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## NEWS FROM ROME (Italy)

Rome, February 9, 2016

Dear brethren in Christ,

We hope to find all of you doing fine in every material and spiritual blessing. We'd like to express our sincere feeling of thankfulness for your kind fellowship that makes possible our preaching of the gospel also in Rome, a city surrounded by human traditionalism and pagan religiosity. Our society is completely filled by Catholic teachings and false doctrines and this contest makes our preaching efforts harder and harder. We don't want to give up and will try our best to speak up hoping to touch good hearts, with renewed energies and convictions.

**PERSONAL NEWS.** We're doing OK. Our grandson Alessandro is growing in many things and he's a real joy for all of us. Our daughter Valeria is at her sixth month of pregnancy and the baby girl should be born by April/May 2016. All is going fine with her.

I must tell you that recently my wife Antonella found out to have a thyroid tumor that must be removed as soon as possible. We already saw a doctor that will take care of the surgery. He told us that among the family tumors, this is a "good one" to manage since it does not have big risks of life. Obviously, it was better not to face such a fact, but since it came, we are facing the problem with positive feeling. We are now waiting to be called by the hospital to have the surgery done. Antonella is facing the problem with a very good attitude and serenity.

My parents are also doing well. My dad Sandro (very close to 90 years old) is in a fairly good health, still working at his work of translating commentaries. What he built up in so many years of diligent work became a real treasure for Italian brethren that want to grow in knowledge and dedication. Also my mother Elisabetta (88 years old next August) is doing fairly well. She needs everyday specific medical cares and therapies but things are proceeding as we expect. She needs a constant nurse and but the situation is under good control. The major work is upon me and I must be always present for every aspect of practical and psychological life.

**PREACHING EFFORTS IN ROME.** The local work is doing fine. We are growing in good initiatives and personal work. The church is particularly united and so always ready to manage the "natural" internal problems that may come in a team made up by fragile and week humans.

My personal and individual weekly Bible classes are continuing with some brethren and contacts. Especially with **Gianluca** (Marco's older brother) and **Amedeo**, I'm having great encouragement. Now we are studying together the book of Hebrew, after having covered Ephesians and Colossians. With them I want to start a study on how to improve in making public speeches. Both of them can be a good source for the congregation in this sense.

During mid-week Bible class I completed the study of the John's gospel, and started a class on prophecies and fulfillment in Christ. After the worship service on Sunday, I completed the study on "Minor Prophets" and ready to start a series of topic lessons from N.T.

We have now another extra class during the week (Tuesday morning). In this way we can help those brethren that for specific reasons are unable to attend the midweek meeting on Thursday night. I began teaching the epistle to "Romans".

Our general average attendance is about 38, with a good number of contacts and visitors.

The new local work at **Ciampino** is going well. Marco has new contacts and people that asked for information. The meeting place is in a very strategic position and visible to all the residents. The service begin at 5.30 PM, so also the brethren from Rome can attend and encourage this "young work". We need patience and endurance to see the first good fruits. Marco is giving his best in taking all the responsibilities in this work. We are proud and happy for him.

VISITORS FROM US CHURCHES. We had the joy to share the worship service with the following visitors. Emily & Johann Ramkissoon (Gainesville, FL); Laura & Shannon Holman (Mesa, AZ); Ron & Nancy Mayfield (Atwater, OH); Cody & Amanda Ward (Savage, MN); JJ Hober (Coonersville, IN); G. Michael Eldridge (Connersville, IN); Jimmie & Peggy Neff (San Antonio, TX); David & Deborah Delt (Fulsnear, TX); Jim & Lori King (Temple Terrace, FL); Scott & Lori Abernathy (Athens, AL). We thanks all of them for their encouragement and faithfulness.

God may continue to help all of us with by His patience and mercy.

Thanks again for your trusting confidence, without which we could not do such a work. The brethren in Rome send their best greetings.

Antonella, Valeria & Paolo send their loving salutations.

"They of Italy salute you".

Stefano Corazza