

Fondazione Centesimus Annus Pro Pontifice – Malta

Annual Report 2016

The Foundation of religion and worship “Centesimus Annus – Pro Pontifice” is based in the State of Vatican City and governed by the Church’s Canon Law and the Civil Law of the State of Vatican City, as well as by its By-Laws.

Article 3 of the By-Laws, having stated that the Foundation’s specific purpose is to collaborate towards the diffusion of human, ethical, social and Christian values, which are described in particular in St John Paul II’s encyclical “Centesimus Annus”. The Foundation has the following goals:

- **promoting informed knowledge of the social teachings of the Church** and of the activity of the Holy See among qualified and socially motivated business and professional leaders;
- **promoting initiatives aimed at expanding the Church’s effective role in all sectors of contemporary society;**
- **promoting fund raising activities** to help support the activity of the Apostolic See.

A Malta Group of the Foundation was set up in November 2008. Since then it has attracted 16 members who are also members of CAPPF Vatican and around another 20 followers who meet regularly and who participate in the various activities. Mgr. Joe Galea Curmi, Vicar General in the Archdiocese of Malta, is the Ecclesiastical Delegate to CAPPF Malta. The Chapter collaborates with the Pastoral Formation Institute and DISCERN on ideas formation as well as on activities. Rev. Father Mark Sultana attends regularly our meetings and events.

Mr. Joseph F.X. Zahra was appointed a Council Member of the Foundation in the Vatican in February 2009. He resigned from the Council in November 2015 and Dr Lawrence Gonzi was unanimously nominated to the Council during the same meeting.

Mr Joseph F X Zahra is now a member of the Advisory board while Professor Josef Bonnici sits on the Scientific Committee of the Foundation. Josef Bonnici is also championing an initiative on Voluntary Solidarity Funds that he had proposed during the first Dublin Process meeting in Ireland in 2014.

A coordinating committee was set up in 2015 to plan, direct and monitor CAPPF activities in Malta. The Committee is composed of Joseph F X Zahra, Lawrence Gonzi, Mark Demicoli, Mario Galea, Joe Borg, Paul Testaferrata Moroni Viani and Sue Vella.

Officials from CAPPF Vatican visited the island and had meetings with the Church Authorities in Malta on four occasions since 2008.

Meanwhile Rev. Fr Paul Pace sj. a close collaborator to the Malta Group, has been appointed member of the Jury for the “Economy and Society” bi- annual award for publications on Catholic Social Thinking organised by CAPPF. The Award is presided by Cardinal Marx, Coordinator of the Council for the Economy at the Holy See.

The activities of CAPPF Malta during 2016.

13th January 2016 – Planning Meeting – The Coordinating Meeting and other members held a meeting at MISCO to discuss the activities for 2016.

January – February 2016: The “Ethics in Business” course organised in collaboration with the Pastoral Formation Institute was attended by 12 business executives.

29th- 30th January 2016 – International Consultation by The Dublin Group On Financial Reform and the Common Good held at the Central Bank of Malta. A successful meeting in the “Dublin Process” was attended by specialists from all over the world.

21st March 2016 – Meeting held at MISCO to discuss the paper to be prepared by CAPPF Malta for the May International Convention in the Vatican. The theme chosen by the Group was “ Social Entrepreneurship as a Means to Fight Poverty”.

22nd March 2016 – “One Hour of Reflection” – Lenten Talk and Holy Mass at Mount Saint Joseph, Mosta, led by Fr V Magri sj.

12th – 14th May 2016 – The 2016 International Conference – “Business Initiative in the Fight against Poverty” held at the Vatican. The Malta Group of CAPPF was represented by six members and their spouses and Rev. Fr Joe Galea Curmi. Professor Josef Bonnici was one of the speakers at the Conference while Dr Lawrence Gonzi chaired one of the panels. Pope Francis addressed the conference in Sala Clementina.

15th June 2016 – A Planning Meeting for the second half of the year was held at MISCO to discuss the programme of activities for the second half of 2016. Amongst the points under review was the possibility of organising a closed meeting with the circa 40 members and friends of CAPPF Malta on Ethics and Morality in the political, economic and professional life with the attendance of the Archbishop of Malta. Other activities include the organisation of talks and games for youth in upper secondary education institutions, the collaboration with the Catholic University of America (Mark Demicoli will be in Washington and meeting Andrew Abela in July), and the possibility of inviting Mgr Celli for Lenten talks to Malta in 2017. CAPPF Malta will also this year collaborate with the Pastoral Formation Institute in the course “The Call to Public Life” aimed at aspiring politicians that will be held for the second time.

19th October 2016 – “One Hour of Reflection” – led by Rev. Fr. Mark Sultana at Mount Saint Joseph, Naxxar.

26 & 28th October 2016 - Workshops at San Anton School led by Mark Demicoli and Mario Galea on “responsible consumption” with school pupils.

31st October 2016 – Meeting with the Archbishop of Malta, HG Mgr Charles Scicluna at the Archbishop’s Palace in Mdina. The meeting focused on ethics and morality in public life in Malta. A

paper was read by Dr Sue Vella, which was followed by a round-table discussion. The meeting was concluded by an address by HG the Archbishop.

28th November 2016 – The end of year thanksgiving Mass was celebrated by Mgr Joe Galea Curmi, the Vicar General at St Anne's Chapel in St. Angelo. Fra John Critien welcomed the group of 33 members and their spouses. Dinner was later held at a restaurant in Vittoriosa.

Other events:

Dr Lawrence Gonzi has been appointed Council member of CAPPF instead of Joseph F X Zahra who resigned at the end of 2015. Mr Zahra has been appointed member of the Advisory Board. Other Maltese on the CAPPF committees in the Vatican – Professor J Bonnici as member of the Scientific Committee and Fr Paul Pace s.j. as member of the Award Committee for the Economy and Society Award.

CAPPF Malta confirmed that it will for the third time support the Faculty of Theology of the University of Malta in its Master of Arts programme in Business Ethics.