

December 15, 2020

Dear Resident Families,

With Christmas approaching, we have some good news to share! Since fourteen days have lapsed since the positive test of one of our staff members, and since both staff and Residents who have been tested have had negative results, we may resume weekly testing (instead of bi-weekly testing) and visitation may take place. We know that you are anxious to see your loved ones as they are anxious to see you! Just a reminder that if you get tested and are negative, the results are good for only seven days from the date of the swabbing. We have found online where you can get free, walk-in testing. Type "Covid-19 Testing Sites NYC Health & Hospitals" in your browser and find the different places available in all five boroughs.

As you'll read in the attached "Policy on Visitation During the Pandemic Holiday Season," there are restrictions if a Resident is taken out of the facility." For the safety of our Residents, we prefer that they remain at Queen of Peace. The regulations for testing and isolation, if they leave the facility, are extreme. If you have any questions, please contact Sister Sheila.

We have received some information about the COVID-19 vaccine. Our plan is to distribute information regarding the vaccine and obtain informed consent as we do for the annual influenza campaign. Since we know that New York State is initially receiving the Pfizer vaccine, it seems likely that this is what the nursing homes will receive. Apparently with the first injection, there is mild fever and soreness at the injection site. Twenty-one days later, the second dose is administered and there is an anticipated reaction with fever as well. As soon as we know more, we will be sending the information to you. Taking the vaccine is not mandated, but so life can resume some normalcy for your loved one, it is strongly encouraged.

Here at Queen of Peace Residence, Sunday was a day of prayer for vocations to the Congregation of the Little Sisters of the Poor. Each of our Homes throughout the world has had one or two days to pray fervently for this intention. While we had adoration of the Blessed Sacrament during the afternoon, our Associates were able to join us via Zoom for the rosary. Of course, our Residents were able to join us for the entire afternoon via TV. At 4:00 p.m., Father Evans processed with the Blessed Sacrament to the different floors and stopped by all the rooms to give a blessing to each Resident. Please join us as we continue to pray for this important intention.

All our Residents will have a Christmas Social...Distance this week. Tomorrow, the second floor Residents will get special attention; the apartment Residents will have their turn on Thursday and the third floor on Friday. Though they can't gather together, there will be music and

refreshments, including holiday cheer! Of course, there will be gift giving and somehow, Santa Claus will make his appearance. Our Housekeeping Supervisor has had this role for a few years and since he knows the Residents, he knows what to say to each one!

As we continue to live this Advent Season in preparation for Christmas, be assured of our prayers for each of you.

God bless you all!

Sincerely,
Sister Celine Thérèse