

**St. Joseph's Home for the Elderly
140 Shepherd Lane
Totowa, New Jersey 07512**

May 28, 2021

To Our Residents, Family Members, Volunteers and Friends,

Friday blessings to you all! As we enjoy the Memorial Holiday weekend, let's give thanks to God, we continue to be COVID free. All tests for the last two weeks have come back negative, and Residents are now able to go outside and enjoy the nice sunny weather. Our family visits, are going very well and adding to the much-desired feeling of "normalcy."

As much of New Jersey reopens, we too are thrilled about our gradual reopening. As a health care facility, we proceed with an abundance of caution and much slower than the rest of our community, but we are all moving in the right direction. Our third and fourth floor Residents are now back to having all meals in the dining room. Second floor Residents are having dinner and supper in the dining room, with breakfast expected to be added soon. Much to the delight of Residents, activities are also slowly returning to pre-pandemic status. While we cannot have the Home's usual festivities for Memorial Day, we will still celebrate and make it an enjoyable and memorable day for all!

This week we had a special visit from Mother Provincial Alice Marie Monica and Sr. Rose Marie Thomas from our Provincial Home in Queens. It has been well over a year since they have been able to come see us due to the pandemic. They visited with our Residents, attended Mass with them and thoroughly enjoyed spending time with them at meals.

The summer is quickly approaching and we pray that this pandemic will come to a swift end. We and our Residents are looking forward to the day we can open our doors wide for our families and friends to come and enjoy hugs, meals, activities, etc., as one big family!

We thank you for all your prayers during these past months and please know that we continue to pray for each one of you.

With God's many blessings,

Mother Mary Thomas, lsp

