

Dear Families,

It has been a while since I have written to you. I hope this letter finds you well, blessed and enjoying your Summer. I am writing to you today to convey some immediate updates to our Visitation Guidance due to the heightened COVID positivity in the area.

While some of our Little Sisters homes and many nursing homes in the area are experiencing outbreaks driven by the Delta Variant, we continue to be COVID free in our Home at this time. We have enjoyed immensely the light opening-up to visitation these past few months and seeing the Home return to some sense of normal. However, we feel it is prudent at this time to take some practical measures to mitigate our risk of exposure and continue keeping our residents and staff safe from this highly infectious virus at this time.

Effective immediately, we ask you to read the attached Visitation Guidance and help us reduce non-essential traffic and exposure for our residents and staff by following the guidelines. We have communicated the guidelines to our residents today as well. The key changes to our Visitation Guidance at this time are:

- Stopping all Home Visits and Non-Essential Outings. We do not want the residents coming and going out into the public at this time, unless for necessary medical appointments.
- Outdoor Visitation is preferred. If possible, we prefer you visit your loved one outside on the front porch or the courtyard. The Girl Scouts, from Holy Spirit Catholic School, have recently provided lovely tables and flowers to make our outdoor visitation area more inviting.
- Room Visits. If you visit your loved one indoors, it must be in their room only. Every visitor must be screened for COVID at the front door and wear a mask at all times in the building. (Read the handout for details). The Mall area is not designated for visitors at this time.

In addition to these guidelines, know that we have taken additional steps internally to reduce non-essential traffic at this time, such as discontinuing any volunteer services we were allowing.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation as we once again work together to keep all of our loved ones, Sisters and staff safe. Good St. Joseph has truly been interceding for us and our protection. We continue to pray for you, your families, our staff and especially all who suffer or have experienced loss from this devastating pandemic.

God bless you,

*Mother Margaret and Little Sisters*