The consecration of St John’s conventual church in 1578

JOSEPH F. GRIMA

After the great victory of 1565, the Order of St John proceeded with the building of the new city of Valletta, taking their quarters in Vittoriosa between 1562 and 1571. The Order had undertaken that their new capital should be the city of St Lawrence for their spiritual needs, but this was only a temporary solution.

A presumed likeness of Gerolamo Cassar, the architect of St John’s. A presumed likeness of Gerolamo Cassar, the architect of St John’s.

The façade of St John’s Co-Cathedral in the 1930s.

The tomb and monument of Grand Master Jean de Cassiere in the Crypt of the Grand Masters, St John’s Co-Cathedral.

It happened this month

This religious procession, led by the prior of St John’s, shows the earliest-known depiction of the church of St John. It is a frontispiece to Grand Master Jean de Cassiere’s Statutes published in 1584 from an engraving by Philippus Thomassena.

The façade of St John’s Co-Cathedral in the 1930s.

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