



April 9, 2020

Whether you mark Easter with a celebration of spring and renewal or of resurrection and rebirth it is a time that involves the coming together of family and friends. Easter will look very different to all of us this year as we celebrate apart.

Over this long weekend, our surveillance and monitoring of staff and residents will continue but we will not provide an update unless there is a significant change to a directive by the Chief Medical Officer of Health or to the status of a resident or employee.

Since March 15th, we have sent 12 swabs for testing and all 12 returned negative for COVID-19. Six residents tested positive for RSV, a respiratory virus. There are currently 4 active RSV cases, four on 5th floor and one on third with the remaining case resolved. We anticipate the RSV outbreak will be declared over on Tuesday. We have no residents displaying symptoms of influenza like illness.

We know of four employees tested with three negative results. One employee tested positive after contact with a positive case related to travel. She was not in the building immediately prior to the known transmission date which is why public health did not act and why you would not hear our name in the news as a long-term care home with a case. Her case is considered external to us.

As health care workers, our staff know the reality of being apart from loved ones on special days and as always in your absence, we will be the family your loved ones need.

We have a special meal planned for the residents and the décor is festive and bright as we celebrate spring. Special prayers were distributed to mark the holy week and the Easter vigil for those missing the familiarity of services. It is not the same, but still joyous and special.

Wishes for a healthy and happy Easter from the residents and staff at Saint Vincent's Nursing Home.

Angela Berrette, Executive Director