

July 11, 2020

Dear Resident Families,

We haven't written since June 11. It's been almost a month. As the saying goes, "No news is good news"! This holds true for our communication with you. Since my letter of June 11, there have been no new cases of Covid-19 here at Queen of Peace. We pray that will continue to be true.

The staff and the Little Sisters have continued to be tested. To rule out asymptomatic positive results among the Residents in the skilled nursing units, we will begin next Monday, July 13, to test them again. It will be done once a week for four weeks. This time, it is the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene of New York City who will be supplying the equipment and the lab; we will do the testing.

As you may know, the diocese of Brooklyn-Queens has allowed attendance at Sunday Masses beginning Sunday, July 5. You might say that we have taken a "baby step" concerning our chapel. The Little Sisters were able to attend Mass after months of participating at a Mass via television. Of course, everyone wore a mask during the liturgy. Also, like the churches in the diocese, places have been marked off where we may sit. We do not have the permission of the Department of Health for our skilled nursing Residents to congregate, so for the moment, they are still participating via television.

We also wait for the Department of Health to allow families to visit and volunteers to help. In a past letter, I told you of a young volunteer who was eager to help out. A recent text from her reveals her eagerness (like yours!) to come back soon to Queen of Peace: "Good afternoon, hope all is well!!! Say hi to the Residents and the other Sisters. Let me know when I can come back to help and read. I will take the Covid test so I can come and help. I miss everyone. Love you all and I will continue to keep all in my prayers. We do the rosary every night as a family. Thank you again."

Friends and benefactors continue to come to our aid and leave us humbly grateful. Recently we received a "Thinking of You" card with the following note from a benefactor: "Dear Mother Celine Thérèse & all the Little Sisters, Because sometimes it helps to know someone is thinking of you all. This time it's my turn to pray for you all. Love, Eileen." Enclosed with the note was a check for \$1,000.00!

Stay safe and enjoy the summer as best you can! God bless you all.

Sincerely,
Sister Celine Thérèse