

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

August 6, 2020

To Our Residents and Family Members:

It has been a while since I last wrote to you. I am very happy to report that all our Residents and staff continue to remain COVID-free. The one Resident who had previously test positive has recovered.

Weekly testing of Staff and Residents continues. Our plan is to continue testing, although it is putting a strain on our finances as the weekly cost of this testing is \$10,000.

As I previously reported, the Army National Guard was at our Home for a few weeks to assist with housekeeping and kitchen activities, as well as other projects. We greatly appreciated having them with us and the Residents enjoyed seeing some different faces. Please join us in keeping our soldiers in your prayers.

The fast-moving storm on Tuesday left many of you without power. Our Home lost power also, but thanks be to God, our generator kicked in immediately. All of our lights, elevators, kitchen equipment, phone system, alarm system, etc. never lost a beat. We were told that power should be restored in a few days.

Our outdoor family visits have been going very well. It is a joy for the Residents to see their families and friends in person. The guidelines set by the New Jersey Department of Health must continue to be followed with masking and social distancing. Please call Marian Jekonski at 973-942-0300, ext. 378 to schedule a visit with your loved one.

The Residents enjoy listening to daily Mass and the Rosary broadcast from our chapel. They also enjoy the various activities that have been improvised, such as bingo and sing-a-longs, to remain socially distanced. Many of the Residents are taking advantage of the one-on-one outdoor time on the patio and taking walks in the back of the Home.

We are grateful for the many donations that we have received. This is a difficult time for everyone and we continue to appeal for monetary donations so that we can provide the care and support of our Residents.

May God continue to watch over you, our Residents, staff and Sisters.

With many blessings,

Mother Mary Thomas, Isp