

May 22,2020

Dear Family members,

Another week has passed and we are happy to share some of the latest news with you from Jeanne Jugan Residence.

As you know, we received directives from the Governor's office regarding Covid-19 testing of all staff. This directive requires all personnel of nursing homes to be tested twice a week. Staff who work at the home three days per week or less only need to be tested once a week.

We have been able to make arrangements with the Jacobi Hospital to provide the testing twice a week. A good friend lends us a bus four days a week which provides our staff with a convenient way to comply with this directive. We started the testing on May 18th. We are happy to announce that all staff except one have tested negative so far. That staff member is in quarantine for 14 days.

The New York State and City Health Dept. are now advising nursing homes that the Residents may need to be tested in the near future. We have not received clear guidelines about this yet but will keep you posted as we receive them.

We have also received information concerning a change from the NY State Health Department regarding Covid-19 cohorting and dedicated staff. They will now allow small nursing homes that only have one or two positive cases to arrange for dedicated staffing assignments to the extent possible. This is a very welcome change, since because of the size of our home, having dedicated staff for only one case would create an impossible situation for us. However, if a Resident tests positive it would necessitate establishing a "dedicated Covid-19 area" at the end of the hall. To accomplish this we would have to move some of the Residents to other rooms temporarily. Hopefully this will not be necessary but we will keep you posted.

We are grateful for the beautiful spirit we have within our Congregation. We had the joy of welcoming Sister Charles Patricia from our Home in Virginia to help us out for several days. She was a big help and will be missed. She is now ready to go off to Boston to help out there.

The Knights of Columbus surprised us with an offer to supply a delicious lunch for our dedicated staff and the Sisters. We're so grateful for this kind act and for so many wonderful people who lavish us daily with their kindness and generosity.

We are grateful for all that you are doing to help us during this period of time. Please keep up the daily prayers. Looking forward to updating you next week. Have a lovely Memorial Day Weekend.

Sincerely,

Sr Gertrude Mary and all the Little Sisters