



March 16, 2021

Dear Smith Crossing Family,

If there are no new cases of COVID-19 among residents and staff members, we plan to reopen indoor visits for assisted living, rehab and skilled nursing care residents on Tuesday, March 23. We also anticipate expanding our reopening plan as soon as the Illinois Department of Public Health issues its guidelines based on the CDC's recommendations last week.

For now, please follow the *Guidelines for Visitors* posted on our website. And continue to comply with all the basic precautions, including wearing a mask at all times and observing social distancing, while you are in common areas and gatherings at Smith Crossing. Thank you for cooperating with what may feel like our ever-changing plan that adheres to ensuring the safety and well-being of everyone who lives and works at Smith Crossing.

Plans for Easter Sunday

I will share more information in my biweekly letter on Tuesday, March 30, about our plans for Easter Sunday, April 4, but we thought you might like to start making plans now.

On Easter Sunday, residents can gather in Community Hall with Father Bill Burke when he offers Mass at 9:15am. Eucharistic ministers join him after Mass to distribute Communion to residents in all areas of our community. At 11am, residents can join a minister from Parkview Christian Church who will lead a non-denominational Christian service to celebrate Easter. Both services can be viewed on Channel 36.

Individuals and couples, who are independent and assisted living residents, may invite two guests from the same household to join them on Easter Sunday in their dining room. Call extension 2320 on or before Thursday, April 1, for reservations for a 90-minute seating starting at 11:30am with the last seating at 3:30pm.

Our dining team is preparing very special Easter dinners for memory care, rehab and skilled nursing care residents to enjoy in their dining rooms.

We encourage families to plan visits on Easter weekend by contacting Mary De Paola at MDePaola@smithseniorliving.org or 708-326-2305 at least 72 hours in advance. Be prepared to provide each visitor's name and phone number.



When residents order bake sale items in the Bistro on or before Thursday, April 1, they should confirm their preference for picking up those items on either Saturday and Sunday, April 3 and 4.

Updates about testing, vaccinations

As you know, on Tuesday, March 9, we tested a total of 168 staff members and Moraine Valley Community College nursing students who are completing their clinical experiences here.

One person received a positive outcome for COVID-19. When we learned of this result on Thursday, March 11, we tested all assisted living, memory care and skilled nursing care residents on Friday; all had negative results. This single occurrence put Smith Crossing in CMS Phase 1, which requires weekly testing for all staff members as well as residents living in our healthcare settings. Today, we tested all these residents and all employees.

At Smith Crossing, a nurse practitioner from the Saint Xavier University Clinic continues to offer both doses of a vaccine to protect against COVID-19. We are very pleased that new and current residents and staff are taking advantage of this service. And we encourage more to do so by sending an email to me at AMauceri@SmithSeniorLiving.org.

More time together

Each week, we add more ways for residents to enjoy a variety of in-person groups, including some gatherings with as many as 25 residents when they meet in large rooms. Reservations and following all our precautions to protect ourselves and each other are required. Entertainers are performing here, and our bus is making more scheduled shopping trips. Channels 36 and 95 also offer a wide selection of fitness, entertainment and movies to enjoy.

News important to you

This is a reminder that we are alternating weeks for my letter and my *Live Update* which next will air at 1pm on Wednesday, March 24, on Channel 36. Continue to send your questions to COVID19SmithCrossing@SmithSeniorLiving.org so a staff member can respond quickly and directly to you. We also welcome suggestions.

Please join me in embracing the hope and promise of the Easter season and the joys of new life delivered to us during this springtime.

Sincerely,

Amanda Mauceri

Amanda Mauceri, Executive Director