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APPOINTMENT OF VICAR GENERAL

Archbishop Charles J. Scicluna has appointed Fr Joseph Galea-Curmi as Vicar General. He will succeed Mgr Scicluna who also served as Vicar General following his appointment as Auxiliary Bishop of Malta on 6th October 2012.

Fr Joseph Galea-Curmi was born in Malta on 1st January 1964, and ordained a priest on 5th July 1991.

He studied at the Faculty of Theology, University of Malta, and at the Pontifical Lateran University, Rome, where he obtained a doctorate in Theology (with specialization in Pastoral Theology). The doctoral Thesis was entitled *The Diocesan Synod as a Pastoral Event. A Study of the Post-Conciliar Understanding of the Diocesan Synod* (published in 2005).

After his studies in Rome, he was appointed Assistant Pastoral Secretary of the Archdiocese. He was co-ordinator of the Synod of the Archdiocese of Malta 1999-2003 and editor of the Synod final documents published by the Archdiocese of Malta in 2003 and 2004.

He edited several two-year and three-year Archdiocesan Pastoral Plans published after the Synod as part of the Synod implementation; and worked in the organising team of the Diocesan Assembly which is an annual event since 2004, following the Diocesan Synod.

He is a lecturer in the Faculty of Theology, University of Malta. He is also Secretary of the Foundation for Theological Studies and a member of the Board of the Institute for Pastoral Formation in the Archdiocese of Malta. He is a member of the *European Society for Catholic Theology*.

He serves in the Parish of the Annunciation, Balzan. He is also Ecclesiastical Assistant of the Maltese section of *Centesimus Annus Pro Pontifice Foundation*.