Dear Mullen Home Families and Friends,

Excitement and a spirit of hope continue be felt here in our Home as we have not had any recent positive COVID tests among residents, staff, Little Sisters, or contractors.

Our staff vaccination rate has improved greatly, so that is a great blessing for our residents' safety--though a few employees have an exemption for religious or medical reasons. Because of the religious exemptions, we were required to make a formal request to the State to waive our Home from full compliance with the vaccination mandate, since a staff vaccination rate of 100% is the established goal for all nursing care communities. That formal request has been made and is posted within the Home.

We also continue to re-expand our volunteer program, slowly welcoming back vaccinated volunteers--using a phased approach and strict infection control protocols--for various needs around the Home. And if we continue to do well, it looks like we will be able to have masked, "vaccinated-only" entertainers come in around the holidays. I guess we'll have to ask Santa to wear a mask and show us his vaccination card! We will let all of you know when your own involvement can increase, and we look forward to that.

Mother Paul remains in the Chicago area for the present time. Our new administrator-to-be, Lynae Jones, has started with us as assistant administrator. She is very active and helpful all around the Home, and we look forward to your being able to meet her when the timing is right. Licensed out-of-state, she is in the process of getting her Colorado nursing home administrator's license, and Sr. Carolyn will be staying here in Denver until Lynae's transition is complete. (Sr. Carolyn is delighted, of course, to be back in the Mile-High City!)

Please enjoy these pretty Fall days and all the blessings that Divine Providence sends your way!

In St. Jeanne Jugan's spirit of joy and gratitude, *Sr. Sarah, lsp*