

December 31, 2020

To the families and others persons responsible for our residents,

In a few hours we will turn the page on 2020, but, we cannot put behind us the pandemic and its ongoing effects on us here at Garvey Manor and Our Lady of the Alleghenies and in the community at large.

I reported to you yesterday the resident and staff status. Quickly things changed late in the day yesterday and today. Some residents began showing Covid-like symptoms so several rapid tests were done and test results sent to the lab were reported. A total of 8 additional residents tested Covid positive. We designated portions of D-1 a RED Zone with 5 residents testing positive and one room on C-1 a RED zone. Two additional residents on E-1 tested positive. The total number who tested positive on that unit is 7. If your loved one is directly involved, you, or another member of your family, have been personally notified.

Staff are being rapid tested today. One staff person tested positive so far. We will complete staff testing about 4:00 PM today, so I cannot report the final results at this time.

Of course, we are very concerned about this spread and have heightened awareness for all staff and residents. Our quarantine and infection control measures have been reviewed with staff. Earlier this week we had an in person Infection Focused Survey from the Department of Health. There were no concerns identified with our Infection Control policies and practices.

Plans are in place for the Vaccine to be administered over the weekend. Residents or staff who have active Covid will not be vaccinated at this time. We are encouraging as many residents and staff who qualify to receive the vaccine.

We know you are anxious to see and visit with your loved ones. We will make arrangements, as we are able given the quarantine limitations, to have virtual visits throughout the holiday weekend and will make additional visiting arrangements next week.

My prayer for all of us is that we can get through this very difficult time with trust in the Lord. His promise to us is assured:” I will be with you always”. The poem Footprints In The Sand reminds us during life’s most difficult times, the Lord does not walk beside us, **HE carries us!** We just need to hold on, secure in His almighty arms. Let us pray for each other and enter into the year 2021 with renewed Hope for better times to come. Blessings to you, and stay safe.

Sister Joachim Anne, Administrator