

February 12, 2021

Dear Residents' Families,

Yesterday was testing day for the second time this week. We await the results. On Monday everyone tested negative! Starting next week, the swab test will continue to be used for the first weekly testing and the antigen test will be used for the second weekly testing. With the antigen test, we will know results the same day.

You know what negative results mean! Limited visitation may continue! Also, we have begun to allow Residents to go to the Arts and Crafts department. There are five tables, and since there can only be one to a table, five Residents at a time can profit of these moments outside their rooms. We have also resumed doorway activities. We haven't heard bingo numbers being called out for a while so that has been a refreshing sound! The weather is too cold now, but if we continue to test negative, the Residents will be able to go outdoors, accompanied of course, to enjoy some fresh air and hopefully, a bit of sunshine.

Yesterday was the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes and also the World Day of the Sick. Father Evans Julce, our chaplain, exposed the Blessed Sacrament at 4:30 p.m. and then carried the monstrance from floor to floor to bless each Resident in their doorway. One Little Sister prayed the rosary in the chapel, which the Residents could follow on TV until Father arrived at their doors. Other Little Sisters were present on the different floors and sang short refrains while the Blessed Sacrament stopped at each room or apartment.

Today is Lunar New Year, but we will be celebrating on Monday. Although we can't get together, the kitchen staff will be preparing a Chinese dinner today. They are also preparing chocolate covered strawberries with a little card for each Resident to wish them a "Happy Valentine's Day." And to top it off, there will be jambalaya for dinner on Tuesday, Mardi Gras. We are certainly grateful for all they do to mark special days for the Residents!

That brings us to Lent, which begins next Wednesday. There is no better practice for Lent than to accept, and offer up to the Lord, all the inconveniences of the pandemic – and there are many!

Keep safe! God bless you all.

Sincerely,
Sister Celine Thérèse