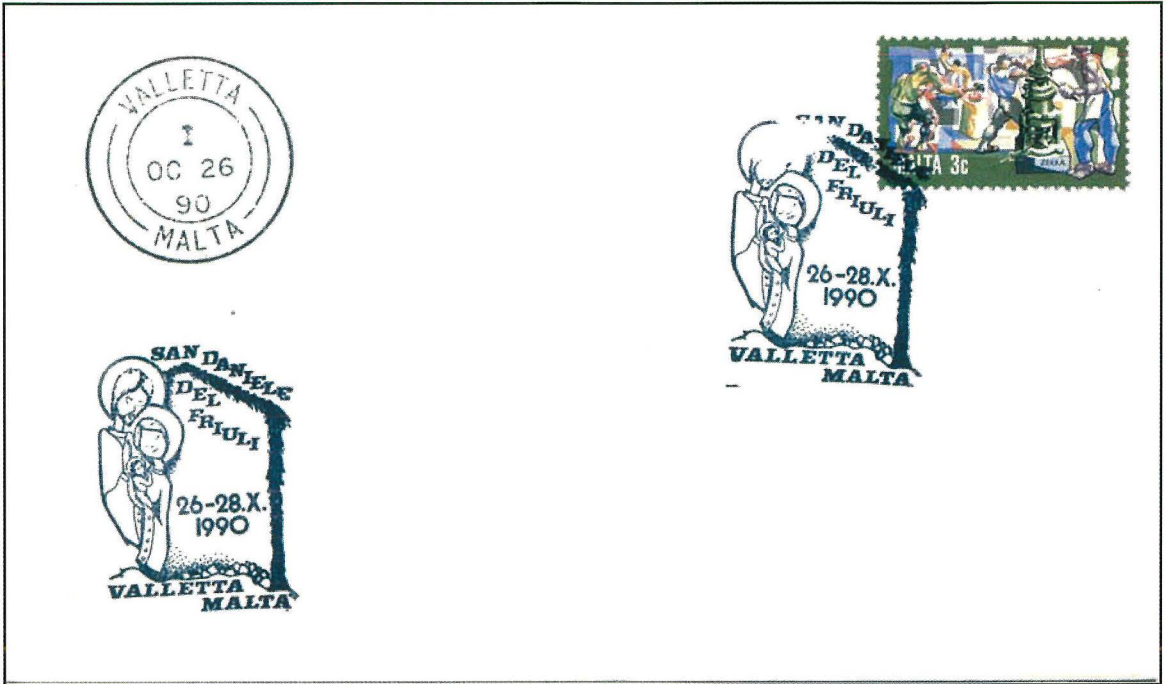
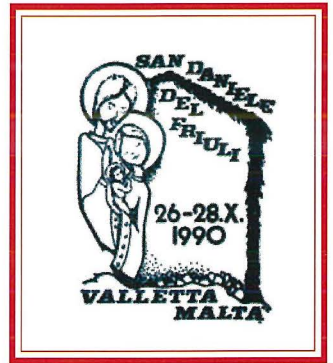


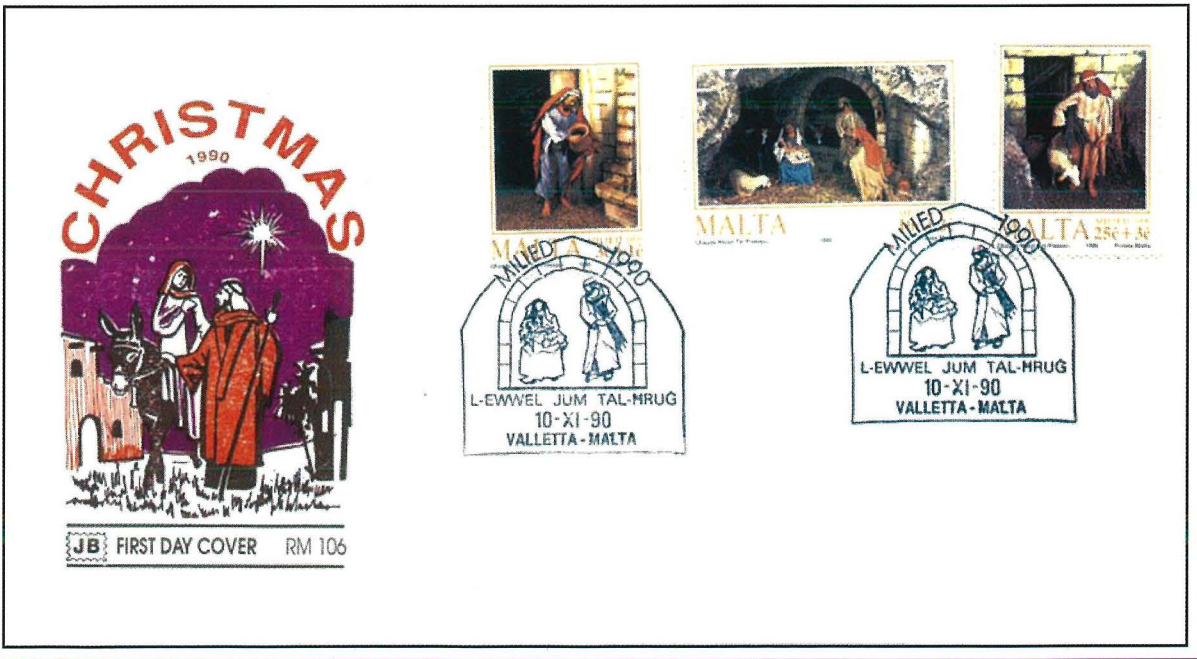
Special Hand Stamp Cancellations



Friuli Stamp Exhibition Hand Stamp 1990



Christmas Hand Stamp 1990



Special Hand Stamp Cancellations with Marian Connection

1988

**'MILIED - 5.11.88 MALTA L-EWWEL JUM TAL-HRUĠ'
(Christmas - 5.11.88 Malta First Day of Issue)**

A set of three Christmas Stamps was issued on 5TH November 1988. The stamps in silhouette style was designed by Ray Gauci. The Hand stamp cancellation used for the set's first day of issue was kept in style of the stamp design. It is a double ring circular handstamp with the figures of Mary and Joseph in the centre. All post offices in Malta and Gozo were provided with such hand stamp, with their village or town's name inscribed there.

1990

**'ŻJARA TAL-Q.T. IL-PAPA ĠWANNI PAWLU II
SANTWARJU TA' PINU
VICTORIA-GOZO-MALTA 28-V-1990'
(Visit of H.H. Pope John Paul II
Ta' Pinu Sanctuary
Victoria-Gozo-Malta 28-V-1990)**

The year 1990 will always remain in the hearts of Maltese and Gozitans as a most blessed year in our history. This was the year that after almost 2000 years of Christianity, Christ representative on earth set foot for the first time on Maltese and Gozitan soil. The Great and Saintly Pope of the Madonna paid our Country a three-day visit starting from the 25 May 1990. On the 28th May it was our little island's fortunate turn to welcome this Apostle. It was impossible for such a devotee of Mary as H.H. Pope John Paul II, not to visit Her in the National Shrine of Ta' Pinu. This happened on 28th May 1990. Here he prayed in silence.

For this unique occasion the Malta post Office issued this special commemorative hand stamp from its Victoria Branch. It does not bear any image of our Lady, but depicts a design of the Basilica/Shrine of 'Ta' Pinu'.

1990

**'SAN DANIELE DEI FRIULI
26-28 X 1990
VALLETTA MALTA'**

This Special hand stamp was issued to commemorate the participation of the Malta Post Office in the 'San Daniele dei Friuli Stamp Exhibition' in Italy.

It was in use from the Valletta Post Office for the duration of the exhibition from the 26th to 28th October 1990.

The hand stamp shows the Holy Family, St. Joseph and the Blessed Virgin Mary holding Baby Jesus.

1990

**'MILIED 1990
L-EWWEL JUM TAL HRUG
10-XI-90
MALTA
(Christmas 1990 First Day of Issue 10-xi-90 Malta)**

To cancel the 1990 Christmas set of stamps on its First Day of Issue, The Malta Post Office issued this special Hand stamp on 10 November 1990. It is in the form of a crib with the figures of the Holy Family in the middle. As usual all post offices in Malta and Gozo were provided with this hand stamp, inscribed with the village or town's name. The postmark was used for one day.

The set consisted of three stamps depicting parts of three different cribs built by Maltese Artists, members of the 'Ghaqda Hbieb tal-Presepju' Friends of the Crib Society).

Anthony Grech

References

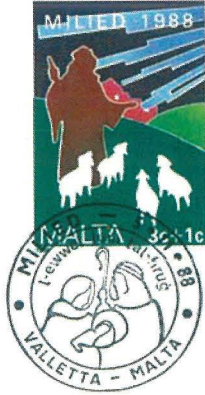
The Malta Stamp, Official Bulletin of the Philatelic Bureau.

Special Hand Stamp Cancellations

CHRISTMAS
1988



JB FIRST DAY COVER RM92



Christmas Hand Stamp 1988



John Paul II Visit 1990



MALTA

