

ST. JOSEPH'S HOME FOR THE ELDERLY
140 Shepherd Lane
Totowa, NJ 07512

September 3, 2020

To Our Residents and Family Members:

As the summer winds down, I'm happy to tell you that no Sister, Staff member or Resident has tested positive for Covid-19 for two consecutive weeks. We will continue weekly testing of Sisters and Staff and bi-weekly testing of Residents.

Our Residents are enjoying time outside with daily socially distanced walks provided one-on-one with a member of our Activities staff. They are also providing entertainment on the floors with singing, bingo and trivia. Mass from our chapel is broadcast daily throughout the Home and Holy Communion is offered every Sunday.

Please join me in welcoming Sr. Lily who comes to us from our Somerville Home. Sr. Lily will be providing care to the third floor Residents.

As I previously reported, preparations are being made for in-home visits; we are currently working on the policies and procedures required for these visits. With the cooler weather approaching, we hope to be able to provide our Residents a safe indoor space to visit with family while adhering to all guidelines and keeping everyone COVID-free.

To comply with the guidelines, we are required to stockpile surgical face masks, face shields and disposable gloves. If you or anyone you know has these items available and are able to make a donation, please let us know.

We are continuing with outside family visits. Visits are scheduled Monday through Saturday by contacting Marian Jekonski at extension 378. Please remember that visits are for two people for 30 minutes, socially distanced and everyone must wear a mask. It is very important that you arrive at least 10 to 15 minutes before your scheduled time so that the necessary paperwork can be completed and your loved one brought outside to visit. We cannot extend visiting time if you arrive late as there are other visits scheduled throughout the day. We appreciate your cooperation.

All of us are praying for an end to this pandemic so that we can once again gather as a "family" for meals, activities and Mass. Please remember our Residents and our staff in your prayers.

With blessings,

Mother Mary Thomas, lsp