

11/27/2020

To our Residents' family members,

My prayer is that each of you had a Happy, Safe, Blessed Thanksgiving, with a focus not so much on what could not be this year in having family gatherings or visits with your loved ones here at Garvey and Our Lady of the Alleghenies because of the Pandemic, but focusing on the many blessings that we have in our lives beyond the scourge of Covid-19. Please continue to pause and pray frequently during your day, that we will have less of an effect on our residents and staff and that you and your families remain safe.

Unfortunately, we continue to have new cases of Covid among our residents and staff. The entire C-2 Unit is designated a RED ZONE, meaning there are positive cases on that unit. We are trying to cohort (segregate) any positive cases to that unit as it is set up for the strictest isolation. Most other residents who have tested positive remain without symptoms. Unfortunately, we had one resident who had tested positive pass from our caring hands into the arms of God last week. Currently we have 11 positive cases among the residents.

All other units of the house, both the nursing home and OLAR are now in Quarantine as YELLOW Zones, meaning the residents have the potential of having been exposed. We have one positive case each on the D-1 and E-2 units – one room each unit is designated RED Zone. You would have been notified personally by phone if your loved one has tested positive.

Because our staff are subject to the highly positive public sector, as are members of their nuclear households, we have several new Covid positive among the staff. We also have put several off work who have had exposure to positive people and some who have Covid -like symptoms.

All staff are being tested again today as are all residents. We have the ability to rapid test with antigen testing units sent to us by the government in limited supplies. These are being used to test all today, and we have used them over the past week to test residents who have known exposures or who have suspicious symptoms.

Despite all the negative of the pandemic being upon us, we were able to have a very nice Thanksgiving for our residents and staff. Our dietary department went overboard to assure that Thanksgiving Dinner, with all the trimmings, was delicious for resident and all staff on duty. Those eating in the dining rooms had beautifully decorated tables and those receiving a tray in their rooms had festive tray covers and colorful napkins to brighten the service.

We have sufficient personal protective equipment, and staff are all instructed and monitored in using it properly and infection control measures are being monitored. The spread of this disease

is a mystery world-wide. We can only remain vigilant to our infection control measures and to quickly identify and isolate/quarantine those suspected to be or found to be positive.

God bless you, and again, please keep us in your prayers as we continue to do all we can to care for those God, and you, have entrusted to our care.

Respectfully your,
Sister Joachim Anne