



# THE GREEK MISSION

## DINO & MATA TZANETOS

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Dear ones,

Greetings from Athens. Our earnest prayer is that this newsletter finds all you doing well and being safe from the Covid19.

After 2 very difficult months of lockdown our government has decided, with some restrictions still, to allow the people to go back to their normal life and all business to start reopening. These two lockdown months have caused many problems to all families and it will take lots of time for things to go back, if they ever do. It seems life will not be the same again. However the lockdown reason has been very successful in Greece which is probably the safest EU country with less than 2700 people getting sick and 168 dead because of Covid19 in total. So, all in all the lockdown time was worth it.

Of course the economic damage is big as everywhere, but the government has done a good job so far helping individuals and business, and we hope that by the end of this year things will be good again, provided there will not be a second Covid19 wave.

### ***Church member's condition***

This pandemic has been a disaster in almost every area. None of the church or family members has been sick or died because of the virus, but the economic disaster has effected all church members to the point that their present condition is far worse than the one during the hard austerity times. Unemployment is close to 95%, and the few who may can find a part time job once a week consider themselves fortunate. We do not know how to face this, but to pray that it will not last for long. In the meantime we continue to pray and trust in the Lord, that He will take through this new ordeal victoriously. In the meantime the church provides and helps those in need.

### ***Church services***

The church work has been influenced in every way. Since the beginning of the lockdown our services and Bible Studies have been canceled and , based on the government restriction we won't be allowed to reopen the church building before June 7<sup>th</sup>. We have been using the ZOOM app for church services. Our coworker Beni Leka from Nashville TN is the host of the Sunday Greek



services, our coworker in Athens Peter Ozah the host of the English services, and myself with a Greek brother are taking in charge of the Wednesday evening class and the Friday evening Ladies class. We are thankful technology has helped the brethren to study and meet together until we are allowed to meet again at the church building. The Ministry of Religion has send me, being the official minister of the church, that any violation of the law about the church meetings restrictions, would cause me personally a 6.000 euro fine and 3 months imprisonment.

Hopefully we will soon get the green light to start again services and home Bible studies..

### ***Prison ministry***

One of the first things the government had canceled was the prison ministry and the when we will be allowed to start again, remains unknown. We truly cannot know how thongs will be in the prison or how many students will still be there, We just pray about it.

### ***Relief program***



Because of the lockdown we were not allowed to go and food for those in need. So, we were depositing money, based on the family size, in to their bank accounts so they could do their own shopping. After the end of the lockdown we started going with them again and help them carry the groceries to their homes.

### ***Sad news***

Our sister Dorothy Koulouris, age 83, passed away last week. Her 3 children honored her request to be cremated. Due to the lockdown only her children were allowed to be at the cremation. So, using the Messenger app I held a short memorial service.



Our brother Toni Sefentini, age 44, was attacked again by aggressive cancer in the back side of his brain. The doctor had told him that the tumor he had on the top of his brain was almost gone and that he could live a long life, but it wasn't so. He has lost all memory and cannot control feelings and actions. His condition is tragic and worsens every day. He is the husband of our sister Magiola, age 38, who is still recovering from a recent hip surgery. They have 2 boys ages 19 & 15. Mata and I stand by and help them as much as possible in every way. All the brethren pray fervently for them.

### ***Mata's corner***

During the lockdown all her activities had been postponed. This week, when the lockdown ended, she took clothing and vitamins to the church building to be given to the members, first chance. She also used her time at home preparing lessons for her Bible classes and also the on line Ladies class.

She also took her teenage girls class out for devotion by the sea and some fun time buying them lunch and small gifts.



### ***Family news***

All of our family members are doing well. By His grace we were able to manage well the lock in the house time, we rested enough and now we are ready for a full schedule work with the work and the brethren.

On May 17<sup>th</sup> we had our grandson's, Constantine, 13<sup>th</sup> birthday. We celebrated with him and his parents from far away. He is now a teenager. We pray for God's guidance as he is entering a new face in his life with more challenges



We thank you so very for your love, support, emails, prayers, concern about our well and help for us , our work and the saints in Athens. May the Lord continue to bless you richly with every good blessing from above.

We love you

*Dino & Mata Tzanetos*