

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

February 12, 2021

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

At St. Martin's Home we have dedicated over 150 years to knowing, loving, and serving the elderly needy 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 bless us with the opportunity to serve them. Our days are different now but are still full of the joy, compassion, faith, and care that our Mother Foundress, St. Jeanne Jugan, used to define our ministry in France in 1839.

We have one more COVID vaccine clinic in a few weeks and it is comforting to know that we are close to having all our Residents, Little Sisters and Staff receive both doses of the Pfizer vaccine. A few of us have noticed some minor side effects after receiving the vaccine, but we are hopeful and wonder how COVID-19 protocols may change after most people are vaccinated. While it is true vaccines are powerful tools in the fight against the virus, our infection control measures, such as wearing masks, keeping social distance and good handwashing remain unchanged even after everyone receives the vaccine.

I am very happy to inform you that all our testing from last Friday and the two rounds of testing this week are all negative. The last employee was cleared to return to work, and we are COVID free at this time.

We continue to follow the guidelines from Governor Hogan, the CDC and the Maryland Department of Health and yesterday Governor Hogan mentioned changes to the visitation policies and testing requirements in Nursing Homes, in the beginning of March. We are reviewing his guidance changes and will submit our policies as needed for approval and we look forward to being able to welcome you in March. This past year has seemed like a very long time but now we look forward to seeing you again. Until then, we encourage you to connect with your loved ones via window visits, Skype, video chat, FaceTime or the many other options available. Next week we will have more information to share and then we can start setting up visits with your loved one.

Pray that St Joseph continues to watch over everyone here so that we can open our doors in March and stay safe

We are looking forward to the day when our halls and visiting spaces are once again filled with family, friends, and volunteers, so that laughter and joy fills everyone's heart.

Most sincerely,

Sister Joseph Caroline, I.s.p.

Sister Joseph Caroline

Superior