

Prayer This Week

Our focus this week is: **Our Congregation**

A. I praise God this morning for His work in our congregation:

1. People: _____.
2. Ministries: _____.
3. Answered Prayers: _____.

B. I draw near to God this morning, asking for His power and will at FBC:

1. for: _____.
2. for: _____.
3. for: _____.

C. The Cry of my heart this morning for our congregation is:

_____.

D. Praying for one another:

Healing & Strength: Pat Robson, Constance McEwan, Bernie Smith, Bill Dyck, Rachel Dunkerley-Underwood, Pastor John Teibe, Mary Richmond, Dennis Ripley, Ina Jean Gietz, Ken Swanson

Bereavement: Please pray for the families of:
Caroline Campbell, who passed away on June 25th, 2017.
Mary Carroll, who passed away on June 27th, 2017.
Jack Clarke, who passed away on June 29th, 2017.

For confidential or urgent prayer requests, call Erna (prayer chain) at 403-284-3737

Nation we are in prayer for this week

Italy – Europe



Religion		Pop %	Ann Gr
Christians	49,508,373	82.38	-0.2
Evangelicals	632,714	1.1	1.9

Geography

Area: 301,000 sq km

A long, mountainous peninsula that dominates the central Mediterranean Sea. Also two large islands, Sardinia and Sicily.

Population: 60,097,564 **Annual Growth:** 0.49% **Capital:** Rome

Challenges for Prayer

The need for expatriate workers has not diminished, but it has changed. Helping the existing Italian Church mature, expand and reach out, as partners and with a servant attitude, is now needed. Attrition is traditionally high here, often due to inadequate preparation, entrenched opposition and relatively low fruitfulness. Some significant groups (and a number of expatriates) in the country are CB/CMML/EoS, TEAM, Avant, Missions-gesellschaft, Campus Missions International. Italian Ministries is a field-based mission, started in 1998, that has a positive impact in further enabling foreign workers.

Literature and Bible distribution have not had a wide impact due to Italians' reluctance to read. There are about 15 Christian bookshops, including CLC with nine bookstores and The Bible Society with Italy's largest Bible and literature centre. Pray for the growing number of Italian publishing houses – ADI Media (AoG), Alfa & Omega (Reformed publishers), GBU and Passaggio, among others. Pray also for the spread of the newly published Bible dictionary (GBU) and theological dictionary (by IFED). Pray for a hunger for God's Word, for a desire for wholesome Christian literature and that quality material that leads people to Christ would be found in the more than 1,000 Catholic bookshops. The Gideons are active throughout Italy in distributing Scripture. Italy For Christ has spearheaded the distribution of over 600,000 NTs in schools as well as many copies of the evangelistic Book of Hope.