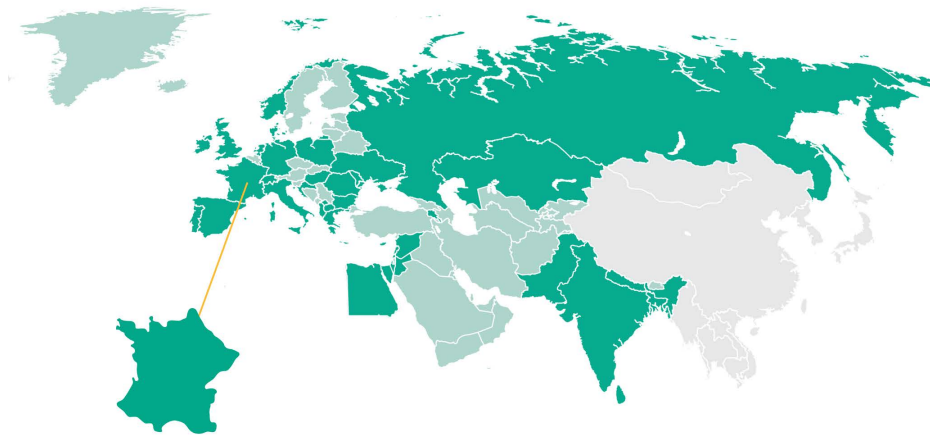


# NMI Central

NAZARENE MISSIONS INTERNATIONAL

12 June 2024

## Eurasia Region



## France

France celebrates its “fête nationale” or national holiday marking its beginning as a “republic under the rule of the people” on 14 July. In 1789, on that date, the storming of the Bastille took place, when the French monarchy was overthrown with the French Revolution. Several dates are related to the founding of the French Republic (the conventional long form of the country’s name): 22 September 1792, the First French Republic was founded. On 4 October 1958, the Fifth French Republic was established, which remains the current constitution of France today. France maintains a tradition of secularism and has not officially collected data on religious affiliation since 1872. This is tied to laws that prohibit the collection or exploitation of personal data that might reveal an individual’s race, ethnicity, or political, philosophical, or religious opinions. France’s codification of laws separating church and state was formalized in 1905. Over 30% of the population of France is under the age of 25. The Church of the Nazarene began its work in France in 1977. Church growth has been slow, both in traditional French communities and in diverse immigrant communities, seeking to establish holy presence in both cities and towns. But, God is growing the Church of the Nazarene in France, one transformed life at a time.



375 Members



9 Fully Organized Churches; 1 Not Yet Organized Church



5 District Licensed and 11 Ordained Ministers on 1 District

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## PRAYER



- Pray for Juliette, and other young believers in France, as they continue to grow in their walk with the Lord.
- Pray that the Father will use Juliette's story to encourage others in their times of hardship.

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## PRAISE



- Praise the Lord for the friends He places in our paths to lead us to Him!
- Thank God for the faithful workers who provide opportunities to meet Jesus!



Juliette always believed in God, but due to trauma as a child while living in Haiti, and the disappointment of a failed adoption by a French family, she began to question God.

“I started to not believe in God,” Juliette remembers. Her years of suffering convinced her that she was alone.



During Covid, Juliette became friends with a boy her age through a WhatsApp group. They talked regularly on the phone. The boy and his mother attended a Church of the Nazarene near Paris. His mother was part of a prayer call that met over the phone six nights a week. Juliette would hear her friend’s mom in the background of their call, talking to Jesus, asking for help, for strength. Juliette was captivated. This woman’s prayers to Jesus were something entirely different than any prayer she had known.

“I found it so beautiful,” Juliette remembers. “Who is this God that I can talk to him? That’s the kind of relationship I want to have with God.” She joined a weekly online youth group meeting.

She was astonished that all she needed to become a Christian was to believe in God with all her heart, and claim Jesus as Lord. She asked if she needed to do this in a physical church building, and when she was told she could become a follower of Jesus right where she was, with a simple prayer from her heart. Her response: “OK, let’s do it now!” Later, she testified, “All of my problems are no longer my problems,” she remembers understanding. “All of this was in his hands.”



Juliette was soon baptized, and while she has faced challenges in her faith, she continues to find Jesus calling her into deeper relationship with Him. God is a God of restoration. “God wants you to be new,” she says. “To listen to Him...I’m learning every day.”

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