



## 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  
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April 9, 2021

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

This week April 6 was the 152<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of the arrival of the Little Sisters in Baltimore. At St. Martin's Home we have dedicated the past 152 years to knowing, loving, and serving the needy elderly in the Baltimore area. During this unprecedented time of global concern over the COVID-19 virus, we remain resolved to do whatever is necessary to provide outstanding care to those who have blessed us with the opportunity to serve them.

Our days are cautiously becoming more "normal" now that we are able to welcome you into our Home once again for your scheduled visits. But please be assured that although St. Martin's was closed to visitors, our days were still full of the joy, compassion, faith, and care that have defined the Little Sisters' ministry for the past 15+ decades. This is still a fluid situation that we will continue to monitor and respond to with additional changes as needed.

Our weekly testing continues and I am pleased to report that this week's results were all negative. However, the State of Maryland reports the positivity rate as over 5% so there is no additional loosening of restrictions. When you arrive to visit with your loved one, please follow the protocols in place. Take your temperature in the lobby and complete the necessary health form. All the advanced infection control measures we have in place – face masks, social distancing, refraining from touching and frequent hand washing and sanitizing – has been done to protect our Residents. These measures also follow the current guidelines from the CDC, the State of Maryland, and Governor Hogan's office. The Maryland Department of Health reports cases of fully vaccinated people testing positive, and of fully vaccinated people having symptoms. It is a burden lifted to no longer feel in imminent danger from the disease, however we await more definitive science to assist our intelligent decision-making around preventing transmission to others and keeping everyone safe.

Although COVID-19 vaccination and/or testing are not mandatory prior to visiting, both of these interventions are encouraged. Governor Hogan announced this week that the state has officially surpassed the milestone 3 million COVID-19 vaccines administered. We know you are one in a million so we hope you are also one in the vaccinated 3 million.

As we enter the second week of Easter, we are leaning hard on the hope that we are moving away from the worst COVID can throw at us and our beloved Residents. Our gratitude to them and to you only increases particularly when we reflect on the incredible patience and support freely given these many months. And our hearts are filled with gratitude for our Benefactors and friends who so generously provide for the needs of our Home.

As always, our prayers are with you and all your loved ones for safety, good health, and countless blessings.

Most sincerely,

Mother Joseph Caroline, I.s.p.  
Superior