

July 10, 2020

Dear Families and Friends,

The Residents, Sisters and I are praying that you and your families are staying healthy and safe.

Gratefully at present we have no cases of Covid-19 in our Home. Our Sisters and staff are also negative. This is thanks to the care and safety measures, as well as the regulations of CMS and NJ DOH, which have been strictly followed by the Residents themselves, as well as our devoted staff and Sisters. We work as a team, and we care for each Resident and co-worker.

Everyone is reminded to practice proper handwashing, wearing of masks, and social distancing. Residents and staff continue to be screened and have their temperature taken every day.

Although New Jersey has entered Phase 2 of re-opening, nursing homes, personal care homes, and other congregate facilities will have a longer waiting period because of the vulnerability of the elderly population to COVID-19. Currently, the Health Department is mandating that the restrictions for nursing homes remain in effect until further notice.

There is no lack of things to do and activities to enjoy! Mark, Suzanne and Mary, assisted by the Staff and Sisters, do a wonderful job of keeping the Residents happy with music, Bingo, Rosary and Prayer. Taking walks outside is what the Residents enjoy most.

On another positive note, we have started outdoor visits for families to see their loved ones. During these visits New Jersey Dept. of Health guidelines need to be followed while social distancing. Families upon arrival will receive St. Joseph's Home for the Elderly Protocol's for Outdoor visits and complete a screening and consent form. If you would like to set up a visit call, Marian Jekonski at 973-942-0300 x 378 (9:00am-4:00pm M-F)

Let us continue to pray for each other, especially those who are sick with the virus, that God's Divine Mercy will protect us and keep us healthy and that there may soon be an end to the coronavirus pandemic.

God bless you and your loved ones!
Mother Mary Thomas, lsp