

Acts 28:1-11

<sup>1</sup> Once we had come safely through, we discovered that the island was called Malta.

<sup>2</sup> The inhabitants treated us with unusual kindness. They made us all welcome by lighting a huge fire because it had started to rain and the weather was cold.

<sup>3</sup> Paul had collected a bundle of sticks and was putting them on the fire when a viper brought out by the heat attached itself to his hand.

<sup>4</sup> When the inhabitants saw the creature hanging from his hand they said to one another, 'That man must be a murderer; he may have escaped the sea, but divine justice would not let him live.'

<sup>5</sup> However, he shook the creature off into the fire and came to no harm,

<sup>6</sup> although they were expecting him at any moment to swell up or drop dead on the spot. After they had waited a long time without seeing anything out of the ordinary happen to him, they changed their minds and began to say he was a god.

<sup>7</sup> In that neighbourhood there were estates belonging to the chief man of the island, whose name was Publius. He received us and entertained us hospitably for three days.

<sup>8</sup> It happened that Publius' father was in bed, suffering from fever and dysentery. Paul went in to see him, and after a prayer he laid his hands on the man and healed him.

<sup>9</sup> When this happened, the other sick people on the island also came and were cured;

<sup>10</sup> they honoured us with many marks of respect, and when we sailed they put on board the provisions we needed.

<sup>11</sup> At the end of three months we set sail in a ship that had wintered in the island; she came from Alexandria and her figurehead was the Twins.

**Colloquium of European Parishes (CEP)  
Youths  
Malta 2013**



**The Courage of Faith in Today's Society  
(2 Tim 1,7)**

**7th—12th July 2013  
Mellieha,  
Malta.**

Name\_\_\_\_\_

Dear friend,

Welcome to Malta! It is a great pleasure to have you with us. During the time with us we want to give you a great experience of faith in Jesus Christ which will continue to mark the rest of your life.

God, in his great love, provides persons and experiences which touch our lives and uses these encounters in order to enter in our lives and mark our lives. These are special encounters with God.

In sharing our experiences and listening to other people's experiences, how they matured in faith, how they found God in their lives, we continue to realize what a great loving God we have. Our thirst to grow and mature in faith is a sign that God wants to deepen his intimate relationship with us. Jesus Christ, with the power of the Holy Spirit, invites us to open wide the doors of our hearts in order for Him to enter triumphantly as the great king of our hearts.

God is the lord of history. God works in history and makes it his own place where God encounters his people, where history becomes salvation history. The history of Malta is all marked with God's loving intervention for his people and the Maltese people have responded in faith. The history of Malta grew hand in hand with its religious heritage to the extent that one can say that the history of Malta is deeply religious.

Times are changing and the effects of secularization are affecting Malta as well. The need for re-evangelization is also felt in Malta. A faith based on a profound encounter with Jesus Christ has to mark this re-evangelization, this encounter with Christ cannot leave us unchanged, a real encounter with Christ transforms us into witnesses of the faith we proclaim. Let us make this CEP Youths Malta an opportunity for us to grow in faith, to grow in our life of prayer in order to become beacons of light of the faith we proclaim.

Let us pray to our beloved Mother, Mary, the model of the perfect disciple, to accompany us as we seek to be in union with her beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Let us offer the gift of our youth as an offer of thanks giving to God for the great love He has for us.

Yours in Christ

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Notes

Dear young people, Christ's love and His friendship are not an illusion – on the Cross Jesus shows us how concrete they are --, they are not reserved for a few. You will find this friendship and will experience all its fruitfulness and beauty if you seek it with sincerity, open yourselves with confidence to Him, and cultivate with commitment your spiritual life by approaching the Sacraments, meditating on Sacred Scripture, praying with constancy, and living intensely in the Christian community. Feel yourselves part of the Church, be committed to evangelization, in union with brothers in the faith and in communion with your Pastors. Do not be afraid to live the faith! – Pope Francis (1<sup>st</sup> July 2013)







**CEP Youths Mellieha 2013 (7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> July)  
Programme**

***Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2013***

18:30 hrs – 19:30 hrs	Mass at Our Lady of Victories Parish Church Mellieha
19:30 hrs – 20:30 hrs	Opening Ceremony / Drink
21:00 hrs	Dinner at Solana Hotel

***Monday 8<sup>th</sup> July 2013***

08:00 hrs	Prayer
08:30 hrs – 09:00 hrs	General Introduction (Philip Mueller)
09:15 hrs – 09:30 hrs	Presentation of the Programme
09:30 hrs – 10:00 hrs	Coffee Break
10:00 hrs – 10:45 hrs	Presentation – The Development of Christian Faith in Malta
10:45 hrs – 11:45 hrs	Workshops
11:45 hrs – 12:45 hrs	Mass (including sharing of what had been discussed in the workshops)
13:00 hrs – 14:00 hrs	Lunch
14:00 hrs – 17:00 hrs	Free Time
17:00 hrs	Transfer to Gzira
18:00 hrs – 18:45 hrs	Dar Patri Leopoldu - Shelter for the homeless – Gzira.
19:00 hrs – 20:00 hrs	Kalkara – St Joseph's Feast
21:00 hrs	Dinner at Solana Hotel

***Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> July 2013***

08:00 hrs	Prayer
08:45 hrs – 09:00 hrs	Introduction
09:00 hrs – 09:45 hrs	Sharing of Experiences – Country/Group
09:45 hrs – 10:30 hrs	Presentation - Diocesan Youth Commission
10:30 hrs – 11:00 hrs	Coffee Break
11:00 hrs – 12:00 hrs	Workshops
12:00 hrs – 13:00 hrs	Mass (including sharing of workshop discussions)
13:00 hrs – 14:00 hrs	Lunch
14:00 hrs – 15:00 hrs	Free Time
15:00 hrs	Departure to Gozo (Parish Visit)
	Visiting Xaghra Parish
	Dinner/BBQ in Xaghra

***Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> July 2013***

08:00 hrs	Transfer to St Paul's Bay
08:30 hrs	Prayers - Islands of St Paul
09:45 hrs	Transfer to Rabat
10:15 hrs – 11:00 hrs	Mass at St Paul's Grotto in Rabat
11:15 hrs – 12:00 hrs	Visit to San Blas – Drug Rehabilitation Centre Caritas
13:00 hrs – 14:00 hrs	Lunch
14:00 hrs – 18:00 hrs	Preparing presentations (cards to participants etc)
18:00 hrs	Free Time
21:00 hrs	Dinner at Solana Hotel

***Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2013***

08:00 hrs	Prayer
08:30 hrs – 09:15 hrs	Youth Presentations + Highlights of the Youth Programme + Personal experiences
09:30 hrs – 10:15 hrs	Presentation (Luca Bressan)
10:15 hrs – 10:30 hrs	Coffee Break
10:45 hrs – 11:30 hrs	Conclusion (Alphons Borrás)
11:45 hrs – 12:45 hrs	Youth Workshops (sharing of personal experiences + conclusion)
13:00 hrs – 14:00 hrs	Lunch
14:00 hrs – 17:00 hrs	Free Time
17:00 hrs	Transfer to Mdina
17:30 hrs – 18:00 hrs	Cultural Visit to Mdina
18:00 hrs – 19:00 hrs	Mass at Mdina Cathedral (Archbishop)
19:30 hrs – 21:30 hrs	Cultural Visit to Xara Palace
21:00 hrs	Feast of Nations & Dinner at Palazzo Xara (Rabat)

***Friday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2013***

07:45 hrs	Transfer to Cirkewwa Harbour
08:15 hrs – 08:45 hrs	Ferry Crossing to Gozo
09:00 hrs	Transfer to Ta' Pinu Sanctuary
09:30 hrs – 10:00 hrs	Tour of Ta' Pinu Sanctuary
10:00 hrs – 11:00 hrs	Mass at Ta' Pinu Sanctuary (Gozo Bishop)
11:15 hrs	Transfer to Citadel
11:30 hrs – 12:30 hrs	Visit Citadel & Victoria Cathedral
12:45 hrs	Transfer to Xlendi Bay
13:00 hrs – 14:30 hrs	Lunch at Xlendi Bay
14:30 hrs	Transfer to Mgarr Harbour
15:00 hrs – 15:30 hrs	Ferry Crossing to Gozo
16:00 hrs	Transfer to Mellieha
21:00 hrs	Dinner at Solana Hotel