

DETAILED INFORMATION OF NEW ISSUES

DUN GORG PRECA ISSUE

Date of Issue	12th April 1980.
Value	2C5.
Stamp Size	29mm x 38mm.
Art Designer	Raymond Pitrè.
Printers	Printex Limited Malta.
Process	Lithography.
Perforation	13.8 x 13.5.
Watermark	Maltese Crosses pointing sideways.
Paper	Chalk surfaced.
Gum	P.V.A.

Colour

The colour of this stamp was produced by the two colours Black and Grey.

Designs

This is a commemorative stamp marking the centenary of the birth of Dun Gorg Preca, a priest who, for no material gain, dedicated his life to others.

He was a prolific writer of religious books and pamphlets in Maltese. Dun Gorg, as he was affectionately known by people from all walks of life, is best remembered through the Society of Christain Doctrine which he founded in 1907. This Society is locally known as M.U.S.E.U.M. (see badge of Society in bottom left hand corner of stamp). This is the second design of Maltese stamps by Raymond Pitrè.

Colour checks in the form of coloured discs 3mm in diameter are seen in the right hand margin, next to the last stamp of the bottom row. The colours from top to bottom, correspond to the colours used for Pane numbers from left to right on all Panes.

Cumulative totals of progressive columns of stamps are seen in top and bottom margins and printed in black. The Printed Sheets of this stamp consisted of four Panes, A, B, C and D. Each Pane has 40 stamps made up of eight rows of five stamps. The stamp is of the vertical format.

Plate/Pane Numbers





These are seen under the first stamp of the bottom row.

2C5 = 1A x 2, 1B x 2, 1C x 2, 1D x 2.

Perforation of Margins

The top margin of Panes A, B, C and D is imperforate, whilst the left hand, right hand and bottom margins of the same Panes are fully perforated.

Parts of crosses, used as guides for cutting lines can still be seen in top margin of all Panes.

PANE	PANE	PANE	PANE
"A"	"B"	"C"	"D"
WMK.	WMK.	WMK.	WMK.
			

From a study of details given, the Printed Sheet before cutting would look as shown on left. Looking at the Printed Sheet as shown, stamps would be seen the right way up, and hence why watermark is sideways in individual stamps.

Imprint Blocks

"PRINTEX LIMITED MALTA" is seen under the last two stamps of the bottom row. Letters are 1mm high and printed in black. An Imprint Block of four will also include the colour checks.

A special handstamp was used for cancellation on the first day of issue. By 12.45 p.m. on the first day, a total of 246,240 stamps with a total value of £M6,156 were sold at the G.P.O. and Branch Offices. This stamp will remain on sale up to Saturday, 27th December, 1980, unless stocks are previously exhausted.