



Little Sisters of the Poor

From a humble heart, a great wave of charity
www.littlesistersofthepoorbaltimore.org
Celebrating 150 years in America

St. Martin's Home
601 Maiden Choice Lane
Baltimore, Maryland 21228
Phone: 410/744-9367

December 4, 2020

To: All family members of a current Resident at St. Martin's and to our friends,

I hope this first week of Advent finds you and your family well and joyfully preparing for the birth of Jesus. The Christmas Season is always a wonderful time at St. Martin's Home and although our festivities will look a bit different this year, we want to assure you that our celebration will bring our beloved Residents laughter, love, and joy during this unusual time.

This week we successfully implemented the point of care (POC) rapid COVID test for employees. Those who work at St. Martin's are tested twice weekly – one time with a POC test and one time with a polymerase chain reaction (PCR) testing through the outside Lab. All the PCR test results from last week are back and all were negative. We are still waiting for the PCR test results from this past Monday and Thursday.

However, I want to let you know that one employee tested positive yesterday when we tested with the POC rapid COVID test. The employee is on quarantine now at home and will be tested twice before returning to work. The Maryland Health Department considers this an outbreak, so the Residents in the Nursing cottages and Assisted Living cottage are on quarantine in their rooms. No one is experiencing any symptoms at this time and our staff will continue to monitor everyone.

As you are aware, our primary focus continues to be on the safety and wellbeing of all our Residents, Little Sisters, and employees. Unfortunately, with cases still surging throughout the nation and the recent holiday, we must remain even more vigilant. There are no indoor visits permitted but you may still visit your loved one by arranging a window visit with our Activities Director, Danielle, who can also help you connect through technology.

It is hard to believe it has been nearly 10 months since we began to prepare for what would be one of the most challenging times in history for hospital and every health care facility across the country and we have learned many lessons along the way. We enhanced our infection control protocols to reduce the risk to Residents, Little Sisters and staff. We continue to update these protocols as we receive additional guidance from a variety of government agencies.

Keeping the lines of communication open with you over the past several months has been critical. We cannot thank you enough for trusting us to care for your loved one. It is a privilege to serve them. We are in this together and together we will beat this insidious virus and come out stronger.

Please join us in praying for an end to this pandemic. May God continue to watch over you and keep you safe during this holy Advent season.

Most sincerely,

Sister Joseph Caroline

Mother Joseph Caroline, I.s.p.
Superior



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