

October 27, 2020

Dear Families and Friends,

With God's help and through teamwork among the Staff and Little Sisters, we were able to continue our weekly testing on Thursday, October 15th, the feast of Saint Teresa of Avila, one of God's great friends.

This testing returned all negative results for the Staff and Sisters, but unfortunately the lab was doing a system up-grade and the Residents results got stuck somewhere in the upgrading. Finally, the results for the Residents all came back negative yesterday afternoon except for pending results of 2 Residents in the skilled nursing area. The testing we had on Wed. Oct. 21st returned all negative tests for the Sisters and Residents, with one staff member testing positive.

Nearly every day we receive letters requesting prayers, thanking us for our prayers and our mission with our dear elderly. Whenever I have to give the philosophy of loving care training to any of our new staff, I let them know that they automatically become the extended hands and feet of us Little Sisters, since we cannot do this work alone. Please pray for each one of them and for their families during these difficult times.

The outpouring of love through donations, phone calls, emails and especially prayers is a great vehicle to carry us through this pandemic so that we can continue to care for our Residents with love and compassion. We have always believed that our Residents who have left us for heaven are watching over our Home because their families and friends continue to support our mission here at Holy Family Residence.

Guidelines from Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) and Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) regarding the safety precautions which the Residents, Staff and Little Sisters have to follow to prevent contracting covid-19 continue to be followed daily in our Home.

I will end with this good news. It is always very difficult to say no to requests for indoor visits now because of rules which we have to follow from the Department of Health to avoid any penalties. Since we are still not virus-free after any 2 consecutive weeks testing as an incentive put forward by the MN Dept. of Health to allow indoor visits, we are diligently working on a plan for "Compassionate Care/Essential Caregiver combined Visits" that will hopefully begin next week indoors. We will update you later in the week for a start date and protocols. Having the safety of everyone in mind, especially our Residents, we need to work together in following the protocols put forward by our "Safety Team" here at Holy Family Residence.

October is traditionally dedicated to Our Lady of the Rosary, let each of us say a Rosary for an end to this coronavirus pandemic.

Gratefully in Christ,

Sr. Theresa Louisa, lsp

Sister Theresa Louisa, lsp

We could use donations of the following:

Disposable Hinged Containers

Disposable Silverware

N 95 Masks

Medical Gloves Size Large

Liquid Tide HE

Bottled Water

Individual Wrapped Treats