

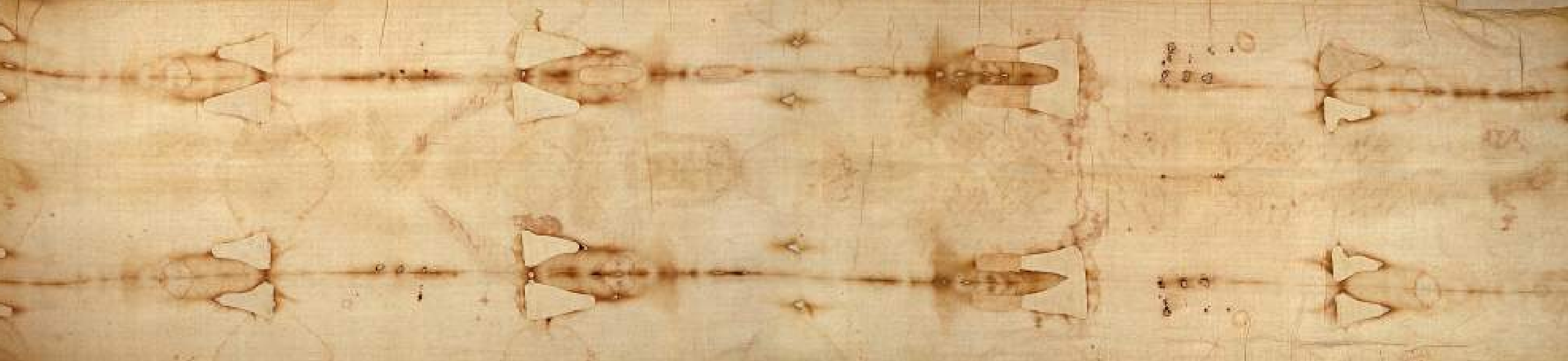


# THE JOY OF HIS LOVE

Journey of the authentic copy of the  
Holy Shroud in Malta

The joy of the Gospel fills the hearts and lives of all who encounter Jesus.  
Those who accept his offer of salvation are set free from sin, sorrow, inner  
emptiness and loneliness.

Pope Francis, EG 1



Take a moment and contemplate the “Greatest Love” revealed in the Image of the Man of the Shroud. This evangelisation project proposed by the Abramo Community was an element of the Diocesan celebrations for the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy and has been ongoing.

The Shroud at face value is a linen sheet containing the image of a dead man; who’s death was the result of torture ending with crucifixion. But we invite you to look further. Gazing at the shroud you can discover the direct and immediate reference it has to the cross. Referred to as the “Mirror of the Gospel” by Saint Pope John Paul II the shroud is a silent witness to the dramatic reality of the Passion of Jesus.

Enter into a spiritual experience where you can

come to the fount of love and be restored by a love that consoles, frees and heals. The Shroud teaches us that we, as Christians, should not distance ourselves from suffering, instead we are encouraged to be witnesses of God’s Love.



The mission began in one of the jubilee churches. The display of the authentic copy of the Holy Shroud of Turin, in its natural size, is accompanied by dynamic and engaging personal witnesses of the love God and much more.

Co-responsible of the Churches evangelical action we will work with the purpose of gathering the young generation from the streets, schools, clubs, families and reaching out to the poor and suffering as a Church that goes forth, living the rich Joy of the Greatest Love.



“MIRROR OF THE GOSPEL”

St. John Paul II (1998)



“EVERY TRACE OF BLOOD SPEAKS OF LOVE AND LIFE”

Pope Benedict XVI (2010)



“IT IS LIKE IT SAYS: HAVE FAITH, DON’T LOSE HOPE; THE STRENGTH OF GOD’S LOVE, THE STRENGTH OF THE RISEN ALWAYS WINS”

Pope Francis (2015)



The Jubilee of Mercy, an extraordinary time of God given Grace transmitted to us all through His Holiness Pope Francis, is still alive. The mercy of God is infinite and has no end as is his wish that we imitate him by showing mercy to each other. For this reason the invitation to mercy is an integral and important part of the New Evangelisation that the Church has embarked on.

The exposition of the true copy of the Sacra Sindone or Holy Shroud of Turin in its true to life dimensions, is to be for each and every one of us a true spiritual experience as we turn to Christ in contemplating his suffering and glorious face. Jesus is the source of love that inspires us to walk in his footsteps. He is the love which speaks to our hearts and urges us on to walk up the mount of Calvary, and together with him, come face to face with the Cross.

The Shroud teaches us to keep in mind always the tears and sufferings of all humanity. As we contemplate the image on the Shroud showing the man who suffered and died and rose from the dead, we experience the solace, the healing and the salvation that he brought to us and reminds us to be faithful witnesses to all the persons who

need them, especially those who, in some time or other of their earthly lives, find themselves going up the steep Calvary of their existence.

The image on the Shroud reminds us of Christ who in his own words gave his life like the grain of wheat, so that we are not alone, so that we may feel his comforting arm around our shoulders as he walks with us and so that we may also offer our arms to embrace all those in need. Simultaneously the image bears witness to the Resurrection and so becomes a sign of hope. The man whose image is on the shroud suffered and died but he is not there anymore; only the image remains. Do not look for him here. He is risen.



As I thank heart fully the Comunità Abramo for this great initiative, I call and urge you all, as individuals and collectively as Christ's Church, not to be afraid to look upon your wounds and those of your neighbours, so that, with your lives and with your words, you become means of solace, healing and salvation.

Charles J. Scicluna  
Metropolitan Archbishop of Malta

+ *Charles J. Scicluna*





# November 2016 Nativity of the Virgin Mary, Senglea

*Door of Mercy*

”



My strong opinion is that the thirty days of evangelization led by the Abramo Community were extremely beneficial for my parish.

However this is only the beginning. We cannot stop here, because the members of the Abramo Community have succeeded so well, where so many others achieved little,

I truly desire to lead my flock with the help of this community.

Rev. Can. Fr Robin Camilleri



# December 2016 and January 2017 St. Paul, Metropolitan Cathedral, Mdina

“

I sincerely thank the Abramo Community for this evangelization initiative, which was a precious time for my parish.

Their spiritual contribution was very important especially for all those visiting the Cathedral who have found young people available to listen and pray with them and ultimately to give witness of the Love of Christ.

Rev. Mgr. Anthony Cassar







# February 2017 Immaculate Heart of Mary, Burmarrad

“

The Parish community thanks the Lord for the presence of the Holy Shroud and the Abramo Community.

An intense month that was an oasis that restores and strengthens the journey of the Christian community that sometime is slow and wounded by indifference.

Their joyful and peaceful presence helped us to experience the Love of the Father.

Rev. Fr. Christian Anthony M. Borg  
OFM Conv.



# March 2017 Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary into Heaven, Imqabba

“

A tangible fruit of this month of mission was undoubtedly the great participation of faithful during the celebration of the Holy Week.

I thank the Lord for the gift of having the authentic copy of the Holy Shroud displayed for more than one month with the constant support of the members of the Abramo Community that have evangelised with love during all the time.

Rev. Fr. John P. Curmi





# April 2017 Christ the King, Paola

“

There is no doubt that this mission of Evangelisation that reached so many diverse sectors of the Paola Community was more than fruitful. It was held at a very appropriate time of the year when the people are more prone and inclined to listen to the Word of God.

This was a good start and it is important that it should not stop here.

The established contacts should be strengthened in the coming years. It is hoped that, with God's help, all the benefits attained, thanks to the Members of the Abramo Community, will not be lost but help the Paola community to enrich its beliefs.

Rev. Can. Marc Andrè Camilleri,





# May 2017 St. Venera

“

I heartily wish to thank the Lord for all the graces He bestowed on the Parish of Sta. Venera during this month and I also wish to thank the Abramo Community for their commitment to delivery the Gospel to our people.

Rev. Fr. Maurice Abela O. Carm.





# June 2017 Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Balluta



I would like to thank the members of the Abramo Community who carried out this evangelisation in our parish.

The experience of the visit of the Holy Shroud was a strong moment for our parish, also through their witnesses of life and the musical animation of the Mass.

I wish the Abramo community to continue this mission of evangelisation and that may the love of God be proclaimed with joy to every person.

Rev. Fr. Joe Saliba O. Carm.



# July 2017 Our Lady, of Pompei Marsaxlokk

“

The shroud in our parish was a wonderful experience of true witness.

The witness of the families accompanying the shroud was compelling to young and old people alike.

All in all a very prayerful experience.

Rev. Can. Luke Seguna







# August 2017 St. Anne, Marsascala

“

“No eye has seen...” 1 Cor 2:9  
For people who have recieved the gift of faith, the event of the resurrection of Christ dwells in their hearts and transforms the way they live.

Yet, seeing with our own eyes helps our human condition to remember the faith and enter into an atmosphere of prayer.

Fortunately, we had the occasion to host the authentic replica of the Shroud of Turin for all the community to see and come together in prayer.  
It has been a blessing for our community to contemplate the greatest love of Christ through his life, death and resurrection.

Fr. Roderick Camilleri





# September 2017 St. Mary, Mġarr

“

The Parish gathered around the shroud of Turin, experienced a deep sense of what the meaning of communicating with God is.

In a noisy world, they experienced the silence of the shroud, an active silence which led them to life reflection.

Rev. Mgr. Kalcidon Vassallo







# October 2017 St. Francis of Assisi, Birkirkara



Together with all my brothers  
I can say that it was a special  
month for all the people that  
participated in our Church.

It was a moment of grace,  
particularly for all those  
that prayed in front of the  
authentic copy of the Holy  
Shroud.

Rev. Fr. Joseph Mamo  
OFM Conv.

February &  
March 2018

St. John's  
Co-Cathedral,  
Valletta

“

2,600 petitions were written  
during the mission in Valletta.





# April 2018 Archbishop's Seminary School

“

As part of the Archbishop's Seminary school's celebration of life, staff members, students and their families prayed and reflected on Jesus' death and resurrection in front of the authentic copy of the Shroud of Turin.

The school community was reminded of the presence of the Resurrected Lord in its midst who shares with us his divine life.

Fr. Stephen Magro  
Chaplain of Minor Seminary







# From May 2018 Tal-Erwieħ Church, Tarxien

*National Sanctuary of the Authentic copy of the  
Holy Shroud*



”

Recently, the copy of the Holy Shroud was placed on a permanent basis at tal-Erwieħ Church, Tarxien. Here there is a vibrant community.

It has accepted with an open heart the testimonies shared by members of the Abramo Community, though we still need to embark on a proper programme of evangelisation, so that more people will experience God's love in their lives on a personal level.

Rev. Fr. Jesmond Manicaro



# July and August 2018

## The Joy of His Love

“

St. John Paul II believed that families are of vital importance for the new springtime of the evangelization because the “sacrament of marriage is a sign of God’s work in the world; it reveals and points to the origin of its existence, God” (FC 48).

Enlightened by these words the Abramo Community is sending its families from Italy to live a time of mission during July and August

2018 to celebrate the "Joy of His Love" as part of the project of Evangelisation with the authentic copy of the Holy Shroud. During the months there will be various moments of prayer, witnesses and worship to experience the Joy of the Love of God!

The conclusion will be on Saturday 18th August with the celebration of the Holy Mass at 20.00 in the presence of the Holy Shroud.

### July

- 3.07 Street Evangelisation in Burmarrad (from 17.00)
- 5.07 Eucharistic Adoration in Balluta at 19.00
- 6.07 Abramo Communiy meeting in Senglea at 18.30
- 7.07 “Rejoice and be Glad” Holy Mass and Eucharistic Adoration in Burmarrad
- 8.07 Witness of an Italian family in Tarxien at 10.30
- 18.07 Holy Mass in Senglea at 18.00
- 20.07 Holy Mass celebrated by H.E. Mgr. Cesare Nosiglia in the Oratory of the Redeemer, Senglea
- 21.07

### August (Marsascula)

- 8.08 Holy Mass with the Children and moment of witness at 9.15  
Youth meeting with TAG at 18.00
- 9.08 Home visits
- 10.08 Youth meeting with MTG and PLYG at 18.00
- 11.08 Holy Mass in St. Thomas Bay at 18.30 and witness of the family
- 14.08 Home Visits
- 15.08 Holy Mass with the Children and moment of witness at 9.15
- 16.08 Youth Meeting with MUSEUM
- 18.08 Final Mass, witness of the family and Eucharistic Adoration at 20.00 (in the presence of the Holy Shroud)

### (Tarxien)

- 6.08 Home visits
- 12.08 Holy Mass and witness of the Family at 10.30
- 13.08 Home visits
- 17.08 The Greteast Love Experience (Eucharistic Adoration, Confessions)
- 20.08 Home visits



- 22.07 Holy Mass celebrated by H.E. Mgr. Cesare Nosiglia at 10.00, Ta Pinu, Gozo







The meeting delivered by the Abramo community in MCAST, Gozo was extremely positive and I can say with satisfaction that every participant was deeply touched.

This experience has confirmed that the mission of evangelisation is not only a duty of priests but a mission of all the baptised. For this reason, on behalf of the School Headmaster and all the Community of MCAST I thank by heart the Abramo Community.

Fr. Samuel Grech  
Spiritual Director  
MCAST College, Gozo



There is no doubt that the visit from the Abramo Community was a grace from the Lord to our Institute and it is our conviction that the seeds that have been sowed in hearts of our students will bear fruit, sooner or later.

The students showed an exceptionally positive behaviour and attention. Most of them were impressed with the narrative of conversion because they were witnessing real life stories from the mouth of the protagonists.

Fr. Noel Debono  
Spiritual Director  
Sir Michelangelo Refalo



On the 5th May 2017 the Abramo Community actively participated to "Auda-City", organised by the Diocesan Vocational Centre for the youths coming from the pastoral unity of Mosta, Naxxar, Gharghur and Mgarr.

The Abramo Community was able to create a joyful atmosphere through the music and dances of evangelisation. Certainly they encouraged us all to research and witness the vocational call.  
Thank you, God Bless you.

Fr. Charlon Muscat  
Director of the Diocesan  
Vocational Centre



Getting to know more about the Shroud I realised how great is the love that Jesus has for me, and he suffered that much so that I could be saved.

In the Shroud I see the work of Jesus. Despite all the odds, the mission of the Shroud is giving fruits, that are still lasting, Jesus is alive.

It's for sure an experience of the greatest love.

Marvic



The experience of the Shroud, brought me face to face with all the pain that Jesus had to bear for me. Having had the opportunity to evangelise to people with the Shroud, made me realise how much God trusts me all the time, he used me as a channel to convey his love to his people.

Besides, watching the people experiencing the Shroud and then writing a prayer, showed me that when a person encounters the love of Christ in a really intimate way, that person will never be the same again.

Daniela



Everytime I spent praying in front of the Shroud I deeply experienced the significant presence of God Thee Almighty in my soul.

Johnny



# The Abramo Community in Malta

## Senglea Parish Church

Every first Friday of the month  
18.00 Holy Mass  
18.30 Eucharistic Adoration



## Tal-Erwieħ Church, Tarxien

Every Friday at 18.15 Holy Mass  
from 19.00 "The Greatest Love Experience"  
(Eucharistic Adoration and Confessions)

From October 2018 "The Joy of His Love" for youths







Street Evangelisation



# Contemplating

The suffering and glorious face of Jesus



Home Visits

# The Greatest Love Experience

For a Church which goes forth



In the Schools

Youth Meetings





Abramo Community

[www.shroudmalta.com](http://www.shroudmalta.com)

[www.youhope.it](http://www.youhope.it)



"I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your  
joy may be complete" JN 15,11