

St. Joseph's Home for the Elderly
Little Sisters of the Poor
80 W. Northwest Hwy
Palatine, IL 60067
www.littlesistersofthepoorpalatine.org

May 21, 2020

Dear Families and Friends of our Residents,

Just a quick covid-19 update. All continues to be well here; we have no cases of the coronavirus, thank God.

We continue to be diligent in our efforts to protect the Residents, and although our quarantine period has been completed and the Residents no longer have to stay in their rooms, unfortunately there are still some limitations. We must still adhere to a strict no-visitor policy, except through window visits. (thank God for Skype and Facetime, which have been very helpful!) We are still unable to have group activities and communal dining. These regulations continue to be more stringent because, as you know Nursing Homes in general are still very much at risk for the virus.

Because we have not had an outbreak here we are not a priority for testing. We continue to monitor both Residents and Staff for signs and symptoms at least twice daily. We are preparing in case of an outbreak, one section of rooms on the 2nd floor that would be uniquely for our Residents who contract Covid-19. We hope and pray that we will not have to use them. This area would be strictly isolated from the rest of the home, and staffed with designated nurses and aides, reducing any risk of spreading the virus to well residents. Everyone involved in these room-changes has been extremely cooperative and we appreciate your understanding.

Mother's Day turned out to be a really nice day here, the ladies enjoyed their lovely corsages, their champagne and specially ordered, very delicious cakes! Conversations centered on their families and they shared pictures and memories with us as we visited each one. Of course, they missed all of you, but we were glad that it turned out to be as nice of a day as it could have been under these circumstances.

We also had a high school graduation, which many found quite touching. Marianna, one of our staff members was to graduate from Palatine High. We wanted to cheer her up by having it here, just for her. She walked each hall in her cap and gown while "Pomp and Circumstance" played loudly. Stopping at each doorway the Residents cheered her on and looked so proud of her; some had tears in their eyes. It was something Marianna says she will never forget.

We are so grateful for the many donations of food, supplies and water. The one thing we are most in need of are disposable, long sleeved isolation gowns. Any help in procuring these would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you. Stay well. We so look forward to seeing you all again, hopefully in the not too distant future.

God bless you.

Mother Margaret Charles, lsp
Administrator