



San Cipriano Picentino (Salerno). Teresa Tastardi is a young single mother of two girls, 8 and 11 years old. She works as a shop assistant in a supermarket, and for safety's sake she sent her children to live with their grandmother. Getting home from work is one of the most difficult moments, because that's when Teresa feels the emptiness in her home.

TOGETHER BUT ALONE

Lives lived in self-isolation to protect others

- ▶ Phase 2 hasn't started for everyone: many of those on the front line have decided to self-isolate to protect their loved ones and the community.
- ▶ Doctors and nurses, law enforcement and emergency service personnel, mayors, workers in the large supermarkets and the owners of small shops that the various decrees have kept operational or gradually reopened.
- ▶ Lives in self-isolation and stories of people living in a situation that is difficult to deal with both psychologically and emotionally.

#GENERALNEWS #HEALTH #SOCIALISSUES



Giovanni Maglione, a nurse at Polla Hospital, is waiting for his wife to arrive so they can, at a distance, say hello and exchange a few words.



Caggiano (Salerno). To help him, and to maintain some form of contact, Mayor Lamattina's wife, during this frenetic period of relentless commitment, has kept a daily diary of tasks completed, new infections and things to be done.



Daniele Graziano, head nurse at the Polla Hospital's A&E unit, eats dinner alone in his temporary accommodation; 4 May was his wedding anniversary, 17 years of marriage and two months without seeing his family. Daniele hasn't lived at home ever since the emergency began, he's been living in a flat he owns in Polla (Salerno), an unoccupied flat that's almost completely unfurnished.



A picture of Fernando Pepe, one of the nurses who worked in the Covid ward at Polla Hospital, staring at the mountains. A stroll through the woods with friends and colleagues will be the first thing he does once the emergency is over.

Phase 2, we were hearing about it and looking forward to it for weeks, but for some it still hasn't started. Some people have been forced to stay away from their family because - as key workers ensuring the country can continue to tackle this emergency - they have been, and continue to be, in contact with many others and are therefore exposed to a heightened risk of infection. In order to protect their loved ones they've decided to live in a form of self-isolation that's extremely difficult to maintain, both psychologically and physically, particularly since there's no way of knowing when it will end.

The people living in such a way include many health workers, law enforcement and emergency service personnel and public administration representatives, workers who – in silence and with perseverance – have enabled the country to continue to function, for example workers in the large supermarkets or the owners of small shops that the various decrees have kept operational or gradually reopened.

These people – in deciding to isolate themselves from their loved ones to protect both them and others - are sacrificing themselves for their work and for the entire community: they are genuine "working class heroes", but they are paying a high price with the loss of their private and emotional world. Doctors, nurses, shop workers, mayors are all on the front line in the fight against the epidemic, but they are often alone. Together with the community, but alone in their isolation. Those who are sacrificing the most for their country are suffering the greatest consequences.



San Cipriano Picentino, (Salerno). Teresa Tastardi is a young single mother of two girls, 8 and 11 years old. She works as a shop assistant in a supermarket, and for safety's sake she sent her children to live with their grandmother. Before going home she does some shopping in the small shop near where she lives.



The focus of infection from where the Vallo di Diano contagion started, with the subsequent institution of a red zone, originating from two meetings of a neocatechumenal group which took place at the Hotel Kristall in Atena Lucana and at the Church of Saint Roch in Sala Consilina.



Dr. Domenico Rubino at home; despite being able to retire, and after arguing with his entire family, he decided to lead the Polla Hospital (Salerno) Covid ward. For this reason he's not able to see his son, or his daughter who's about to give birth and make him a grandfather.



Modesto Lamattina, the Mayor of Caggiano (Salerno), speaking to his wife; they had just bought the apartment next door to theirs, which became the Mayor's new home after he decided to self-isolate and not put his family at risk. Mayor Lamattina has been a civil protection volunteer for many years, and is trained as a disaster manager, this has been extremely helpful in managing this difficult situation, especially considering that it was on his birthday he found out that the following day the town of Caggiano would be declared a red zone, one of the first in southern Italy.



Alessandro Morello in his living room at home. Alessandro is a fireman, his brother Luigi was the station commander at the Sala Consilina (Salerno) fire station, and was one of the first victims of Covid-19.



San Cipriano Picentino (Salerno). Teresa Testardi in the children's bedroom; during this period of isolation from them there are times when she can't even manage to go into their room, and there are others when she gets their things out so as to feel closer to them. Teresa is a young single mother of two girls, 8 and 11 years old. She works as a shop assistant in a supermarket, and for safety's sake she sent her children to live with their grandmother.



A view of Vallo di Diano.



Giffoni Valle Piana (Salerno). Rosario Muro, Municipal Police Chief, moved out of his home to live in another house so as to protect a vulnerable family member. The house is isolated and far from the centre, Rosario hasn't seen his family since the beginning of March.



A portrait of Daniele Graziano, head nurse at the Polla Hospital's A&E unit.



Giovanni Maglione is a nurse at Polla Hospital; his wife moved to a country house that's still under construction. He has remained in the family home with just the cats, Medea and Olivia, for company.



Dr Domenico Rubino, Head of Urology at Polla Hospital (Salerno). When Vallo di Diano was declared a red zone, Dr Rubino was asked to reorganise the hospital to set up a Covid ward and connecting routes. The hospital had to undergo a series of major changes, entire wards were merged and moved, but thanks to this meticulous reorganisation, by the end of the emergency no medical personnel had become infected by the disease.



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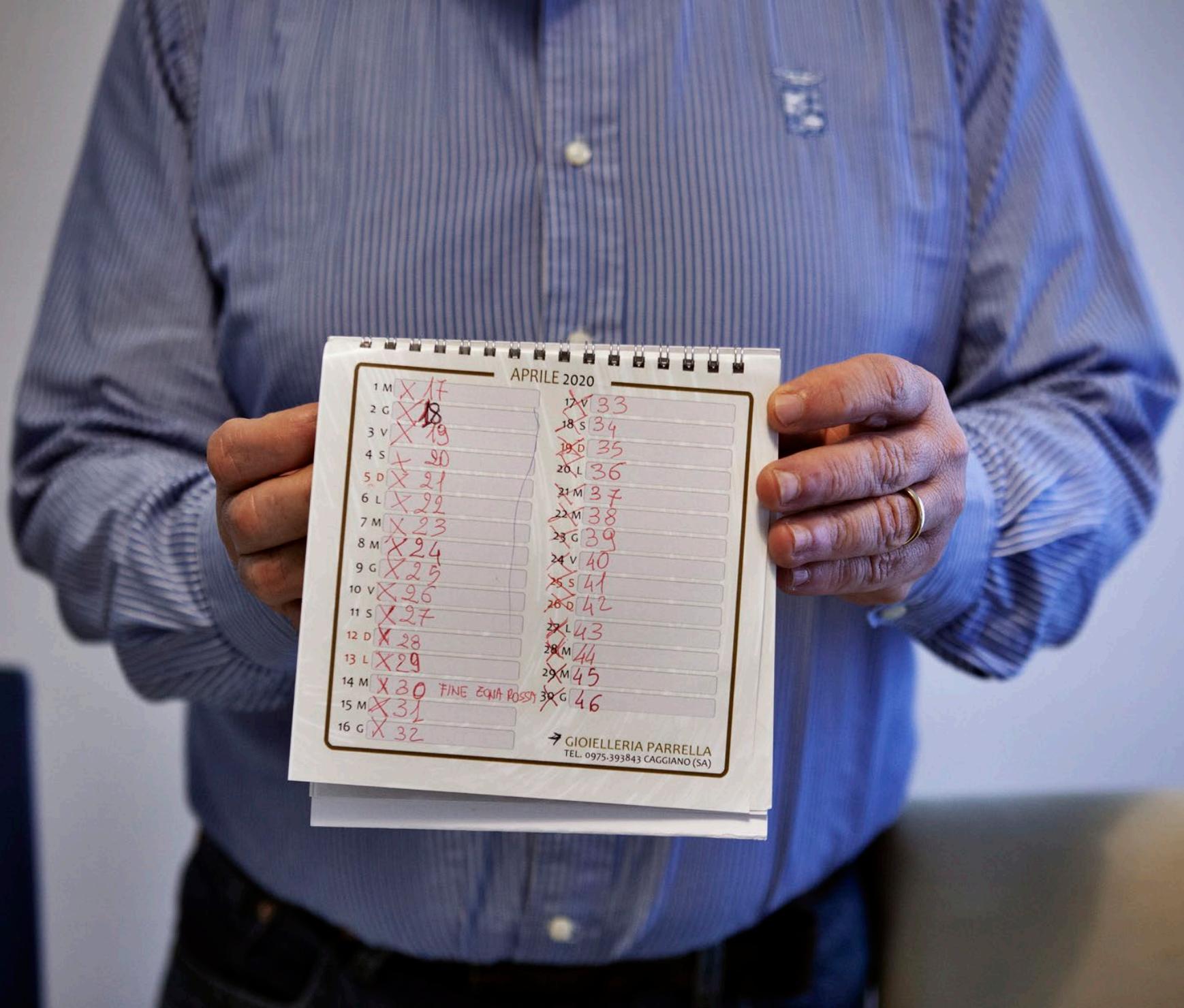
Polla (Salerno) town centre.



San Cipriano Picentino (Salerno). Teresa Testardi in the children's bedroom. The only way to see her children is through video calls, when moments of joy alternate with moments of sadness. Teresa is a young single mother of two girls, 8 and 11 years old. She works as a shop assistant in a supermarket, and for safety's sake she sent her children to live with their grandmother.



Rosario Muro in the house where he's lived since the beginning of the Covid crisis.



Modesto Lamattina, the Mayor of Caggiano (Salerno), has marked in red on the calendar every day that his municipality has been a red zone.



Dr Domenico Rubino at home; despite being able to retire, and after arguing with his entire family, he decided to lead the Polla Hospital (Salerno) Covid ward. For this reason he's not able to see his son, or his daughter who's about to give birth and make him a grandfather.



Modesto Lamattina, the Mayor of Caggiano (Salerno), admonishes a couple of old people out enjoying the sun in direct violation of the restrictions laid down by government decrees and local laws.



Polla (Salerno). Daniele Graziano is the head nurse at the Polla Hospital's A&E unit; the waiting room has been turned into a PPE storage area. Regardless of his shifts, 3 times a day Daniele has to hand out PPE equipment to all his colleagues so as to ensure they are used sensibly and in a controlled manner.



Fernando Pepe, one of the nurses who worked in the Covid ward at Polla Hospital, at home. The telescope has been a way for him to spend his free time and relax during this period of isolation.



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