



Little Sisters of the Poor

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St. Martin's Home
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Phone: 410/744-9367

November 27, 2020

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

We hope and pray your Thanksgiving Day was one of gratitude and joyful peace. Although probably quieter than those in the past, it was a day to thank God for the blessing of family and friends. The past several months have tested the resilience and patience of many, but this slowed-down period of unplanned days also created more opportunity for people to take stock of what they are thankful for.

Twice weekly testing of employees and weekly testing of Residents began this week and we are still waiting for the majority of the tests from this past Monday to return. The test results that we have received from Monday are all negative so far. We await the remainder of those test results, along with all the test results from Wednesday. If anything changes we will notify you.

We also had a surprise COVID inspection from the Maryland Department of Health this past Tuesday, November 24, 2020, and are pleased to tell you they had no findings and were very complimentary about our Home. To date, all our COVID inspections have been a positive reinforcement of how the staff share in our mission of providing a comfortable home and keeping the Residents safe, even in these difficult and challenging times of the pandemic.

We listened as Governor Hogan spoke on Monday, November 23, about the holidays and the new surge of COVID-19 intensifying not only in Maryland but across the country. The Governor's goal is to launch a wide-scale compliance, education, and enforcement operation to slow the spread of the virus. Please be assured that we will follow these new mandates and any others that follow in order to keep your loved one safe. Governor Hogan said, "I know that there is growing frustration that we are all still fighting this virus. Many people are struggling emotionally and financially, and this is causing a great deal of stress for nearly everyone – but following the public health directives is the only way we will be able to stop this virus, keep Maryland open for business, and keep hospitals from overflowing." We all have to do our part to try to help control this virus, by maintaining social distancing, wearing masks and practicing good hand washing technique, as we await the promise of the vaccine to stabilize our lives.

Jesus called His church a house of prayer (Matthew 21:13), and now is our time. It is a time to continue our prayer for God's intervention to stop the spread of this disease. It is time to ask for healing, and for peace and comfort for those who lost loved ones. Prayer is not only powerful and effective but also our greatest strength.

Please continue your window visits and connect with your loved one through Zoom, Facetime or other means of social communication. Please contact Danielle if you need assistance. Or call if you have any questions.

As we enter this holy season of Advent, please remember to take care of yourself and each other. May God continue to bless you and your family and may He keep you safe.

Most sincerely,

Sister Joseph Caroline

Mother Joseph Caroline, I.s.p.
Superior