#### April 2025, Michael & Rani Grivas-Allison





#### Michael and Rani Grivas-Allison

with Alexi (3)
Serving the Lord in Belgium



Dear Friends,

He is Risen! 6

We hope this finds you well and trust that you had a joyful Easter celebrating Jesus' death and resurrection with His people!

Here in Brussels, we enjoyed gathering with local Christians, lots of singing, some new family traditions, and stubbornly wishing people a *Joyeuses Pâques* ('happy Easter') instead of the more widespread and neutral *Joyeuses Fêtes* ('happy holidays')  $\odot$ 

Below we've included some snaps from the past month and some key prayer points for the month of May, as we **begin looking ahead to growing our involvement** with the GBU A

In the next month, this will look like beginning our **final term of full-time language study**, pressing-into church **Bible studies**, beginning visits to **local churches** to get a feel for the broader Christian context, and some **light orientation to the GBU ministry**.

We would greatly value your prayers as we gently kick off this new season of transition...and for humility and God's enabling as we lean in!

With warm thanks for your partnership,

Michael & Rani

## Easter in Belgium...







**Above**: an unsurprisingly secular local bookstore display; more explicit Easter craft; Alexi enjoying his preschool's maximalist approach to Easter chocolate.







**Above:** a traditional Alsatian 'Paschal Lamb' brought to us by friends; the church youth group singing on Easter Sunday; obligatory Aussie hot-cross buns.

## Other happenings...





This month we passed our exams for another level of French (the 8th since we've arrived) and went out to celebrate with some classmates (pictured above). Learning a foreign language and adapting to a new culture is a process that doesn't really have an 'arrival point', so we are slowly learning to pause and celebrate milestones along the way!





Alexi also turned three! Highlights included a cake that caught fire and well-received birthday post from several of our link churches (thank you Lower Mountains Anglican Parish, Robertson Anglican, Campsie Anglican, and St Paul's Canterbury!). We are so thankful for this little guy, who is regularly described to us as 'very energetic' and a 'real character'.

## **Upcoming dates...**

- Short family holiday (29 April 2 May)
- Start monthly visits to other churches to better understand the local Christian context (from 1st Sunday of May)
- Final full-time French level begins (12 May)

## Please thank God...

- for the joy and hope of Easter that Christ died once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring us to God (1 Peter 3:14).
- for enough language to start going along to our church's bible studies.
- for 3 years of Alexi and for caring for him so well over this past year.

## Please ask God...

• for a Belgium that knows the crucified and risen Lord Jesus.

- to bless and keep Alexi in this coming year, and to grow us to be parents
  who (in both our weakness and strength) point Alexi to the perfect love of our
  Heavenly Father.
- to grow our love and understanding of the GBU ministry as we do some light orientation over the coming months.

# From Michael and Rani

Say 'hello' or let us know you've prayed for us!

And they sang a new song, saying:

"You are worthy to take the scroll
and to open its seals,
because you were slain,
and with your blood you purchased for God
persons from every tribe and language and people and nation."

Revelation 5:9

### **Financial Partnership**

We can't serve in Belgium without the generosity of God's people.

If you'd like to give through financial support, please head to our CMS giving page.

If you would prefer to give using a BSB and account number, please email CMS and they will send you the relevant details.

We're so thankful for your partnership with us to see a world that knows Jesus!

CMS is a fellowship of Christian people and churches committed to global mission. We work together to set apart long-term workers who cross cultures to share the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. Our vision is for a world that knows Jesus. We aim to do this by: reaching gospel-poor peoples for Christ, equipping Christian leaders for church and society, and engaging churches in cross-cultural mission.

Email: mrgrivas-allison@cms.org.au

Profile: <a href="https://www.cms.org.au/missionaries/michael-and-rani-grivas-allison/">https://www.cms.org.au/missionaries/michael-and-rani-grivas-allison/</a>

Give: give.cms.org.au/grivas-allisonmr



Facebook



Instagram



This email was sent by: CMS NSW & ACT Level 5, 51 Druitt St, Sydney, NSW, 2000 AU

**Privacy Policy** 

Update preferences Unsubscribe