

May 14, 2020

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

Re: Novel Coronavirus-2019 (COVID-19) update

This week the National Guard was here to review our pandemic plan and assist us with the testing of our Residents and staff. As I write this, testing in our Home is complete and the protection of our Residents remains our top priority.

**We now have the test results back for 120 people, including many of the Residents and staff. All of the Residents and Sisters whose test results have come back are negative. Among our staff, only 1 person has tested positive. Thank God for this essentially good news!**

The employee who tested positive will be on quarantine for 14 days and will follow the protocol before being allowed to return to work. Actually no one had shown Covid symptoms prior to testing, but realizing that these results reflect everyone's condition this week, but that the situation can change, we will remain diligent in monitoring the health of both our Residents staff as they provide hands-on care to your loved ones.

We pray that everyone will remain well, but at the same time we are preparing to continue caring for any Covid-positive Residents here at the Home. We may need to move your loved one to a designated area if they ever test positive, as requested by CDC and Maryland Department of Health guidelines.

We are informing all Residents and family representatives of their test results as quickly as possible. I also want to assure you that these results will be handled with the utmost confidentiality, according to HIPAA regulations.

"Window visits" with your loved one are still welcome and we encourage you to come to see them. Your presence gives them a reassurance and you can use your phone to communicate with them and we know it will lift their spirits. Spending time brings a sense of normalcy and a feeling of peace to them. We are all in this together and will continue our efforts to be creative in making these family memories for you as we await the continued phasing of our State, which over time will allow us to gradually welcome your visit to your loved one. We want to assure you that our care team is doing everything they can to protect our beloved elderly.

Again, when we receive any further test results, we will let the families know as quickly as possible.

Please contact myself or Sr. Bernadette at 410.744.9367 if you have any questions or concerns. We appreciate your support and understand during this pandemic as we work to continue providing the highest quality care for your loved ones. Please know that our prayers are for you and your families to stay well and for this pandemic to end soon. God bless you!

Sincerely,

Mother Joseph Caroline, I.s.p.  
Superior