



Little Sisters of the Poor

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

January 14, 2021

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

As I write this, we are finishing our first day of administering vaccines to our beloved Residents, to many staff and the Little Sisters. This is truly a day to thank God and our good St. Joseph for bringing us one step closer to ridding ourselves of the coronavirus. We are still doing our testing twice a week and that will continue even after everyone is vaccinated.

Unfortunately, the testing we did on Monday, January 11, resulted in one additional Resident being positive for COVID; though asymptomatic this Resident is on quarantine. Our other Residents who previously tested positive remain quarantined and are doing well. One Resident was hospitalized for a few days but has returned home.

A few of the staff who had tested positive several weeks ago, after being quarantined at home, have tested negative twice and were able to return to work. Other staff who are at home on quarantine are awaiting their test results before returning to work. Two staff members have had moderate symptoms and are still on quarantine at home until their symptoms improve and then will be retested before being able to return to work.

Our best protection from this COVID-19 will be getting the vaccine, wearing a mask, staying at least 6 feet away from others, avoiding crowds, and washing our hands often. No one tool alone will stop the pandemic. The Residents have given us a wonderful example today of wanting the vaccine and doing their part in helping to stop the spread of the virus. Their hearts rejoiced with seeing one another again after these long months of quarantine and they were so happy to see their friends as they passed one another on their way to get the vaccine.

As we have heard, none of the COVID-19 vaccines in the United States use the live virus. After getting the vaccine, we are monitoring the residents for any side effects or symptoms that may come up, such as a fever, chills, muscle aches, etc. This can be normal and a sign that the immune system is learning how to recognize and fight the virus that causes COVID-19.

Please continue to pray for the Residents, the Little Sisters, and the staff who care so much for those they tend to. We are grateful to our staff for their wonderful dedication and continued efforts to do their part in protecting the lives of others.

We will continue to hold you in our prayers daily. If anything changes after we get yesterday's COVID tests results, we will let you know.

Most sincerely,

Mother Joseph Caroline, I.s.p.
Superior