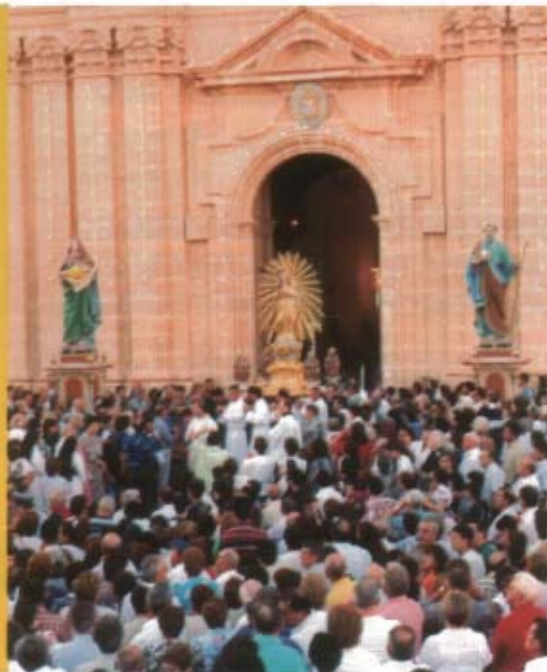


the locals and live through this experience. It is no wonder that many Maltese from all over the Island and visitors from abroad never miss this occasion.



other towns are invited by our band clubs and by other societies to participate in the town's feast. All these events happen against a background of festive decorations, lights and joyous sounds. The main square and the streets leading to it are decorated with colourful festoons, pennants and other artistic and traditional decorations. The imposing church facade and cupola are lit with myriads of colourful lights which give it a very impressive appearance. Colourful fireworks are an essential element in the Maltese 'festa'.

Firework displays begin days in advance but the finest and the most spectacular are reserved for the eve of the feast and the feast day itself. The ground fireworks held on the eve of the "festa" are a spectacle of colour and light.

This brief description tries to give a first glimpse and taste of the feast but the true spirit and relevance of these festivities can only be caught by those who join the locals and live through this experience. It is no wonder that many Maltese from all over the island and visitors from abroad never miss this occasion.

*It is advisable to look for more detailed information and to consult the programmes of activities beforehand.*

*Top Left: The Parish Church illuminated during the Feast with fireworks in the background.*

*Top Right: The statue of Our Lady being carried in procession out of the Parish Church*

*Photos: Michael Cauchi*