



Little Sisters of the Poor

Caring for the elderly poor since 1839

May 14, 2020

Dear Jeanne Jugan Community,

We would like to keep the Jeanne Jugan Residence community updated as information becomes available through the RI Department of Health. Last week, we were notified by the Rhode Island Department of Health that all staff and residents would be tested for COVID 19. This directive was based on the most recent data recommending the screening of high-risk asymptomatic persons. This testing is an important part of a larger strategy to address COVID-19 in the long-term care setting.

Testing took place on Friday, May 8th. The testing consisted of nasopharyngeal swabbing for SARS-CoV-2PCR performed by the clinical staff for our residents and the RI DOH nurse for our employees. Final results were received yesterday.

In the words of our Mother Foundress, Saint Jeanne Jugan: “Blessed be God! Thank you, my God! Glory be to God! . . . **As we are most grateful that all of our Residents tested negative and have not shown any signs or symptoms of the virus. In addition, of 97 staff members tested, only one person tested positive.** We continue our vigilance in screening employees and residents daily and following the RI DOH and CDC guidelines regarding infection prevention. The RI DOH plans to continue their surveillance of long term care settings with periodic testing of staff and residents.

We thank you for your continued understanding and compliance with our “no visitor”



restriction that remains in place. It is not easy for families and residents to be away from their loved ones, but rest assured that the Sisters and our staff continue to meet the spiritual, emotional, and physical needs of the residents. The Sisters continue to bring HolyCommunion daily, for the residents who wish. View our Web page to see what is going on in our home. Fresh air walks in the afternoon are important for the physical and psychosocial health of our residents too. Even though we are masked, we can still smell the roses!

Mother Patricia Mary, sp

JEANNE JUGAN RESIDENCE

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