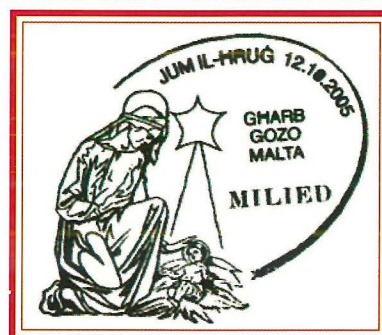
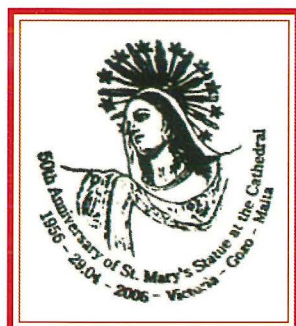


Special Hand Stamp Cancellations



Christmas 2005



50th Anniversary St. Mary Statue - Gozo Cathedral



Special Hand Stamp Cancellations with Marian Connection

2005

Christmas 2005

12-10-2005

To cancel the 2005 Christmas set of stamps on its First Day of Issue, Maltapost p.l.c. issued this special Hand stamp on 12 November 2005. The four stamps which make up the set represents mosaic pictures found at the Ta' Pinu Shrine, at Gharb Gozo. While the original designs for the mosaics were done by Chev. Emvin Cremona, the stamps and special handstamp were designed by Chev. Paul Camilleri Cauchi.

The hand stamp shows the knelling Madonna caressing her Son's head. This image is also found on the 7c stamp. Chev. Camilleri Cauchi included in all the stamps sculptured designs found at the same shrine, These designs are the work of his father, the well known Gozitan artist Wistin Camilleri.

The **Santwarju tal-Madonna ta' Pinu** is located 700 metres away from the village of Gharb, located on the island of Gozo, Malta. The works for the new church began May 30, 1920, and the church was consecrated the August 31, 1932. It was built in a neo-romantic style. The bell tower is 61 metres high.

The sanctuary was visited by Pope John Paul II during his visit on the island of Malta in May 1990.

As usual all post offices in Malta and Gozo was issued with this hand stamp, inscribed with the village or town's name.

2006

50th ANNIVERSARY OF ST. MARY STATUE AT THE (GOZO) CATHEDRAL

1956 - 29 April - 2006

Maltapost p.l.c. issued a Special handstamp cancellation from Victoria Sub Post Office on 29 April 2006 to commemorate the 50 Anniversary of the Donation of the Saint Mary's Statue by the Leone Philarmonic Society to the Gozo Cathedral Apart from the wording, the postmark depicts a representation (bust) of the statue of the St. Mary. The handstamp was designed by George Vella.

2006

125 Anniversary of the Coronation of the image of
Our Lady of Mount Carmel
Valletta Malta
15 July 2006

On the occasion of 125 Anniversary of the Crowning of the main Altarpiece found at the Carmelite Basilica and shrine dedicated to Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Valletta, Malta, Maltapost plc issued a special hand stamp. The Handstamp in an oval double ring form shows the coat of arms of the Carmelite order together with a replica of the Crown which was solemnly placed on the Madonna's head as queen of Heaven and Earth. The Crowning of this miraculous image of Our Lady under the title of Mount Carmel was the first image to be crowned in the Maltese Islands.

The handstamp was given only from the Valletta Post Office.

2006

MILIED - CHRISTMAS 2006
6TH. November 2006

A Christmas set of stamps made up of four stamps and a miniature sheet was issued on 6TH November 2006. The hand stamp used to cancel the set on its first day of issue shows the Nativity scene in silhouette style. The stamps and miniature sheet together with the special hand stamp were designed by George Vella. All post offices in Malta and Gozo were issued with such hand stamp, with their village or town's name inscribed in it.

Anthony Grech

References

The Malta Stamp, Official Bulletin of the Philatelic Bureau.

Special Hand Stamp Cancellations

Tifkira tal-125 sena
meta saret l-ewwel Inkurunazzjoni
fil-gżejjer Maltin ta'
Xbieha Mirakoluza
tal-Madonna tal-Karmnu
fis-Santwarju Bażilika dedikata lilha
fil-Belt Valletta
15 ta' Lulju 1881 - 2006



125 Anniversary Coronation Image of O. L. of Mt. Carmel, Valletta



Christmas 2006

