

November 24, 2020

Dear friends and families of our Residents,

How happy I am to send you this letter, filled with our Thanksgiving wishes and prayers. No matter how much is happening around us and in this beautiful world of ours, there are always so many people, and so many daily blessings for which we can praise and thank God. Together with all our Little Sisters, I want to wish you a blessed and happy Thanksgiving Day.

For over a month, we have been doing COVID-19 testing twice a week on Sisters and staff. We have had one case of COVID-19 in the Home and one in the apartments. Oglanda in Social Service has sent out that information last week to you in an email. It has been necessary for some staff members to quarantine due to their closeness to someone with COVID-19. Our Residents were tested when the positive case occurred last week and all the residents were negative.

You may ask why we test so often. We can hope to monitor the pathway of the virus that could enter into our Home. Those of us living here and remaining negative are the control group, so to speak. Our staff, so very important to the Home, and any essential others who may (rarely) come in, require close monitoring for safety and quick accurate detection of any signs or symptoms of the virus. And therefore, we can act quickly to protect those in our Home.

Trusting in your kind understanding, I would like to ask you to please send in only small snack-type cookies, chips, etc., for the Residents. Our kitchen is doing a very good job with meals so we ask you not to send any "wet" food or individual meals, including through home delivery services. We are trying to do as much as possible to avoid any way of the virus entering the Home from the outside and keep the Residents safe and well. You would be so proud to see the care the staff take to follow the precautions to protect the Residents.

Visiting right now is not possible; once we are able to start in-door visiting, we will certainly let you know. We are preparing and already looking forward to our annual Family Tree Decorating party! This party will still be full of entertainment and family enjoyment! We are ready to plant 4 Evergreen trees on the 30<sup>th</sup> of this month; these will be in the outside yard. We plan to put some trees in the courtyards for those Residents who have their window looking onto the courtyard. There will be music and hot chocolate, for those inside and outside. Please bring your ornaments to hang on the trees!

Hopefully this information about our Home and Residents, staff and Sisters helps to keep you close to us all, because it is so important for you to know how much we want you to have peace of mind and heart that your dear ones are loved and cared for. Once again, from each of us, have a Blessed Thanksgiving!

Mother Paul, lsp



**Thank You, LORD!**