

Tuesday, April 14, 2020

Dear Family and Friends,

I hope that you and your family are staying well. The Sisters and I are praying for you all.

I know that many of you are feeling anxious and worried about your loved ones. I imagine that it has been particularly difficult because you can't see the Residents face to face. As I suggested previously, I encourage you to stay in frequent contact with your loved one by phone.

If you are having difficulty reaching them, please contact the Sister responsible for their unit and she will make sure to facilitate the connection. We have ipads set up for face-to-face communication, so if you would like to arrange for face time with your loved one in the Home, please contact Francine Whitley, activity director (202-269-1831).

Today I would like to give you an update on the situation here at Jeanne Jugan Residence. Thank God, no Residents or staff members have exhibited symptoms or been diagnosed with the virus. However, two members of our community of Little Sisters have tested positive — myself and Sr. Albina, who is responsible for Good Shepherd unit. We are both feeling only mild symptoms and have quarantined ourselves in our rooms in the convent, far away from any contact with Residents or staff.

We are in daily contact with DC Health (the District's health department) and are following all guidelines for homes for the elderly from DC Health, CDC and the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services (CMS). We have not been advised to test anyone else in the Residence, however testing will be done for anyone who becomes symptomatic.

We are assessing the Residents' temperatures and vital signs several times a day and all Residents are being strongly encouraged to remain in their rooms. Staff temperatures are monitored on every shift. Any symptoms of Covid-19 would be noted and followed up on immediately.

Most importantly, I want you to know how committed we Little Sisters and staff are to providing the Residents with the best care possible and to keeping them comfortable and at peace. All of us at Jeanne Jugan Residence appreciate your prayers and support.

While we have been in touch with many of you, please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or concerns. In this Paschal season let us all trust in Jesus, confident that his mercy and compassion are without limits and that because of the Resurrection, life always triumphs over death.

In Christ,

Sr. Mary Michael and all the Little Sisters at Jeanne Jugan Residence