

*For God so loved  
the world...  
shouldn't we?*

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***Praying for the World  
One Country at Time***



**CYPRUS  
November 13, 2011**

# CYPRUS



## Full Name

Republic of Cyprus

## Capital

Nicosia

## Location

It is in the Middle East - an island in the Mediterranean Sea. It is south of Turkey and is the third largest island in the Mediterranean - after Sicily and Sardinia.

## Leadership

Cyprus was formerly a British colony. In 1960, it became independent after years of resistance to British rule. Much strife and violence ensued as both Greece and Turkey attempted to seize control of the new nation. With the help of UN peacekeepers, an election was finally held in 2008. Demetrius Chrisofia became the chief of state and head of government (a presidential republic). The two ethnic communities split and the Turks took de facto control in the north and the Greeks to this day control the only internationally recognized government due to the laws of the EU. The House of Representatives was intended to include both Greeks and Cypriots but only the spaces for the Greek Cypriots are currently filled. The next election is scheduled for February 2013 and, in the meantime, clashes continue between the two groups.

## Religion

Greek Orthodox 78%, Muslim 18%, other, which includes Maronite and Armenian Apostolic 4%

## Overview

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## Population

1,120,489

## Economy

The Cypriot economy is prosperous and in recent years has diversified. Its policy has focused on meeting the criteria for admission to the European Union. In January 2008 the euro became the national currency. The economy has fared well due to the increase in tourism, which boosted the property rental markets, as well as demands of incoming investors and property buyers.

## Prayer Concerns

Human rights issues are a problem, not just due to divisions between the Greeks and Turks. Prostitution is rife, as well as human trafficking. Mistreatment of domestic staff, largely immigrant workers from developing countries is an additional problem. Prayer is needed for peace between the two factions in Cyprus as well as for all human rights issues.