

May 26, 2020

Dear Families and Friends,

I hope that you had a nice Memorial Day, despite the limitations and challenges of these days. As you know, Gallup continues to be the center of the Covid-19 outbreak in New Mexico, and the Navajo Nation has seen the highest per capita infection rate in the United States.

I want you to know that although we come from various parts of the world, I and all the Little Sisters here at Villa Guadalupe stand with the people of Gallup at this difficult time. Even at our motherhouse in France our Little Sisters are asking God and his Blessed Mother to protect us from the coronavirus.

Regrettably 4 Residents passed away this past week. Three new Residents tested positive for Covid-19 and 4 others have become symptomatic, with test results pending. Only 1 new staff member was confirmed positive for the virus this week, and is now off work.

On a positive note, a number of the Residents are recovering nicely from Covid-19. The State of New Mexico is requiring 2 negative Covid tests, done at least 10 days after the onset of symptoms, and that individuals be fever-free for 3 days, in order to be considered "recovered."

We continue to receive many donations and a great deal of help during this difficult time. On May 19, 2020 eight National Guard members disinfected the Home, including hallways, common areas and empty Resident rooms.

In addition, we continue to receive invaluable on-site assistance from the Medical Reserve Corps and the Covid Care Force, giving much-needed relief to our nurses. Our own Villa Guadalupe staff members continue to demonstrate their devotion to the Residents day in and day out, and we thank them for this. Please keep us all in your prayers.

Sincerely,
Mother Sarah and all the Little Sisters