

# Of New Beginnings ...

*An update on the ministry of Scott & Sharon MacLean serving with CrossWorld in Italy – Spring 2005*

It is always exciting to see an answer to prayer! On February 3, we had the joy of seeing a very real answer to many years of prayer. Our baby daughter was born that afternoon at 3:59pm. God has been very gracious to us and has brought us great joy, so we have named her Karis Joy (Karis is from a Greek word for grace).



Mother and baby are doing just fine, although Sharon did have a rough recovery time that required a week long stay in the hospital. We are enjoying learning about our new role as parents (although a bit more sleep might be nice). Pictures of the baby are posted on our web-site ([www.snsMacLean.net](http://www.snsMacLean.net)).

The other new beginning is our return to Italy to begin our second term. This seems as if it will be a new beginning in more ways than one. We

## Italian Info

According to a recent news article, forty seven percent of the population in E.U. countries speak English as a second language. What percentage of Italians speak English as a second language?

A) 18% B) 28% C) 52% D) 68% E) 80%

Answer to last letter's question:

*In a recent trial Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi was acquitted of bribing a judge (B) in regard to the sale of a supermarket chain.*

praise the Lord that **we will be returning to Italy on April 20**. Let me explain how this has become possible, in spite of our lack of support.

We have been frustrated, and have spent many hours in prayer seeking God's provision for our financial support to return to Italy. As many of you know, we are still far from even the "minimum" amount which we need to return to work in Milan, Italy. As we continue to seek this support, we are also looking into strategic options which would allow us to serve as church planters in Italy at a lower support level.

One option we are considering is church planting work in a less expensive part of Italy than Milan. Renting an apartment in Milan can be prohibitively expensive and so we are seeking to expand our view and look for other places in which we could serve. **One good possibility we are considering could reduce our support needs by up to \$500/month**. As soon as this or another possibility begins to firm up, we will post more details on our web-site and in our e-mail updates. We are optimistic!

The pursuit of these strategic options, as well as the end of our time of home ministry assignment (extended for Karis' arrival) have made it practical for us to return to Italy now. We will be better able to research our options from within Italy while at the same time refreshing our Italian and serving with the Root Center Church.

We will be financially able to do this, at least until the end of the summer, because we will be able to spend the summer in another missionary's apartment. If at the end of the summer we have not found a less expensive place to minister and our support level is still too low, we will be forced to return to the US at that point. But we are very hopeful that this will not be necessary.

Between now and April 20, as well as after our return to Italy, we will still continue to seek the additional financial and prayer support we need. Even if we are able to find a less expensive place to minister we would still need some

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*Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord: and the fruit of the womb is His reward.*

Psalm 127:3

Financial Support: 78%



additional support just to be able to remain in Italy and a substantial amount of support to be fully supported at the level the mission recommends. Again, we will keep you up to date through our e-mail updates and web-site.

**Please be in prayer!** Pray that the Lord would direct us as we seek to find a less expensive place of service in Italy. Pray for the specific option we are considering now (church planting in a city a couple hours away from Milan).

Prayer Support: 87.3%



Seeking an average of 100 people praying daily

Pray that the Lord would either confirm this possibility or clearly close the door. Pray that the Lord would provide the needed financial support for us to serve Him in the place that He has for us.

We are excited as we look forward to our return to Italy. There are many there who need to hear the Good News of salvation in Christ Jesus. Thank you for partnering with us through your prayers, financial support and encouragement as we return to this needy field.

His Servants,

Scott, Sharon & Karis MacLean

### Upcoming Schedule ...

- 📅 March 31 – April 12 – Visit churches, supporters and family in Florida.
- 📅 April 20 – Back to Italy!
- 📅 **Update your address books!** – As soon as we have our new address and phone number in Italy, we will post the information on our web-site. In the meantime we can be contacted by e-mail or through our permanent address below.
- 📧 **E-mail Updates** – From time to time we send out brief e-mail updates about our life and work. If you do not currently

📧 receive these and would like to, please e-mail us at the address below.

### Prayer & Praise

- ✓ Praise God for the wonder of the resurrection!
- ✓ Praise for the safe arrival of Karis Joy on February 3.
- ✓ Pray for our last few weeks of support raising and packing for Italy. Having a baby has made this somewhat more complicated. 😊
- ✓ Praise for the possibility of returning to Italy on April 20.
- ✓ Pray for wisdom as we seek less expensive ministry options in Italy. We want God to direct us – not just our support needs.
- ✓ Praise for the new prayer and financial support that has come in recently.
- ✓ Pray for our support needs to be provided, both prayer and financial.
- ✓ Praise for the good news we hear from the Root Center Church in Milan. God is working!
- ✓ Pray for the baptisms of new believers at the Root Center Church. This is a great time to reach families.

Current Address:	Electronic:	Permanent Address:	Mission Address:
We will post this on our Web-site as soon as it is available.	E-mail:  Web Site: www.snsMacLean.net	c/o MacLeans 814 Little Shilo Rd. West Chester, PA 19382 📞	CrossWorld PO Box 306 Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004 📞 610-667-7660