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NEWS FROM ROME (Italy)

Rome, November 10, 2021

Dear brothers in Him,
my wife Antonella and I hope to find each one of you doing fine in all God's blessings. We'd like to share with you our deep feeling of thankfulness for what you are doing for us, allowing us to preach the gospel also in a city as Rome, World Capital of modern paganism and false religiosity. Despite adverse circumstances, we'll try to do everything to reach as many as we can to the Lord. Our duty and responsibility are to announce the gospel with courage and trust, in spite of negative influences.

PERSONAL NEWS. This past month Antonella and I resulted positive to the COVID tampon! October 9, we began our isolation time at home. After a week I was negative but Antonella still positive, so we both had to keep on with the quarantine. We did not have any heavy symptoms. Just a little cold and low fever (Antonella). After the last quarantine, all the tampons were negative and we went back to a "normal" life, thanking God. Though, it's been an experience! We're still thinking and figuring out where we may have gotten the virus, but we really do not know. It's so subtle, and "around the corner", that we can't imagine. At least, now we should be completely immune for some months, being also vaccinated twice.

Our daughter Valeria and her family are doing well. Our three grandchildren, Alessandro (7), Alice (5) and Samuele (2) are fine. They are a great joy for all the family.

Our son Paolo is also OK. His job is not going as well as before COVID, but he's back to be busy in flying around. Maybe, he'll be back to Rome soon for a brief period. He hopes to work more regularly, but the "road" is still hard and long.

CORONAVIRUS SITUATION IN ITALY. The situation of COVID is again increasing, less than in other European Countries, and it seems that we really can't get free yet from it. It's very sad and worrying. The Green Pass is needed in many contests and could be obligatory soon if the contagious time does not decrease. Obviously, the security rules are still practiced.

LOCAL PREACHING ACTIVITY. Our local work is proceeding well. We're assembling into our meeting place, in the respect of all the prescriptions rules. Mask, distance, not singing aloud (and without using song books), checking body temperature... Some of the brethren, with health problems, are still joining the services at distance through Zoom.

During our assemblies, we have some visitors attending to our worship that show interest and good will. This is a strong encouragement for all of us.

Last Sunday we had again, after a long time, two families visiting us from American churches (Houston, TX, area and from Tennessee). We enjoyed their encouragement.

Notwithstanding the COVID virus contagious time, I'm still taking care of the weekly personal classes with Gianluca, Stefania, Maurizio, Michel, Luca. During my impossibility to attend, for quarantine, brothers Michel and Luca delivered the sermons on Sunday doing a fine job. I'm very pleased of their participation, also considering the quality of their teachings. It's good evidence of their spiritual growth.

On Thursday evening, during the mid-week Bible class, I completed the teaching of Philippians' Epistle, and started the teaching of Colossians.

Our general attendance is about 40 (also counting the ones that join us through Zoom, at distance).

Thanks again for your fellowship in such a work. 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 in Him.

"They of Italy salute you".

Stefano Corazza