



April 2, 2021

Dear Residents, Families and Staff Members,

As we anticipate the promise of Easter Sunday, we fortified our community spirit when *residents from throughout our entire community gathered*—for the first time since March 2020—on Holy Thursday in Mercy Chapel. We were energized as residents reflected on the Last Supper when Jesus converted believers into disciples and blessed bread and wine to nourish them, establishing the Eucharist for us.

These reunions and liturgical expressions of hope carry us forward during our intrepid journey during an unprecedented global pandemic...even though there are no active cases of COVID-19 in our Mercy Circle community and so many are fully vaccinated.

We are so blessed we can share our faith during services this entire weekend in Mercy Chapel including Good Friday at 3pm, Holy Saturday at 4pm and Easter Sunday at 10am.

Indoor visits, room for more residents to get together

We also are grateful that residents and their guests can visit in the Wisconsin Room. Before coming to Mercy Circle, review our current *Visitor Guidelines* and *COVID-19 Precautions* posted on Mercy Circle's website.

Two people from one household can plan one-hour visits between 1pm and 4pm on Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays. Contact LifeEnrichment@MercyCircle.org to make a reservation or to ask for another convenient time. Staff also can set-up a virtual visit.

Mercy Circle has arranged for more residents to gather with fewer restrictions. For instance, we expanded hours and began open seating, instead of two assigned times, for assisted living, giving them more choices about when they want to enjoy three meals a day.

With all this good news, we must be willing to respond to changes again, if necessary, as news of a very worrisome spike in the number of cases of the virus continues to rise in Chicago and across Illinois. Please be confident that we will do our best to balance the joys of being part of a community with the safety of all residents and staff members.

Easter blessings to everyone important to you,

Frances Lachowicz
Executive Director