



SAINT MARY'S AT ASBURY RIDGE  
SAINT MARY'S EAST

*This communication was sent in an email on November 13, 2020.*

### **Saint Mary's & COVID-19: Update #35**

Hello all,

Saint Mary's at Asbury Ridge has now identified four positive cases of COVID-19. These cases are all among employees who are quarantined at home. In addition to the positive case first reported last week, three more were identified during subsequent testing. Asbury Ridge will continue to conduct regular testing of employees and residents and follow all guidance as required. This means that the re-entry date for step three and for a return to visitation is further delayed until approximately December 14.

Saint Mary's East currently has zero cases of COVID-19 which means it can remain in step three. East will be conducting testing of employees toward the end of next week.

Please remember that this is a constantly evolving situation and that everything is subject to change. We are sure that the notice regarding the holidays sparked a bit of hope, but keep in mind that as the positivity rate in Erie County increases, the likelihood that outings will occur over the holidays decreases. Once CMS reports a positivity rate in Erie County of five percent or above, such outings will not be permitted. In fact, we are preparing for this to happen next week – we are required to act upon the positivity rates reported on the first and third Mondays of every month. As a reminder, Thanksgiving outings are already cancelled at Asbury Ridge. We know this is difficult but please understand that this direction is for the protection of your loved ones at Saint Mary's.

Both Saint Mary's East and Saint Mary's at Asbury Ridge are still planning to allow families to drop off holiday gifts and packages that meet our requirements between 3 – 5 p.m from December 7 to December 11.

As you make your own plans for the Thanksgiving holiday, please take into consideration the recently released guidance from the CDC which states, *"The safest way to celebrate Thanksgiving this year is to celebrate with people in your household. If you do plan to spend Thanksgiving with people outside your household, take steps to make your celebration safer."* Read their recommendations [here](#).

Stay well. Thank you!