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NEWS FROM ROME (Italy)

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Dear brethren in Christ,

my wife Antonella and I hope to find each one of you prospering in every material and spiritual blessing, notwithstanding the serious pandemic reality that we are all experiencing. We'd like to share with you our sincere feelings of thankfulness for all you are doing in our behalf, making possible the preaching of the gospel also in a difficult city as Rome, considering its background so far away from the teaching and principles of the Word. We're still working and searching for good hearts with whom to bring good fruit to the Lord.

PERSONAL NEWS. Thanking God, we're doing fine in the Corona Virus context. As far as I know, there are not brothers in Italy affected by it. Obviously, we hope for a better development of the pandemic moment, but I personally think that we all need more months to see the "light".

Valeria's family is OK, including her three kids: Alessandro (6), Alice (4) and Samuele (9 months). They are a joy for all the family. Our son Paolo is also doing OK. He went back to Venice to catch back his work as attendant on EasyJet flights. Though, he does not work with the frequency of before and the situation in the Company is still confused. Very few hours of working per week. There may be also the possibility of losing the job itself if things don't change with world aircrafts' business. We'll see in future

CORONAVIRUS SITUATION IN ITALY. Apparently life here seems to be "normal" but the reality is that contagious people are growing day by day. This is due to people travelling and doing vacations in places still in serious difficulty, as Greece, Spain, France, Germany. Not all have the right sense of responsibility to manage this problem, especially among young ones. Moreover, in few weeks schools will open and I guess that the situation will get worst. We still have restrictions of gathering, dressing mask in close places, disinfection, and distances.

The economic situation is still a big problem for many who lost jobs and working possibilities. Economists and experts talk in pessimistic view about the immediate future, and they don't see great solution in the short time.

OUR LOCAL PREACHING ACTIVITY. Since July 19th, we're back to use our meeting place for worship gatherings. We had to accomplish to several restrictions, but all seemed to

work fine up to now. Many brethren, especially the old ones, are still at home participating through Zoom video conference, and so we can respect distances rules in a easier way. Things are slowly getting normal but is still a delicate situation to manage.

I'm particularly happy and encouraged to have begun studying with a young lady, Stefania (23 years old), part of the Nigerian family (Pauline, Michel, Angela, Miriam) that is member of our church. She was baptized when was 15 but along the way she lost interest and passion. I'm trying now to slowly bring her back to reasoning in terms of New Testament. We're studying since a month now, but all seems to go well. She also attends at the worship services, showing great changing in attitude and spiritual interest.

In July, the Ciampino church, where Marco Di Martino is preaching, invited me to hold a one night gospel meeting on the topic: ***"What does it mean to speak in the name of Jesus"***. We had a good attendance and a fine fellowship exchanging. The small group of Ciampino is doing fine in spite of the heavy work in starting a work from very beginning.

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 participation. 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