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NEWS FROM ROME (Italy)

Rome, January 12, 2017

Dear brethren in Christ,

my wife Antonella and I hope to find all of you enjoying every spiritual and material blessing. We would like to share with you our deepest feeling of gratefulness for all you're doing in our behalf that make possible our preaching efforts to proclaim the greatness of the gospel also in a city as Rome, badly surrounded by so many false teachings and materialistic attitudes. We are trying to do our best in preaching the Truth, hoping to find good hearts willing to know and to obey to God's Will. It's not easy but we can't do anything than speaking up.

PERSONAL NEWS. Thanking God, our family is doing fine. Our granddaughter Alicia (8 months old) is in good health and growing with joy and affection. Alessandro (27 months old) is doing just fine as well. Our daughter Valeria and our son Paolo are also doing pretty good.

My dad Sandro (91 years old next February) is doing OK, notwithstanding his biological problems due to his age. He is continuing to do some translating work, which is very important for many of us. His writings and works are still of great benefit for the next generations of Christians and we're deeply thankful to him for the work done in so many tears. My mother is also doing a little better, even though always in bed and under daily cares and therapies. I'm trying to be present with them as much as I can, compatibly with my busy days.

PREACHING EFFORTS IN ROME. Maybe some of you are already aware of the difficult days that we're living due to the serious physical conditions of **Alessia**, wife of **Marco Di Martino**. I'll try to be synthetic in describing this situation. Alessia was waiting for a baby girl and in a hospital to check her lack of breathing. She got in December 30. The night after, at 1 o'clock in the morning she had a heart arrest lasting several minutes (more than 10 for sure). The little baby has been extracted but she died the day after for a series of problems. Alessia, since then, lost every form of consciousness and still now is in reanimation room attached to a machine for breathing and else. Her brain damages are tremendous and deep, with no many hopes to awake again. This is a real tragedy for all of us. We're trying what we can to be as close as possible to Marco and his family but frankly is a very difficult task. In 24 hours their life turned completely up side down with consequences now unthinkable. Marco is reacting in a very strong way, not loosing hopes and faith, but life before him is going to be harder and harder. It's a real pain to assist him in all this. Our services are obviously very much influenced by this and many

of us, strange to say, are improving in sensitiveness, spirituality, mutual service and participation. The tragedy, however, remains signing our life's and feelings forever.

We had to do the funerals to the little baby (Rebecca). The meeting place was filled with people (more than 120) and the thoughts, words and moments have been very touching. Also brother **David Thomley**, who was in Trieste, came down and stayed with us during all this, sharing tears and hopes. We thank him for his time and encouragement. Naturally, I hope to give some good news about Alessia in the immediate future, but the situation is getting worst and worst.

The local work is going on, notwithstanding all this. We are bringing forth our preaching programs and initiatives. Recently 9 new people have been added to our membership, as I wrote in my recent report. Their attitude is good and encouraging and my work with them is huge.

During mid-week Bible class, I'm teaching out of 1 Timothy. On Sunday morning, after the worship, I started the teaching of the book of Acts, trying to underline the major topics related to the N.T. church.

Our general average attendance is now about 50, with a good number of contacts and visitors.

FINANCIAL NEWS. My financial needs have been solved through the help of two churches. The Rolling Hill church of Nashville raised their help and the Charlestown Rd. church, New Albany, IN, decided to begin supporting me with \$800 per month. I thank those brethren for their generosity and willingness to have fellowship with me in this common preaching effort in Rome. Moreover, I thank God for His mercy and patience.

God may continue to bless and keep us in all things.

Thanks again for your love and kind patience. All the brethren in Rome send their best greetings and loving feelings.

Antonella, Valeria & Paolo send their good wishes.

"They of Italy salute you".

Stefano Corazza