

RICHARD AND PINUCCIA WILSON

SERVING IN TRENTO, ITALY

With Stefania, Daniele, Luca and Mattia

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The next six months are going to be a time of big changes for all the family, and we would like you to accompany us in this period with your prayers.

Daniele

Daniele in September goes into the equivalent of Year 9 in Australia. In Italy, this means that he finishes Middle School in June (with an important exam) and will start High School. All the High Schools have the same program for most subjects, but the remaining subjects depend on the type of school (scientific, linguistic, social sciences, etc.). Daniele has chosen an experimental school that specialises in science and technology. He has some learning differences and school has not been easy for him, although a support teacher for the last four years has been a great help. However, this school seems to have been created just for his differences. For example, 50% of the teaching is in English, there is only one class in each year (unlike the dozen in each year in the normal scientific school), they always use computers and never pens and paper, the emphasis is on group work and problem solving rather than memorising, and so on. The bonuses are that it lasts four years instead of the usual five, and the students come out not only with the Italian leaving certificate but also a few English A levels, that help for studying abroad in the future. It is a selective school, but since 90% of the entrance exam was mathematics and English listening, it was easy for him – his learning differences in those subjects is that he is very good at them! The only disadvantage of the school is that it is at Rovereto, 35km to the south of where we live.

Stefania; Luca and Mattia

Stefania will be going into Year 11, which means that she has done two years of an artistic high school and starts a further specialisation. She has chosen multimedia, which is offered at both branches of the school, at Trento and Rovereto. **Luca** and **Mattia** will be going into Year 2, so at least they do not need to make big changes, and at the same time any change will not disrupt their schooling much.

Richard and Pinuccia

I (**Richard**) was feeling that it was time for a change. After 28 years in the church at Trento, I think that I have contributed as much as I can to the church, and there is the local leadership that is moving it forward. **Pinuccia** as well is looking forward to a change, and since she has annual contracts as a relief teacher, it will not be hard for her to find a new job wherever we are.

With this "perfect storm" of circumstances, the whole family has decided to move to **Rovereto** in July, during the summer holidays. We will also change church, and start attending the church at Rovereto that the church at Trento planted 10 years ago. In many ways, the church there is similar to how the church at Trento was when I arrived there, and I think I can have more of an impact in that sort of church. I'm looking forward to the new challenges and stimuluses, and excited about a renewal in ministry. The timing is also good in that it will give me a good 10 years of ministry there, before my official Australian retirement.

At the moment, we are still "negotiating" the move from one church to another, but there will probably be a year of transition in which I continue to help the Trento church. The teenagers of the two churches already meet all together twice a month, so that will help Stefania and Daniele keep in contact with their friends. It will probably be harder for Mattia and Luca, who will be the only children at the Sunday School at Rovereto, so we will need to work on how to help them.

The only aspect of the change that I am not looking forward to is the actual house move. When we came to our current apartment almost 15 years ago, our only furniture was my desk, and only child was a one year old. Now the apartment is full of accumulated furniture, objects, and children, and the move will be a lot harder! We are currently looking for a larger apartment: Stefania does not want to sleep in the attic any more, and maybe I will get some office space again.

Australia

We were due to come to Australia in the middle of this year to visit family, friends, and supporters. I already knew during our last trip 3 years ago that it would be difficult, because Daniele's exam in June meant we would only have about 6 weeks free. However, with a house move in July and Covid restrictions, a trip to Australia has become impossible, so we now intend to go in mid 2022.

The other important change in the family in this period was the death of my mother in January. Being away from my family at such times was something I did think about 30 years ago, before I left for Italy, but I thought that I would be able to fly back when necessary. But of course, Covid ruins even 30 year old plans, and I was only able to have a few conversations with her in her last weeks, and then watched her funeral on-line. I missed being able to be there.

Prayer and thanksgiving points

- For the process of selling and buying apartments, and that we find a new apartment that is good for the family and for ministry.
- For wisdom and good relationships with the two churches as we talk about our future ministry; that we can maintain our friendships at Trento even though we will see them less often.
- Give thanks for the good schools for the children (especially Daniele); pray for them settling into a new town, and for Mattia e Luca being the only children in church.
- For a renewal in ministry, and that we can find how we can help at Rovereto without taking over other people's ministries.
- For Richard's family in Australia.



ECM-Australia will be holding conference to raise awareness of Europe as a mission field and to encourage Christians to play their part in partnership with the church and mission organisations.

It will be on May 1 from 6pm to 8pm at Sydney.
There are further details at <http://bit.ly/ConsiderEurope>

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