

May 6, 2021

Dear Family & Friends,

I am pleased to report that new guidelines from CMS will allow the nursing home to return to full communal family style, in person dining immediately. We are able to do this in the three of the four households where all of the Residents are vaccinated and in the Jeanne Jugan Pavilion apartments. The fourth household is waiting for two Residents to complete full vaccination before restarting communal dining. Activities will also be allowed to intermingle Residents from the various households for movies or bingo as long as they are vaccinated (the unvaccinated Residents are welcome at the activity but must remain masked). We have not been able to bring Residents together like this since before the pandemic!

These steps may seem small, but they will drastically improve the operations of our Home and help it feel like the “old days” pre-COVID. We will still have restrictions on the number of Resident visitors allowed on each household and these visits must still be planned through the reception desk at (412) 307-1100.

While all of April’s testing was negative, we are also happy to report that the requirement for weekly testing of fully vaccinated staff has been waived effective immediately. We must continue to test unvaccinated staff weekly, which is dependent on the county positivity rate, and anyone—Sisters, Staff or Residents—who is showing symptoms.

Please know that we continue to pray that this pandemic fades away and that the restrictions placed on our Home by CMS will continue to lessen as the incidences of COVID diminish in our county. Thank you for all that you do and have done during this challenging time!

Gratefully in Prayer,

Mother Mary Vincent, lsp
Administrator