

**Our Lady of Prompt Succor Nursing Facility
C'est la Vie Apartments
Newsletter ~ October 2019**

— A Ministry of the Marianites of Holy Cross —

Flu Season: Recommendation – Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

While seasonal influenza (flu) viruses can be detected year-round in the United States, flu viruses are most common during the fall and winter. The exact timing and duration of flu seasons can vary, but influenza activity often begins to increase in October. Most of the time flu activity peaks between December and March. The CDC recommends that people get vaccinated against flu soon after the vaccine becomes available. It takes about two weeks after vaccination for antibodies to develop in the body and provide protection against the flu. Doctors and nurses are encouraged to begin vaccinating their patients soon after the vaccine becomes available, preferably by October. Those children aged 6 months through 8 years who need two doses of vaccine should receive the first dose as soon as possible to allow time to get the second dose before the start of flu season. The two doses should be given at least four weeks apart. In addition to getting a seasonal flu vaccine, we can all take everyday preventive actions by frequently washing our hands with soap and water to reduce the spread of germs.

Those who are sick or elderly are especially susceptible to infection.

Therefore, if you have cold symptoms or flu-like symptoms, please do not visit the nursing home.

When you do visit us at PSNH, please remember to wash your hands upon entering and also upon leaving our facility.

Please also make use of the hand sanitizes which are placed on the inside wall of each resident room and in other areas of the nursing home.

Thanks so very much for your cooperation!

— Recently Deceased Residents —

Sr. Julianna Thibodeaux, MHS 9/23/2019

Louberta Cannon 9/25/2019

Sr. Elsie Vidrine, MSC 9/20/2019

☪ **Celebrating Birthdays in October** ☪

E. Bordelon 10/22

Sr. E. Brosnahan, MSC 10/28

Sr. J. Bunch, MSC 10/12

V. Clement 10/20

D. Joubert 10/27

Sr. M. Labbé, MSC 10/23

R. McDonald 10/07

J.C. Mason 10/21

S. Richards 10/27

Sr. F. Robichaux, MSC 10/01

National Pastoral Care Week – October 2019

This month we celebrate National Pastoral Care Week. Health care organizations today are placing greater emphasis on a team approach to care which includes the healing and comforting of the whole person. The team approach at our nursing home includes pastoral care. Pastoral care is a person-centered, holistic approach to care that complements the care offered by the other helping disciplines while paying particular attention to spiritual care. Our pastoral care team offers emotional support and spiritual care by helping our residents and families to connect with their own inner resources as well as with the other health care resources of the nursing home. They also invite ministers of other denominations to visit and support our residents who are members of their respective churches.

The word “pastor” comes from the Latin word for “shepherd.” Caring for a person who is struggling with a difficulty, being present during a time of pain and distress, praying with someone in difficulty – these are all occasions for the minister to act as a good shepherd leading, guiding, nurturing the person who feels lost or alone, like a lost sheep, on a craggy cliff of life.

Pastoral care can be described as the skill of gently relating with individuals and assisting them in their spiritual journey regardless of their church affiliation. It is most effective when ministers offer help and caring through *listening, supporting, encouraging, and befriending*.

Through listening, the pastoral minister brings a quality of presence in focused and undivided attention.

Through supporting, the pastoral minister offers validity to an individual and how he/she is experiencing a particular moment in his/her life.

Through encouraging, the pastoral minister supports and nurtures the individual’s faith and confidence with gentle reminders that the Holy Spirit is always present to inspire and strengthen.

Through befriending, the pastoral minister opens his/her heart to anyone in need of pastoral care. Personal connection is the prime goal and focus of pastoral interaction.

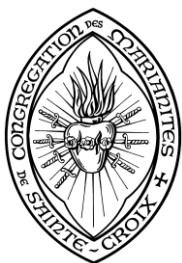
In tending to others, it is important to remember that those who are sick and frail minister to us as well. They serve as a reminder to us of the suffering members of Christ in our midst. Through their redemptive suffering, they reach out to us because their suffering is a persistent and persevering prayer for us and our world.

At Prompt Succor Nursing Home, we are blessed to have daily Mass for our residents and families. Through the prayers and actions of the Mass, the Lord’s consolation, comfort, and healing are offered to all present and for all the intentions offered during the Eucharistic celebration. In addition, our Eucharistic ministers bring communion and offer special moments of encouragement to our residents in their rooms when they are not able to attend Mass. As someone nears the end of their life journey, our pastoral staff is privileged to be united with him/her and with the family in those final steps into eternal life.

Through our staff and volunteers in pastoral care, as well as ministers of other faith traditions, and the clergy who preside at our celebrations of the Sacraments, we continue the ministry of Jesus Christ.

“All who had people sick brought them to Jesus and he laid his hands on each of them.” (Luke 4:40)

For more information and/or assistance, please contact Sr. Kathleen Stakeelum, MSC, coordinator of pastoral care, at 337-948-3634, extension 233.



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