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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 each one of you in good physical and spiritual health. We would like to share again with you our sincere feelings of gratefulness for your fellowship and trust that make possible our preaching of the gospel also in Rome. We are trying to do all that is in our capabilities to reach as many as possible to Christ, in spite of the opposition due to our strong Catholic background. However, we'll keep on announcing the gospel to the ones in search of Truth.

PERSONAL NEWS. Thanking to God, we are doing pretty well. Our grandchildren (Alessandro and Alice) are growing well with the joy of all the family. Our son Paolo just moved close to Venice, having begun the new work for the Easy Jet Aircraft. He already has the new work contract and should start regularly next week. He already attended the Trieste church service, being only 1 hour driving away. We are especially happy for this reason.

My parents Sandro and Elisabetta (91 and 89) are having some problems. My dad is hospitalized since last week. He has intestinal problems that are required close test and special attention. He's getting week and in need of particular cares. Probably he will have to follow the actual therapy in a specialized structure, with a nursing care. I must decide the best for him and I hope to find enough wisdom to manage the whole situation. My mother is more or less in the same situation, but always in bed with a nurse 24 hours a day taking care of her. It seems to me that their situation is beginning to decay and all appears difficult to manage, even simple and daily things. We'll see in the immediate future.

PREACHING EFFORTS IN ROME. The clinical situation of **Alessia**, (32 years old, wife of **Marco Di Martino**) are not changing. She is still in the hospital of **Foligno** (120 miles from Rome), where is well treated with specific therapies that try to reactivate some of her brain damages. We pray and hope to see some kind of improvement along next months. Marco is doing what he can to keep faith, work and relationship with the brethren. He's doing a very difficult work in this sense. We are all close to him in all things.

The local work at via Sannio is proceeding very well. I'm strictly working on the new contacts. In particular I begun studying with a young man, Maurizio, who attended to our services since the gospel meeting. He has many personal problems to solve and I

hope that through the gospel he may find courage and wisdom to find the right solutions. Though, he seems to have the right attitude toward studying and learning.

The new Bible children class is continuing to go very well. The teachers, **Angela, Daniela,** and **Patrizia** are doing a wonderful building service, so important for next generations of Christians. I work behind them for counseling, suggestions and encouraging aspects to improve the general studying.

During mid-week Bible class, I'm now teaching from Titus Epistle. On Sunday morning, after the worship, I'm still teaching from the book of Acts. We reached chapter 21. The main efforts are to underline the N.T. pattern for the local church. Especially trying to help those brethren that had more "liberal" vision of Bible authority. So far all is going fine with no special problems registered.

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

The gospel meeting at **Ciampino** went very well with good attendance and participation of new visitors. **Marco di Martino** did a good preaching job.

VISITORS FROM OTHER CHURCHES. We had the joy to meet several brethren, especially coming from American churches. I'd like to list them. **Natalie Tarrant** (Monroe, WA) – she spent a month among us for her University studies in Rome; **Clay & Donna Thomas** (Gardendale, AL); **Wayne & Jennifer Fancher** (Searcy, AR); **Michael, Jamye, Amber & Alipsa Parks** (North Beach Church, Fortworth, TX); **Mark & Kim Cochran** (Bowling Green, KY). I specially had the joy to see again the Cochran's who met so many years ago, becoming good friends. They have been an inspiration for all of us.

We all thank those brethren for their good example and encouragement.

Thanks again for your fellowship and kind 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 safe in His kingdom.

"They of Italy salute you".

Stefano Corazza