

Feast of Our Lady of Loreto

Programme of Activities

August 2023

*Translation from the Official Maltese Programme
by Ghajnsielem Local Council for the benefit of all non-Maltese residents
and tourists who are planning to join for the week-long celebrations.*



Monday 21st August

Fifth day of the Novena

6.00pm - Recitation of the rosary, Salve Regina and Eucharistic celebration.

7.00pm – Solemn concelebration led by Can. Joe Cardona with participation of children and parents. Albert-Lauren and Loredana Agius will animate.

8.45pm – Band March by Ghajnsielem's St Joseph starting from Garden Street and ending in the main square.

10.45pm – Titular statue taken out of its niche among the Marian hymns of the present crowd. Last feast collection.

Tuesday 22nd August

Sixth day of the Novena

6.00pm – Rosary, recitation of the chaplet and Sacramental Blessing

6.30pm – Solemn concelebration led by the Mons. Ġużeppi Attard and Deacon Franklin Micallef with the participation and animation of the local youths and families. 'Virgo' choir will animate. Presentation of Babies and Children to Our Lady of Loreto.

9.30pm – The St Joseph Band will perform a musical program in front of the club's premises under the direction of Director Frankie Debono.

Wednesday 23rd August

First day of the Solemn Triduum

9.00am - Mass by Fr Antoine Borg, Director of Radju Maria.

6.00pm – Celebration of the Vespers led by Archpriest Can. Frankie Bajada and recitation of the chaplet.

6.30pm – Mass by Mons Renato Borg, Rector of Lourdes Chapel. Sermon delivered by Dun Gerald Buhagiar.

9.00pm – Marian vigil of prayers in the church. Procession 'Aux Flambaux' in main square and rosary in different languages with the collaboration of expats living among us.

Thursday 24^h August

Second day of the Solemn Triduum

6.00pm – Celebration of the Vespers led by Fr Samuel Grech and recitation of the chaplet.

6.30pm – Solemn concelebration led by P. Marcello Ghrilando ofm with sermon delivered by Dun Gerald Buhagiar followed by Hymn, antiphon and Eucharistic benediction.

9.30pm – Traditional Band March by St Joseph Band starting from Simirat Street and ending in the St Joseph Band Club premises. At 11.15pm, in Independence Square, the Statue of the Madonna of Loreto on Holy Home will be raised on a Pedestal followed by a video feature and synchronised fireworks display from rooftops.

12.00am – Ground fireworks and paper lightshow display in front of the main clubs organised by Sinfonia del Sole.

Friday 25th August

Third day of the Solemn Triduum.

6.00pm – Celebration of the Vespers led by Fr Joe Cardona and recitation of the chaplet.

6.30pm – Solemn concelebration led by Fr. Samuel Grech. Sermon delivered by Dun Gerald Buhagiar followed by Hymn, Antiphon and Eucharistic benediction.

9.30pm – Grand demonstration with the statue of 'Our Lady of Home' starting from Mgarr Road ending in the main square. Ghajnsielem's St Joseph Band and Xewkija's Prekursur Band will take part.

10.45pm – A feature show made by the 'Għaqda Armar Ghajnsielem' will be displayed in the crossroad between Imgarr Road, Ghajnsielem Street and Cordina Street

12.00am – The statue will be elevated onto its pedestal in a unique way among the chanting of 'Ave Maria' and 'Viva x-Xemx'.

12.30am – Sinfonia del Sole – 'Fiamme e Fiori' synchronized music and fireworks display.

Saturday 26th August

Conclusion of the Solemn Triduum

9.00am - Pontifical concelebration presided by Archpriest Frankie Bajada. The Te Deum hymn concludes the solemn Triduum.

5.30pm – Ghajnsielem's St Joseph Band plays marches from Cordina Street

6.15pm – The St Joseph Band and the members of the religious orders will then accompany the solemn procession of the Relic which departs from the Old Parish Church. The procession will be led by Archpriest Fr Frankie Bajada.

7.00pm – Celebration of the First Vespers of the Solemnity, presided by Archpriest Fr Frankie Bajada.

8.00pm – Mass by Fr. Samuel Grech.

9.30pm – Traditional 'Marc ta' lejlet il-festa' starting from Hamri street and ending in the main square. Band marches performed by Ghajnsielem's St Joseph Band and Sannat's Santa Margerita band.

12.00am – Sinfonia Del Sole: Third edition of the 'Torre di Fuoco' with a synchronized fireworks display in front of the main clubs.

Sunday 27th August

Feast of Our Lady of Loreto

Mass at 7.00am, 8.00am

9.00am - Pontifical Eucharistic Concelebration of the Solemnity presided by the Gozo Bishop, Anthon Teuma.

Mass continues at 11.15am, 5.00pm

6.30pm – Solemn Vespers led by Mons. Ġużeppi Atarrd

6.30pm – The St Joseph Band Club will play marches from its club’s premises finishing in the main square.

7.30pm – Appearance of the statue of ‘Our Lady of Loreto’. A Pontifical Procession will then start along the main streets. The St Joseph Band proudly accompanies the procession with the performance of religious hymns.

8.15pm – Victoria’s Leone Band will perform a musical program in the main square.

10.25pm – The procession arrives in the main square ending with a triumphal entrance of the statue and fireworks display. Arcpriest Can. Frankie Bajada will then execute the popular antiphon and Eucharistic celebration.

