. He was taken to Moyamensing County Prison in south Philadelphia where he was placed in solitary confinement to await his death.

Newspaper Clipping of Alphonso after His Arrest

Meanwhile, after his arrest, Alphonso, Jr. gave several detailed stories of the crime but didn't give a true confession until April 17th. He stated that when his aunt had made clear her intentions of returning to New York, she was intoxicated. He had asked her to wait until he could accompany her to the train station. He then escorted her upstairs to a back bedroom and made her get into bed with her clothes on. In order to prevent her premature departure, he bound her hands and feet. He then returned to his business. This occurred at 7 o'clock on the evening of Saturday, February 22, 1879. Four hours later, he found her lying on her face with her head underneath the pillow. Apparently, she had smothered to death in an effort to break free. The next day, he placed her body underneath the kitchen floor.

On October 27, 1895, while Alphonso languished in custody, Sally gave birth to their sixth child, Oliver Leon (d. 1918).

During the trial held in the spring of 1896, the witnesses included Jimmy Logue, the coroner who produced the skull of Johanna Logue and the testimony of other friends and relatives. The jury found Alphonso guilty of the murder on May 29th. The judge then sentenced him to death. Alphonso heard the news without making a



PHILADELPHIA COUNTY PRISON, Moyamensing.

A year later, he was brought news by his spiritual advisor, Rev. Dr. Watson, that a reprieve was in the works and that lifetime imprisonment was being recommended. His wife, Sarah, had been a regular visitor but both she and Alphonso had decided that it was best not to bring their six children to visit at the current facility. If given a reprieve, he would be moved to Eastern Penitentiary in Philadelphia.

More hope was given, as the Board of Prison Inspectors had expressed their desire to see Alphonso given a reprieve and even possibly set free.

In January 1897, a petition in Alphonso's behalf was

made by all of the relatives of Johanna Logue, and even signed by Jimmy. Logue admitted that he would have never given himself up, had he known what the outcome would be. He declared that he did not want to see Alphonso die, although he still had a resentment against him. On June 24, 1897, Alphonso's life was spared and his sentence commuted to life in prison at Eastern Penitentiary.

In October 1899, Jimmy Logue died in a Philadelphia hospital without a dollar to his name. Disowned by most of his family members, not one of them was present at his funeral. He was buried in a cemetery attached to St. James Protestant Episcopal Church in Philadelphia at the personal expense of the mayor. At his feet, were the bones of his wife Johanna. Though she had been dead for 20 years, this was the first Christian burial that she had received. Jimmy's pall bearers consisted of four representatives of the Coroner's office. He was buried within six inches of long-time associate, Martin Lafferty, with whom he confessed cracking many a safe and entering many a second story window.

By 1903, another attempt had been made to secure Alphonso's freedom. Ironically, at the time of his death, Jimmy admitted that he did not believe that his nephew intentionally killed Johanna and hoped that he would be pardoned. Petitions were prepared for signatures based on the belief that Alphonso was convicted on improper evidence. At that time, he was said to be in good health and in good spirits in hopes of the possibility of freedom. In December 1903, the board recommended pardon. Pennsylvania's Governor, Samuel W. Pennypacker, however, declined to grant it.



**The Rows of Cells as They Appeared
In the Disused Eastern State Penitentiary
in January 2020**

Courtesy of Jennifer Errick

Despite the governor's decision, Alphonso and his attorneys continued to file appeals. Thirty-three years after the death of his aunt, Alphonso was granted another hearing based on the fact that his guilt was never clearly proven and that he had been a model prisoner. Most of the world had forgotten about the sensational crime that had landed him in prison. His friends, however, had not forgotten him and had been working for his release.

On September 18, 1912, Alphonso received clemency. Governor John K. Tener pardoned him on the 23rd and two days later, on September 25th, at the age of 62, Alphonso walked off of "Murderer's Row" in Eastern Penitentiary. Upon his release, he jumped into a cab to rejoin his wife, two daughters and son who had stood by his side through it all. Alphonso stated that he had no real plans for the future, but that his eldest son, William, was a successful businessman and he planned to join him in his ventures. He planned to start over again and try to live down the stigma attached to his name.

Since his arrest, his children had grown up and gotten married and his wife, Sally, had become an old woman.



Sally (Camp) Cutaiar in Later Years

For the duration of Alphonso's imprisonment, Sally had maintained her belief in his innocence and was anxious to share his company again. For 16 years, she had fought poverty and social ostracism brought about by the notoriety of her husband's crime and was forced to raise six children alone.

Meanwhile, Alphonso's father, Alphonso F. Cutaiar, Sr., had died in April 1900, followed by the death of Cutaiar, Sr.'s wife, the former Alice Shaw, in April 1902. Sally then took in and adopted Alphonso, Sr's and Alice's two sons: John Frank (1890-1964) and Harry Shaw (c. 1896-1967).

Sick and unable to work, Sally was forced to accept charity. It is believed that, to those who were not aware of the situation, Sally would inform them that she had been abandoned by her husband. This would have had the double effect of avoiding the stigma of being the

wife of a man convicted of murder and of generating sympathy and compassion. At the time of Alphonso's trial in 1912, she was living with her married daughter, Mary, and other family members.

There were no further newspaper articles after Alphonso's release, not even an obituary could be found. In speaking with his great granddaughter, my 4th cousin once removed, she never knew of his past. The family must have been sworn to secrecy. She simply knew of him as Grandpop.

The 1920 census shows Alphonso living with his wife and some of his children, a son-in-law and two grandchildren. By this time, he was employed as a church sexton.

Sarah "Sally" Camp died at their home, 1676 N. 54th St., Philadelphia, on September 23, 1923

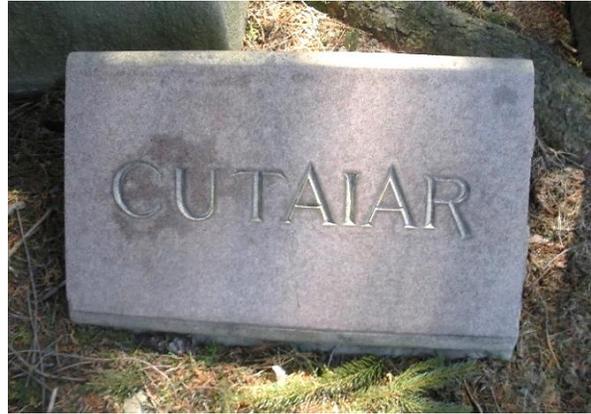
At the time of the 1930 census, Alphonso, a widower and still working as a church sexton, was living at 530 Ashby Road, in Upper Darby, PA, with his daughter Albina F. and her husband John F. Cutaiar. Not only was John the half-brother and adopted son of Alphonso but now his son-in-law!



Alphonso F. Cutaiar, Jr. in Later Years

It was probably after Albina's death in 1934 that Alphonso moved in with his oldest daughter, Mary, and her second husband, George Griffin, at 530 Wales Road, Manoa, Haverford Township, PA. There he died on January 25, 1940.

Alphonso was buried beside his devoted wife in Arlington Cemetery, Drexel Hill, to the southeast of Haverford.



Cutaiar Gravestone, Arlington Cemetery, Drexel Hill, Delaware Co. PA

SEARCHING FOR AN ELUSIVE PERSON ON A CENSUS: THE CASE OF ALPHONSO F. CUTAIAR, JR

Dan Brock

As I read Gabriella Caldwell's very interesting submission on Alphonso F. Cutaiar, Jr. for this issue, I was spurred on to see what else might be included, particularly after he was released from prison and no longer in the limelight.

There was a 17-year gap between the death of his wife Sally in 1923 and his own death in 1940 which I thought the 1930 Federal US Census would close.

I had searched some 30 family trees relating to Alphonso on Ancestry and was struck by the fact that *none* of them made reference to the 1930 census.

My own search of the 1930 census explained why. There was simply no listing for Alphonso Cutaiar! Okay, often the surname is misspelled by the census taker or Ancestry's transcribing process. No big deal, I'll just use the added features of "Sounds like, Similar and Soundex." Still no hits. Hum. This is beginning to be a challenge.

Since two married daughters were living with Alphonso and his wife at the time of the 1920 census and Alphonso was apparently living with his eldest daughter Mary and her husband when he died in 1940, I tried looking up Mary Arnold or Griffin in 1930. Nope, he wasn't living with her.

The next daughter, Albina F., was married to her half-uncle/adopted brother John F. Cutaiar. Again, nothing for either Albina or John Cutaiar.

As "Albina" is not a name one encounters every day, I typed in "Albina F.," "1886"—the year of her birth—and that she was living in Pennsylvania. Bingo! I immediately got a hit for an "Albina F. Calaras" married to John F. Calaras and living in Upper Darby, Delaware Co., PA. Living with them was 71-year-old "Alphonse

Calaras," listed as the father of presumably John F. I had found the elusive Alphonso F. Cutaia! On the actual census the surname appears to be "Citarar"!

Admittedly, I was working with a rather uncommon given name and while there was only one "Albina F." then living in Pennsylvania, here were actually hundreds with the given name "Albina" in the state and several with the same approximate year of birth as "Albina F."

I have tried this "trick" before of typing in as much data I knew but omitting the surname. Often, but not always, it works. Try it if you encounter a similar brick wall. What do you have to lose?

MONSIGNOR PAUL JOHN GAUCI (1904-1970)*

Dan Brock

Fifty-one years ago, on August 4, 1969, Monsignor Paul J. Gauci was invested a Prothonotary Apostolic and a Member of the Papal Household at his childhood church in Mosta, Malta by Archbishop Michael Gonzi.

Paolo Giovanni Gauci, the son of Michele and Carmela (Sant) Gauci, was born in Mosta on June 4, 1904.

In the spring of 1913, his father, who was listed as a stonecutter, left for New York City to join a friend, Giuseppe Borg, then residing at 248 Hudson Street.

At the age of 12 Paolo entered the Diocesan Seminary of Malta in Floriana. When the seminary closed two years later, he transferred to St. Aloysius College, conducted by the Jesuit Fathers and the Institute of St. Paul in Birkirkara.

Sometime between 1918 and 1920, Michele Gauci had moved to New Orleans. There, he was joined by his wife, Carmela, and younger son, Carmel, in July 1920, leaving the elder son, Paolo, under the care of his wife's cousin, Rev. Anthony Buhagiar of Mosta.



Paul Gauci, Age 16

Paolo or Paul, who may have been continuing his studies at St. Aloysius College when his mother and brother left for New Orleans, probably left Malta late that September carrying a letter of consent from his guardian, Father Buhagiar.

I hereby declare that I fully consent to Paul Gauci, son of Michael and Carmela, who is under my care, to travel to New Orleans La U. S. A. where his parents at present are living.

*In faith Rev. Anthony Buhagiar
17th September 1920
Mosta Malta*

Paul Gauci's Letter of Consent to Join His Parents in New Orleans, 1920

Young Paul, listed as a labourer, boarded the *Lafayette* at Le Havre on October 9th and arrived in New York Harbor nine days later en route to joining his family then living at 910 Bourbon Street in New Orleans.

He then continued his studies at St. Joseph's Seminary in Covington, LA. and graduated in 1921. The following year, Paul received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Philosophy from St. Mary's Seminary in Baltimore, Maryland.

In September of 1922, he began studies at Colegio Brignole-Sale in Genoa, Italy and was the first student from the New Orleans Diocese to receive the Canon Peter Scotti scholarship for students from the New Orleans and St. Augustine diocese. Paul completed his theological studies in Genoa in 1926 and was ordained a priest by the Archbishop of Genoa, Cardinal Carlo Minoretti, on June 11, 1927.

Father Gauci then traveled to Malta to celebrate his first Solemn Mass and to visit his parents who had since returned there to live.

On returning to the Diocese of New Orleans, the second oldest diocese in the United States, Father Gauci was appointed Assistant Pastor at the Church of the Ascension in Donaldsonville. He was transferred to St. Rose de Lima Parish in New Orleans, in 1930.

His father died in Malta in 1932 and his mother, Carmela "Carrie," returned to New Orleans in late June of that year and took up residence with her younger son, Carmel "Charles" at 1626 North Broad Avenue.



Carmela (Sant) Gauci, Age 55

Above Photos and Document
Courtesy of National Archives of Malta

Father Gauci was transferred to St. James Major in New Orleans as its first assistant pastor in 1933. With Fr. Thomas Gaffney's, the pastor's, death the following year, Fr. Gauci was appointed Administrator of the parish and made several major improvements in the physical plant. Owing to overcrowding at the church, Fr. Gauci began regular Sunday Mass, in 1935, at the private residence near Seabrook. Fr. Vernon P. Alleman, a newly-ordained priest, was assigned as the second assistant to St. James Major Parish.

In October 1935, Fr. Gauci was named administrator and later pastor of St. Ann Parish in Morganza. There he remained for the next 13 years, affecting many improvements in both the physical plant and the spiritual life of the parish.

With the death in 1948 of Monsignor Dominic Blasco, the first pastor of Sacred Heart Parish in Baton Rouge, Fr. Gauci was transferred there as its second pastor. There he was to remain until his death in 1970.

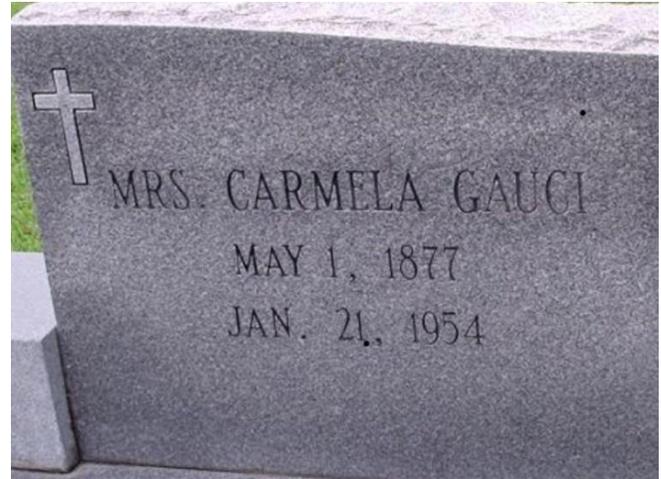
Meanwhile, Fr. Gauci's brother, Charles, had died in 1946. Even years before this, the priest's mother, sister-in-law and two nephews were living with him at the rectory.



Charles Gauci's Headstone in the Gauci Family Plot, St. Ann's Cemetery, Morganza

Father Gauci was elevated by Pope Pius XII to the rank of Domestic Prelate in 1954, with the title of Right Reverend Monsignor. On November 14th of that year, he received the insignia of his rank from Archbishop Joseph Francis Rummel at St. Louis Cathedral in New Orleans.

Monsignor Gauci's mother, Carmela, did not live to see her son so honored. She died in January 1954 and her body was placed next to that of her son, Charles, in the family plot in Morganza.



Carmela Gauci's Headstone, St. Ann's Cemetery

Six years later, Monsignor Gauci established St. Paul the Apostle as a mission of Sacred Heart.

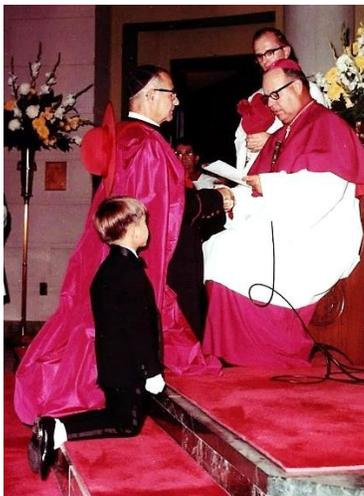
On July 22, 1961 the bull "Peramplum Noae Aureliae" was issued by Pope John XXIII, which established the Diocese of Baton Rouge from a part of the Archdiocese of New Orleans. Monsignor Gauci, in addition to his work at Sacred Heart Parish, was instrumental in aiding Bishop Robert E. Tracy in establishing the new diocese.

Monsignor Gauci was appointed Comptroller of the Diocese of Baton Rouge in 1961. He also served on the Bishop's Commission on Sacred Liturgy, Art, and Music and was Moderator of the CYO.

He was appointed Vicar General for Financial Affairs for the diocese in 1964.

In instituting the changes mandated by Vatican II, Monsignor Gauci was considered a pioneer in setting up the consultative process by which his parishioners were given an effective role in the formation of parish policy through an active parish council.

As noted earlier, Monsignor Gauci was invested a Prothonotary Apostolic and a Member of the Papal Household in Malta on August 4, 1969, having received the mitre, pectoral cross, and ring of his new office from Pope Paul VI. The ceremony of investiture was repeated on September 28, 1969 at Sacred Heart Church with Bishop Tracy presiding.



Monsignor Gauci's Investiture in Sacred Heart Church,
September 28, 1969

Monsignor Gauci died on February 25, 1970, after a lengthy illness. He was 65 years old. The concelebrated funeral Mass in his parish of Sacred Heart was presided over by Bishop Tracy. The Mass was attended by 125 priests and numerous parishioners and friends.

In his final tribute to Monsignor Gauci, Bishop Tracy said: "He was always absorbed, enthusiastic, and even eager in the face of knotty problems, anxious to bring to bear on them the searching, penetrating power of his ever-active brain and the zeal of his ever-apostolic soul . . . His energy was simply boundless."

His remains were interred in St. Ann's Cemetery in Morganza in the same plot as that of his mother and brother.



Msgr. Paul J. Gauci's Headstone
St. Ann's Cemetery, Morganza
Colored photos courtesy of Fr. Edward Vella, CSsR

** I wish to thank Rena Xuereb of Michigan and Fr. Edward Vella, CSsR of Arizona for their help in the research and writing of this article.*

ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE MALTESE COMMUNITIES

Dan Brock

Gozo, Malta

Maltese Canadian Association (Gozo)

Members celebrated Canada Day on Wednesday, July 1st at the Country Terrance on Zewwieqa Street in Mgarr, Gozo.

A pizza get together was held for members and friends on Thursday, July 30th, from 4:00 p.m. onwards under the olive trees at the Tal Peffu Farm. The pizza was pre-ordered from Mekrin Bakery in Nadur. Everyone brought one's own drinks and chair.



Celebrating Canada Day, July 1st.

Courtesy of Maltese Canadian Association (Gozo)
(See back page for more photos.)

The Greater Toronto Area, Ontario **Maltese-Canadian Cruisers**

They will be holding their next Show and Shine on Sunday, August 16th, between 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m., in the parking lot at the Malta Band Club, 5745 Coopers Avenue, in Mississauga.

St. Paul the Apostle Parish

Fr. Mario's heart surgery was successful and he is now taking time for a full recovery.

Fr. Jimmy Zammit, OFM, a native son of the Parish who served as a priest here between 1981 and 1990, has returned to Toronto and has been assigned as associate pastor to St. Jane Frances Parish in North York. He is helping out with the Maltese language Masses at St. Paul's during Fr. Mario's recovery.

The Parish Office is now open two days a week: Tuesdays and Fridays, 10:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. One must call the office before visiting during these unsettling times.



Sunday Mass as Celebrated at St. Paul the Apostle Parish During the COVID-19 Pandemic

London, Ontario

The summer picnic planned at Weldon Park, in Arva on Sunday, July 5th was cancelled, owing to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Metro Detroit

Maltese American Community Club of Dearborn

It was originally planned that on Friday, July 10th members would be able to purchase traditional hobz biz zejt, pastizzi and drinks curbside and that owing to the COVID-19 pandemic, tables would be set up outside only. Owing to the weather, however, seating was provided outside under canopies and inside the building, both downstairs and the large air-conditioned hall upstairs. These arrangements came in handy as it started to pour. Masks were required. If one did not have one it was provided, as no entry was permitted without a mask. This did not seem to bother the happy members who came out after months of absence. The Club will continue this practice on the first and second Fridays of the month until regular hours can be resumed.

On Friday, August 7th, the Club had baked macaroni, rice and pastizzi available on a first come first served basis with the wearing of masks strictly enforced.



ENJOY A TASTE OF
MALTA ✪

The above items are now going to be delivered in the London area.

Please place your orders by calling

JOE SHERRI
416-571-3944 maltesefoods@gmail.com

**New York City
Maltese Centre Astoria**

The Club had a soft reopening on Sunday, July 5th. There was limited outdoor seating for paid-up members in good standing only. All snacks and drinks purchased were taken to one's designated table.

The Center was opened in the backyard for members only from 6:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. on Friday, July 10th and from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Sunday, July 12th, likewise on Friday, July 24th and Sunday, July 26th. Members were required to call in

for reservations on a first come first served basis.

Those arriving without a reservation were asked to wait outside, in accordance with safety protocols, if the backyard area was at full capacity.

"Before 1939 the number of Maltese in Toronto was about 1,000. After 1945, that number increased many times over when Canada became the third most favoured receiving country for Maltese emigrants."
Fr Lawrence Attard, *Beyond Our Shores: A Panorama of Maltese Migration*, 2007, page 137

MALTESE ORGANIZATIONS IN NORTH AMERICA

Festa San Gejtanu Association

c/o 5745 Coopers Avenue, Mississauga, ON
L4Z 1R9
647-232-8845

Festa San Gorg Association of Toronto

c/o 36 Sequoia Road, Vaughan, ON L4H 1W6
905-216-8432/416-277-2291

Gozo Club Toronto

c/o 1205 Royal York Road, Toronto, ON M9A 4B5
416-231-9710
gozoclub@gmail.com

Inanna on Stage

www.joannedancer.com
c/o 356 Pacific Avenue, Toronto, ON M6P 2R1
416-707-2355
desertdancer001@yahoo.ca

Knights of Columbus - Canada – Council # 12782

c/o St Patrick's Church, 921 Flagship Drive,
Mississauga, ON, N4Y 2J6
905-270-2301 (Church)
stpatricksmi@archtoronto.org
Grand Knight Amadeo Cuschieri

Lehen Malti

<https://www.omnity.ca › shows › lehen-malti>
c/o 2387 Chilsworthy Avenue., Mississauga, ON
L5B 2R4

Malta Band Club

5745 Coopers Ave., Mississauga, ON L4Z 1K9
905-890-8507
www.maltabandclub.com
maltabandclub@bellnet.ca

Malta United Society of Windsor, Ontario

2520 Seminole St., Windsor, ON N8Y1X4
519-974-6719
maltaunitedsociety.windsor@gmail.com

Opening hours: Saturday 6:30 p.m.-12:00 a.m.

Malta Village Association (Est. 1995)

c/o 3256 Dundas Street West, Toronto M6P 2A3
Tel: 416-769-2174
Fax: 416-769-2174
maltabakeshopltd@gmail.com
att: Antonia Buttigieg

Maltese American Benevolent Society

1832 Michigan Ave. Detroit, MI 48216
313-961-8393
<http://detroitmaltese.com>
Opening hours:
Thursday & Friday 5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Saturday 12:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.
Sunday 12:00 p.m. -9:00 p.m.

Maltese American Community Club of Dearborn

5221 Oakman Blvd, Dearborn, MI 48126
313-846-7077
info@malteseamericanclub.org
Opening hours: Monday, Wednesday & Friday
10:00 am. – 1:00 p.m.
Dinners served: Friday evenings 6:00 p.m. – 10:00
p.m.
Before and after 7:00 p.m. first Friday
Mass

Maltese-American Social Club of San Francisco

924 El Camino Real, South San Francisco, CA 94080
650-871-4611
contact-us@Maltese-AmericanSCSF.org
Opening hours: Tuesday 5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
(every 2nd Tuesday of the month only)
Thursday 5: p.m. – 10:00 p.m.
Friday 5:00 – 1:00 a.m.
Sunday 9:00 am.- 5:00 p.m.

Maltese Canadian Association of the City of Hamilton (MCACH)

c/o 381 Fairview Drive, Brantford ON N3R 2X7
mcach1964@gmail.com

Maltese Canadian Association (Gozo)

c/o Trillium, Sqaq Nru 1, Triq it-Tigrija, ix-Xagħra
 Tel: 011 356 21560656
mcagozo@hotmail.com

Maltese Canadian Business & Networking Association (MCBNA), (Toronto)

c/o 2387 Chilsworthy Avenue, Mississauga, ON
 L5B 2R4
 416-980-1975
mcbna2018@gmail.com

Maltese-Canadian Cruisers

c/o 5745 Coopers Avenue, Mississauga, ON
 L4Z 1R9
 416-524-2573
 att: Gianni Borg

Maltese-Canadian Cultural Association (Est. 2018)

c/o 2387 Chilsworth Avenue, Mississauga, ON
 L5B 2R4
 416-571-3944
joesherry@rogers.com

Maltese Canadian Federation, The (Toronto)

c/o 2387 Chilsworth Avenue, Mississauga, ON
 L5B 2R4
 416-571-3944
joesherry@rogers.com

Maltese-Canadian Museum Archives and Visitors Centre

St. Paul the Apostle Church Complex
 3224 Dundas St. W., Toronto, ON M6P 2A3
 416-767-7054

Maltese Canucks

c/o 3336 Dundas Street West, Toronto, ON,
 M6P 2A4
 416-909-7357/414-670-2662
carl@isgtransport.com/b_azzo18@yahoo.com

Maltese Cross Foundation of California

PO Box 698, San Carlos, CA 94070

Maltese Historical Society (San Francisco)

c/o leprofess@aol.com

Maltese Center, NYC

27-20 Hoyt Ave. S. Astoria, NY 11102
 718-728-9893
info@maltesecenter.com

Opening hours:

Wednesday and Friday 5:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.
 Saturday and Sunday 8:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Maltese Culture Club of Durham

c/o 124 Ribblesdale Drive, Whitby, ON L1N 7C8
 289-939-8377
mmpastizzi@gmail.com

Maltese Heritage Association San Francisco Bay Area

maltesheritageassociation@gmail.com

Maltese Heritage Program (Toronto)

c/o 59A Terry Drive, Toronto, ON, M6N 4Y8
 Coordinator: Carmen Galea
 416-766-5830
gormija@sympatico.ca

Melita Soccer Club Inc.

3336 Dundas St. W., Toronto, ON M6P 2A4
 416-763-5317
msc@melitasoccerclub.com

Opening hours:

Monday-Thursday 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
 Friday 6:00 p.m.-1:00 a.m.
 Saturday 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
 Sunday 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

St. Paul the Apostle Parish

3224 Dundas St. W. Toronto, ON M6P 2A3
 416-767-7054
stpaulmssp@gmail.com
www.saint-paul-maltese.com

St. Paul the Apostle Parish Mission Group

c/o 281 Gilmour Ave., Toronto, ON M6P 3B6
 416-708-8627
giovanvel@sympatico.ca
www.facebook.com/john.vella.1044186

St. Paul the Apostle Youth Group (Toronto)

3224 Dundas Street West, Toronto, ON M6P 2A3
 647-524-1115
jason.borg@hotmail.ca/sborg@rogers.com

MALTESE CANADIAN ASSOCIATION (GOZO) CELEBRATES CANADA DAY, JULY 1, 2020



Courtesy of the Maltese Canadian Association (Gozo)