



July 8, 2020

We are reaching out to share some sad news, but also good news as we cautiously move forward with resuming life in our new normal.

Sadly, we lost another of our older Sisters due to the residual effects of the coronavirus, which can cause continuing difficulties with other chronic medical conditions. Some of our Sisters who have had COVID-19 are struggling to recover from a variety of effects, including continuing weakness, respiratory issues and more. We ask for your prayers as we support them in their recovery.

At the same time, we are moving forward with slowly loosening the tight restrictions under which Sisters in our convents, especially our larger convents, have operated for more than three months.

Handwashing, mask wearing, social distancing and regular disinfecting will remain staples of our routines. We have resumed gathering in our chapels as much as we are able, depending on convent circumstances, for celebration of the Mass and opportunities for private prayer. Some of our Sisters continue to participate in daily Mass via television or other electronic devices; Holy Communion is being distributed to some of our Sisters in their bedrooms. All spiritual group gatherings are done in accord with archdiocesan or diocesan guidelines within each state or province. Sister leadership and convent lay leaders collaborate in creating opportunities for safe gatherings in our chapels, supporting infection control guidelines to control exposure to the virus which is, unfortunately, still present with us.

We are again dining together in our larger convents, transitioning to the use of regular dishware with masked and gloved dining services staff serving us. The dining staff is using the utmost care in helping us to prevent common touching of food, beverages, dishware and utensils.

Sisters may now leave the convent grounds for necessary appointments and errands, and may travel for work, retreats or vacations, all the while carefully observing social distancing and sanitization guidelines, as well as travel guidelines issued by each state or province for entry and potential need for quarantine.

After so many months of restriction, the changes are most welcome, but we will remain highly vigilant and responsive to the current fluid nature of the virus in all convent locations. We will remain flexible and prudent in our planning as well as quite cautious in leaving our convents, based on infection control expectations.

We remain deeply grateful for your support and prayers; please know that you remain in our hearts and prayers daily. For all of those affected by the coronavirus, we ask the intercession of our beloved saints and our Blessed Mother:

St. Francis, St. Clare, St. Felix, pray for us.

Blessed Mary Angela, pray for us.

Our Lady of Hope, pray for us.

Sister Mary Christopher Moore, Provincial Minister  
and the Provincial Council Members  
Felician Sisters of North America