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NEWS FROM ROME (Italy)

Rome, September 23, 2019

Dear brethren in Christ,

my wife Antonella and I hope to find all of you doing fine in all good things. Before talking about the local work here, we'd like to share with you our express our sincere feelings of thankfulness for your fellowship that makes possible our preaching also in Rome. Our pagan background obviously does not help our efforts but we'll be trying anyway to do our best in reaching out good people, interested in spiritual things. We thank you for your help and patience in all this.

PERSONAL NEWS. We are doing fine. Our two grandchildren, Alessandro (5 years next October) and Alice (3 years) are doing fine and growing in all things.

Our daughter Valeria is just ready waiting for the third baby. The time due should be November 12th. All is going according the medical plans. We're anxious for the new event even though some extra work is coming up.

Our son Paolo is still working in the north of Italy, by Venice, with the British company EasyJet low cost aircraft. When he has some days off, he comes down to enjoy the family and the brethren here.

PREACHING EFFORTS IN ROME. The local work at via Sannio is proceeding well. Brothers and sisters are working and growing together, coming back from the holiday season. We still have some ones out of Rome but mostly we're all back.

My weekly personal Bible classes are going on fine. I'm trying to put extra efforts in teaching the young brothers, so to build a solid group for next years.

During mid-week Bible class, I'm still teaching from James, a practical teaching that is always useful to know and apply for Christians.

On Sunday morning, after worship, I completed the teaching on Isaiah. In six months we covered the book trying to lie down the major thoughts and key search. It's been a wonderful teaching experience for me. I just began teaching from the book of Romans. We had an introduction material and then covered the first chapter. It's always a touching situation for us to study things directed to the Romans brethren of so many years ago. However, in spite of all, we're still here!

During the sermon section I'm preaching especially on the importance of mutual services within the church, trying to exhort to personal growth and responsibility. I'm using and propose the good examples of New Testament on this line.

Soon we'll meet all together to program and decide things related to our local work, determining the initiatives to accomplish for next year. We do not have eldership anymore, so to decide things together is always a delicate moment in which is required highly good sense and kind discretion from all.

Also the local work at **Ciampino** (that we all helped to get started about three years ago), is growing. We're close to it and very encouraged by it. Marco Di Martino is doing a good and accurate local work, notwithstanding the sad and critical situation of his wife Alessia, still in a vegetative coma after more than two years! Marco decided to bring her back home, with all the difficulties of it. She needs daily assistance and cares. Medical institutions will help him to carry on the burden: a very difficult situation and decision to take. We'll see what future will bring about it.

Our general average attendance is about 50, with always a good attendance of friends, relatives and new contacts.

My financial situation is just fine and satisfactory. Nothing changed from what you know. If any of you needs extra information about it, write me and I'll be more exhaustive.

VISITORS FROM OTHER CHURCHES. Also these past weeks we had the joy to meet several brethren visiting Rome, especially coming from foreign churches, mostly from America. I'd like to mention their names in the following list. Tim, Vicky, Bethany & Anna Rebecca Haley (Dothan, AL); Mario Betsabe, Jesus & Debora Moreno (Vizcaya, Mexico); Wes & Fran Carrer (Bartlett, TN); Craig & Denise Hodges (Houston, TX); Ray & Jennifer Strutz (Lexington, KY).

We thank those brethren for their example and encouraging visit among us.

Thanks again for your support and faithful fellowship. All the brethren in Rome send their best love and greetings.

Antonella, Valeria and Paolo send their good wishes. God may continue to bless and keep us safe in His kingdom.

"They of Italy salute you".

Stefano Corazza