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NEWS FROM ROME (Italy)

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Dear brethren in the Lord,
my wife Antonella and I hope to find all of you doing fine in everything. We're all living a particular and delicate moment of life and history, but we trust that our common faith in Him will help to come out more than winners. We'd like to share with you our sincere feelings of gratefulness for all you are doing for us, making possible the preaching of the gospel also in Rome, Capital of human traditions and teachings. The saddest thing is that also in this hard moment, we're daily surrounded by false concepts and paganism. No reflection. No understanding. It seems that mankind does not want to learn from nature and its circumstances.

PERSONAL NEWS. Thanking God, we're still doing well., notwithstanding the pandemic context. As far as I know, there are not brothers in Italy still affected by it.

Valeria's family is OK, including her three kids: Alessandro (6), Alice (4) and Samuele (11 months). They are a full moment of happiness for all the family. Our son Paolo is also doing OK but his job situation is getting worse and worse. Some months ago he went back to Venice to catch back his work as attendant on EasyJet flights, but the new serious developments of the virus brought him back to unemployment lists. The tourism business and flights are so down that Easyjet decided that this reality will remain until March 2021. He's leaving his apartment, storing somewhere his stuff, and working to come back to Rome, with us. There's also a strong possibility to loose completely his job by the time. At the end of the month we should know more details about it.

CORONAVIRUS SITUATION IN ITALY. As many people forecast, the pandemic situation is revealing again is dramatic reality. The world thought to get back to "normal" life but contagious became a new reality. Actually, we have more than 20000 new cases per day., so Government decided to have a new sort of lock down, not as rigid as in March, but still very heavy for many categories of people and workers. At night our cities are empty and desolated. Again, several ones are in the high risk of losing jobs and life. The major risk area regards public transportation, schools, cinema, restaurants, theaters, people aggregation even in family surrounding.

The economic situation continues to be the real heavy problem. Strikes and protests are the daily picture in our news and social confusion is growing with no control. Economists and experts do not see any solution in a short period. My personal

impression is that the whole situation is getting out of control and many will pay severe consequences of it. In France, Germany, England, Spain, Switzerland, and east countries, the situation is even worst! As I said, out of control. We thought to have solved something, but we're back to the problem, even worse than originally.

Also in the churches context, we're risking again to close our meeting place if thing will not get any better briefly.

OUR LOCAL PREACHING ACTIVITY. We're doing what we can in the present situation, but all is getting difficult and sad. Some of the brethren, especially the old and sick ones, are following teaching and worship through Zoom, and the rest is meeting regularly, but under strictly security rules to keep (distance, wearing mask, cleaning hands...). I really don't know how long it will last.

Besides all that, I'm still studying personally with Gianluca, Stefania, Maurizio, Michel, Luca, trying to get comfort in our Bible things. We're all trying to be positive and encouraging one another, but I feel some worries and tiredness in many. For instance, Gianluca is getting very close to close his hotel activity (he actually has 15 guests at \$35 per day), within which also some brothers are working. Very sad. More than ever, we must be close, united, trustful and positive about future.

Thanking God, my financial situation did not have changings, and we thank all of you for your generosity and trust. If you need a more detailed financial picture, let me know and I'll send you the necessary information.

I close now, hoping and praying that we may all learn form this hard experience, and appreciate more and more the great and eternal blessings that we can all share in Christ, that no man or invisible virus may take us away.

Thanks again for your patience and faithful spiritual 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. Be safe and stay well.

"They of Italy salute you".

Stefano Corazza