

April 19, 2020

Dear Families and Friends,

On this Divine Mercy Sunday, our prayer continues for a quick end to the COVID-19 pandemic that is affecting all of us. We pray that you and your family are staying well.

Already five weeks have passed since major changes have occurred in our Home due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Fortunately, everyone is staying healthy, yet we remain vigilant. We continue to screen staff and Residents for symptoms of COVID-19. In following the guidance from the Department of Health, we continue to restrict visitors. This is difficult for everyone. We miss seeing many of you at the Home, but are grateful for all that you are doing for us at a distance. We appreciate the efforts that all are making to help our Residents stay in touch with their families. Skype is available on one of the laptops and Aging and Long Term Services (Ombudsman) was able to provide a tablet that can be used as well for video-conferencing. With staff support, this has been beneficial to the residents who have been able to use them—one of the Residents was even able to see her new great-grandbaby! We are so grateful for these little moments that help to give so much hope to our Residents.

Our Residents are very creative in finding different things to do to occupy their time, keeping social distancing in mind. Some color, others paint or do bead work, others work outside in the garden, while many hold everyone in prayer. Our Residents are very resourceful and creative.

Some further steps are being taken to help ensure the safety and wellness of our residents. As part of the statewide effort to mitigate, monitor and track COVID-19 cases, the New Mexico Department of Health has asked us to test all of our Residents and staff. By working closely with the Department of Health, this will be completed once test kits are available onsite. Currently, no one is showing signs or symptoms of COVID-19.

We continue to follow the directives of the New Mexico Department of Health as well as the CDC guidelines to assure the safety of Residents and staff alike. Our dedicated staff and Little Sisters are working tirelessly to ensure that your loved ones remain safe and healthy.

Be assured of our daily prayers for you and your loved ones.

*Sr. Sarah, lsp*