



21st September 2013
105/2013

**MESSAGE BY MGR TOMMASO CAPUTO, ARCHBISHOP OF POMPEI,
ON THE OCCASION OF THE MARIAN MISSION IN MALTA AND GOZO**

Dear Brother Bishops,

Distinguished Authorities,

Priests, religious and all the faithful beloved,

It is with great joy that I address you on the occasion of the Marian Mission of the Rosary that will be held in Malta and Gozo from September 22nd to the 29th 2013.

The venerated icon of the Virgin of the Rosary will be among you for a whole week and, of course, will impart abundant graces upon you, your families, your communities and throughout the Maltese archipelago. Receive it with the warmth and affection that you are capable of and that I have come to know well. Your faith and your genuine religiosity will positively characterize the celebrations and events planned during the Marian Mission.

May this week be an opportunity for all of you to pick up the Holy Rosary again, this beautiful prayer with a Christological heart, ancient but ever so new, simple, yet complete. Let yourself be guided by Mary in the mystic pilgrimage, who through the various stages of Jesus' life, meditated and imprinted in your heart, will give you her same feelings and take you to the meeting with Him. That way, by looking at Jesus through Mary's eyes, free from all selfishness, you will be ready to welcome in you, in the gift that God wants to give you, his presence among you. I'll wish that for you with all my heart!

In these days Pompeii will be represented by four priests. I will spiritually re-live from far away those places that have become dear to me, remembering the years spent together and the stretch of road in the Christian life we shared. In renewing all my cordial remembrance in the Lord, I implore the Virgin of the Rosary to bless you, to protect you and guide always in your footsteps.

✠ **Tommaso Caputo**

Archbishop Prelate and Pontifical Delegate for the Shrine of Pompei