

February 19, 2021

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

During these past days, we have been graced with a winter wonderland of beauty to look at with the snow covered trees and bushes, but we also have seen what nature can do with the ice storms which make travel very difficult. Our staff have been great and have made exceptional efforts to come to work to be here for the Residents and the needs of the Home during these long winter days.

With our COVID testing this week, we are happy to say that we have not had any positive cases, for which we thank God and our good St. Joseph for their continued care. Life here in the Home has been a little more normal as some Residents were able to enjoy coming to the chapel for Mass. Of course, everyone keeps social distance with masks on and avoids contact with anyone.

In a few weeks the second Pfizer vaccine will be administered to those Residents and staff who received the first dose earlier this month. Please remember, the vaccine is not a cure nor are we certain it offers 100% protection from the virus. It is intended to prevent serious disease, but the CDC continues to recommend wearing a mask when you are around others, social distancing, and frequent hand washing. Remaining aware of the essential elements of COVID prevention is needed as we prepare and look forward to being able to allow visitors in March. If you are able to be vaccinated, it might be a good choice to do so, as together we can help prevent illness for ourselves and for others, who may be more vulnerable or susceptible to the invisible enemy.

Our focus on the Residents' well-being begins with ensuring they're always happy and safe. To be truly happy, though, they need the warmth of your presence. We ask that you bear with us a little while longer as we monitor the ever-changing guidelines from CDC and our State to ensure the safe reopening plan for family visitation in our Home. Life isn't meant to be lived in a bubble and we fully understand that proper socialization and their well-being are an important part of our Residents' overall happiness.

As we journey throughout this Lenten Season, we know it is a time of prayer and renewal and an opportunity to refocus relationships with God and others in our lives that lead us to the joy of the Easter Sunday celebration of our risen Christ.

Most sincerely,

Mother Joseph Caroline, I.s.p.
Superior