



Fr Karm Debattista

mssp

Fr Karm was the first-born child of Anthony and Agnes Debattista. He was born on the 25th January 1961. He is from Marsa and

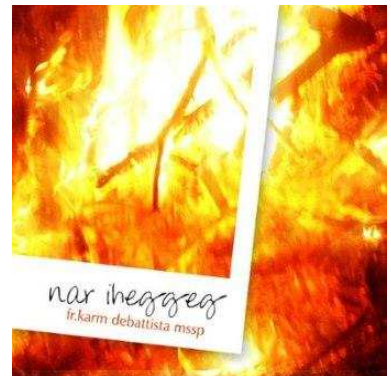
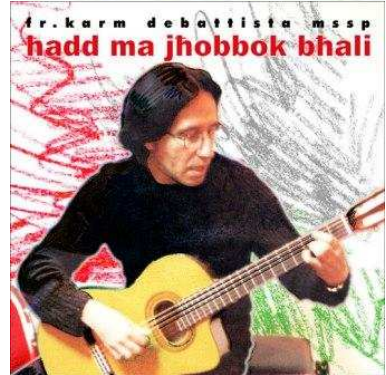
received his primary education at the Franciscan Sisters and the government school in his village. He attended Minor Seminary in Floriana for his secondary education.

On the 9th of May, 1977, just before his O'level examinations he had a very bad car accident. It was during this period that he heard the call to join the Missionary Society of St Paul. He joined this congregation some two years later. Fr Karm did

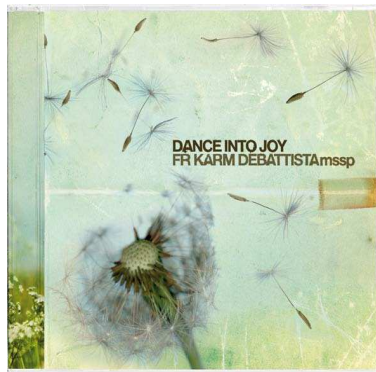
his novitiate and philosophy in Gozo and then continued his theology at the INSERM in Malta and obtained his diploma at the University of Malta.



He was ordained to the priesthood on the 9th June 1987 and three years later was sent to the missions the M SSP have in Pakistan where he spent the following six years. He came for holidays in 1996. He was asked to remain in Malta for some time when he recorded his first album in Maltese called "**Fittixtek**". Two years later he recorded the second album "**Jum Ġdid**" which was released a week before he left for the missions in Peru'. That experience was followed by some years in Rome and then back to Malta where he continued to work with youth. He continued to write songs whilst working at the Oratory B'Kara and then with CAM Youths in Rabat.



A full album "**Hadd ma jhobbok bhali**" was written in Peru' and this shows because it has south American sounds. Then he recorded another album for Christmas, "**Mal-Kant ta' l-Angli**." The fifth album came in May 2004 and it was called "**Nar Ihegggeg**". That album resulted in some concerts in Australia where he met the Maltese community in Melbourne and Sydney. Almost ten years after the first album, the album "**Issa li sibtek**" was released. This has the style of soft rock and was recorded with a live band. Then the seventh album was "**Aghmilni Bħalek**", based on the spirituality of the Founder of the Missionary Society of St Paul, Mons. Joseph De Piro.



His last album is "**Dance into Joy**", his only album in English and released this summer in Australia during the World Youth Day.