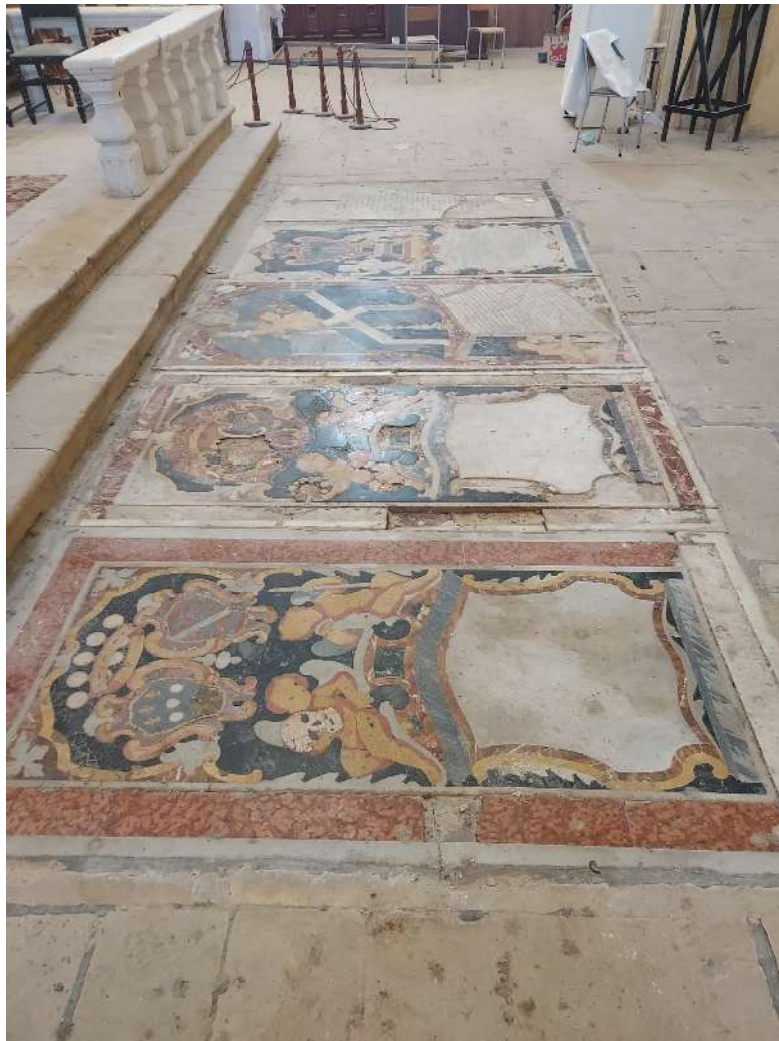


**Five marble ledger slabs
at the Old Parish Church Lija
Condition Assessment Report
and Proposed Maintenance Works**

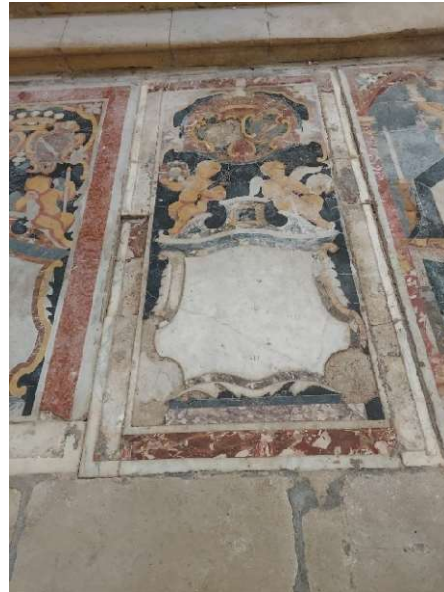
Report drawn up by
Mr. Frank Chetcuti (Conservator-Restorer)



The marble ledger slabs are situated in the old parish church in Lija. They are laid together in front of the main altar. Some slabs are in a good state while others are heavily deteriorated. They all show signs of superficial soiling due to being stepped on. Colours seem to be faded out which could be the result of the superficial soiling and abrasions. Other slabs have marble integrations missing, cracked, or are depressed due to weight or uneven settlement beneath.



Photograph 1: General view of the five marble slabs.



Photograph 2-6: General view of each marble slab.

It is being proposed that the ledger slabs are first documented both photographically and using a laser scanner. It is then proposed that the following interventions are carried out:

- i. The marble plaques will be cleaned from the superficial soiling.
- ii. Any crack in the marble will be injected with a fluid hydraulic grout.
- iii. Missing coloured marble pieces will be filled in using a lime-based mortar.
- iv. Any mortar integrations to be coloured.
- v. A protective layer will be given also to saturate natural colours.

On completion, the works as carried out will then be documented.

The aim of these interventions is to conserve the slabs in a professional manner. They will be carried out by trained personnel from the Restoration and Preservation Department under the supervision of warranted conservator restorer Francis Chetcuti.