

WINTER 2026 OLYMPICS GOSPEL TRIPS IN ITALY

Update for the Co-workers - 13 February 2026

Dear brothers,

Thank you for your prayers for the gospel trips in Italy this winter, which are taking place throughout Italy from 4 December 2025 through 23 February 2026. We are very encouraged by the response of over 300 saints from more than 25 countries across 6 continents to participate during the 7 cycles of gospel trips. We can testify of the Lord's particular blessing as we are observing an increased openness among the Italian people, and the local saints have been significantly strengthened by the shepherding of the visiting saints. We believe that this is a confirmation of the Lord's special move in Italy at this time. Below are some highlights of the primary destinations visited:

Northern Italy

Milan: The church in Milan (established in 2009) currently has about 50 saints meeting. It is serving as a hub city for gospel trip orientations in January and February. Three consecutive teams of saints remained in Milan from 25 January through the end of the Olympics on 22 February. Key highlights include: 1) contacting several university students who are meeting with us regularly and 2) shepherding the saints through home visitation.

Turin: There are about 20 saints meeting, including 4 leading brothers coordinating to care for the saints. Across 4 cycles, visiting saints encountered many open ones, especially those in the Spanish-speaking community. A serving couple is considering migrating there soon and a shepherding trip is planned for the second half of March. We hope to have a lampstand raised up here within the next year.

Vicenza/Padua: The church in Vicenza (established in 2024) has about 20 saints, including a family who lives in the neighboring city of Padua, which is home to a large prestigious university. During the gospel trip, the saints in Vicenza were greatly strengthened through home visitation and laboring together in the community gospel. In Padua, both foreign and Italian students were very open and attended appointments and gatherings in the home of the local family. Short visits were made to scattered saints in Mantova and Trieste. Key burdens include: 1) strengthening of the new church in Vicenza through migration and 2) building up the campus work at the key university in Padua. A shepherding trip, including several full-timers from Germany, is planned for early March.

Bologna: In this important city, there is currently a small number of saints without a regular meeting. There is also a Russian-speaking family in nearby Ferrara. One gospel team visited in early January, and many open ones were contacted. However, more saints are needed for a vessel to contain them. A short visit was made to a group of seeking Christians in Rimini.

Central Italy

Rome: The church in Rome (established in 2012) currently has about 40 saints meeting, including a substantial team of full-time serving saints. It served as a hub city for the first two cycles in December, and hosted two gospel teams. There was a noticeable increase in the openness of the university students, of which several are meeting with us regularly.

Florence area (Prato/Fucechio): Currently there are about 40 Chinese-speaking saints, including many young people who are also fluent in Italian. They are very desirous to meet as the church in Prato in the near future. Migration of some who could help care for the young people and help with the outreach to the typical Italians is needed. Three co-workers visited and had extensive fellowship with the local saints last weekend. The European co-workers feel good for them to start meeting as the church and are in fellowship with the brothers in Italy regarding the timing.

Southern Italy

Naples: In this third-largest city in Italy, although there is not a regular meeting, there are a couple of families of saints who are burdened for the Lord's testimony there. Additionally, there is a family of seeking Christians hungry for more fellowship. Many students are very open and have ongoing virtual appointments. The saints in Rome are burdened to visit once per month.

Sicily: Currently there are a couple of families in Catania, the second-largest city on the island. The local saints were greatly strengthened by the visitation of the gospel team. Several sons of peace were contacted in both Catania and Palermo. More visitation and future migration are needed for the Lord to raise up His testimony in these cities.

Follow-up Shepherding Trips

An application at lordsmove.org/pdfs/Winter-Olympics-Italy-Shepherding-Trips.pdf is available for saints to participate in follow-up shepherding trips starting in March and continuing throughout the year. We expect a good number of saints to participate in the 9-10 May international conference in Rome as well as the shepherding trips before and after the conference. We also anticipate that several saints will be migrating to Italy in the near future.

May the Lord's interests in Italy continue to advance this coming year as the saints throughout the earth continue to participate through intercessory prayer.

The brothers coordinating for the Lord's move in Italy