



THE CHURCH IN MALTA

COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE
Archdiocese of Malta

13th May 2017
38/2017

PASTORAL LETTER FOR THE 2017 GENERAL ELECTION

SHOULDERING OUR RESPONSIBILITY

Dear brothers and sisters,

The General Election is an important event in the life of Maltese society. We will be choosing whom to trust with the leadership of our country for the coming years.

This great responsibility demands from us sound preparation so that we will be able to make an informed decision.

This responsibility also demands that we vote according to our conscience, which means that in front of God we recognize what is right and true, and therefore choose what is truly beneficial for the common good and for a just society. Our vote is an answer to this question: what kind of society do we want for ourselves and for future generations?

It is a responsibility that demands that we choose people of wisdom and integrity, who treasure and embrace the ethical values that we believe in. One supreme value is that of the protection of human life from its conception to its natural end, and the respect for the dignity of each person.

We encourage everyone to carry out their duty responsibly, and we pray that the light of the Holy Spirit will help us make a good decision.

Let us pray that our words and actions be guided by a spirit of dialogue, with deep respect for truth and for each other, including those persons who hold different opinions from our own.

We impart upon you our pastoral blessing.

✠ **Charles J. Scicluna**
Archbishop of Malta

✠ **Mario Grech**
Bishop of Gozo