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NEWS FROM ROME (Italy)

Rome, March 31, 2017

Dear brethren in Christ,
my wife Antonella and I wish to find all of you doing fine. We would like to express again all our gratefulness for your encouragement and support that make possible our preaching of the gospel also in Rome. The religious background on our Country does not help at all the reading and practice of the gospel, but we're trying our best to bring good hearts to Christ.

PERSONAL NEWS. Thanks to God, we are all doing fine. We're enjoying our grandchildren, Alicia (10 months) and Alessandro (29 months), seeing them grow week by week. Our daughter Valeria is really busy with her family duties even though we're trying to help her when we can. Our son Paolo is also doing fine, still living and working at Bologna.

My dad Sandro (91 years old) is doing well, in spite of his age. He is slowly continuing to be involved in his translating works. His writings became a precious source for many of us over here. We're sending books and commentaries freely to whosoever makes a direct request. On Sunday morning he attends to our worship services surrounded by the love of everyone. My mother's situation is quite different. She stays on bed all the time with a close and daily care. However, she is OK. All seems to work fine.

PREACHING EFFORTS IN ROME. The physical conditions of **Alessia**, (32 years old, wife of **Marco Di Martino**), did not change much since last month. She has been moved from the hospital where she was to **Foligno** (north-east) a little town 2 hours of driving from Rome. Here there's a specialist structure for such a cases. They will try to see within next 2 months if there are possibilities of a sort of brain rehabilitation. After this period, we'll see. The whole situation remains critical and very sad for all of us. It seems to me that there's no way to get it out.

Marco is keeping on, notwithstanding the tragedy, trying to be strong and positive: a good example for all brothers and sisters.

The local work at via Sannio is continuing well. We're trying to reach our goals and objectives in teaching programs. We're meeting once a month to openly discuss on how to face the needs of the work and when to make the opportune decisions to increase our preaching activities.

We decided to have a public gospel meeting the weekend of April 29. For the occasion we invited brother **Gianni Berdini**, who preaches for the Trieste and Monfalcone churches. The major theme of the meeting will be: *"The Gospel, a lost value to be discovered"*. We have already reserved and paid (\$2000) for the opportune spots on the major newspapers delivered in Rome. We'll have 6 major windows and the ads will be seen and read by half thousand people, according statistic. We'll invite our friends, relatives and contacts to the appointment. We hope to meet as much as possible.

The classes for children are doing very well, and I'm pleased by the work done by teachers and students. The material prepared is good and the attitude of following the courses is positive.

During mid-week Bible class, I began teaching from 2 Timothy. On Sunday morning, after the worship, I'm still the teaching from the book of Acts, trying to underline the major topics related to the New Testament church, standards and model. We reached chapter 15.

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

We had the joy to be together again with **David Thomley** and **David McClister**. We went to Latina church where David T. was invited for special teachings and was good to be around the brethren there. Brother McClister preached for us on Sunday. His lesson was very interesting: the influence of Roman culture in the book of Revelation.

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

Antonella, Valeria & Paolo send their good wishes. God may continue to bless and keep us in all things

"They of Italy salute you".

Stefano Corazza