

Our Mission:

The Carmelite System fosters the healing ministry of Christ in Catholic health care by proclaiming the value and dignity of the aged and infirm and providing collaborative ways to meet the needs of today's elderly. A commitment to compassionate, loving care of the highest standards with wise stewardship of resources is the hallmark of programs and services rendered.



Dignity



Collegiality



Excellence



Collaboration



Service



A LETTER FROM OUR NEW PRIORESS GENERAL MOTHER MARY ROSE

As I sit and reflect over the past year, I can't help to realize the challenges and difficulties many have and are experiencing. The pandemic has created challenges for each of us yet allows for new opportunities.

Mother Angeline was fond of saying: "If you have to fail, let it be on the side of kindness." For some kindness is thought to be naive or weak, but Mother teaches us kindness is selfless, considerate, compassionate, and a generous spirit; its greatest power revealed in practice to others. The example of Mother's words has never been more evident in the care of our residents as during these last eight months. You have shown "Extraordinary Kindness" to our residents, one another and families.

St. Teresa of Avila in her letter writes, "Love patiently rises above hardship and all kinds of persecution, even in what seem to be insurmountable circumstances and crushing setbacks. Love does not need to force circumstances or control situations, but makes use of everything, even failures and inadequacies."

As we continue to look to our future and the ongoing impact of the Coronavirus on our lives, may we move forward with confidence, knowing our collective knowledge, collaboration, sharing best practice, and support of each other will assist to overcome these hardships and be stronger.

May God Bless each of you!

Mother Mary Rose O.Carm

Mother Mary Rose was elected the new Prioress General of the Carmelite Sisters in September of 2020. For the past 6 years, Mother Mary Rose was the Vicar General of the Carmelite Sisters of the Aged and Infirm. Over the past 35 years, Mother Mary Rose has served in the capacity of Assistant Administrator and Director of Nursing of Mother Angeline McCrory Manor. In response to the pandemic, Mother Mary Rose established a recovery committee to lead the efforts to support of homes in a comprehensive manner as we addressed the new challenges arising from the pandemic.



Inside the Assisted Living Expansion at Lourdes Noreen McKeen

Lourdes Noreen McKeen just opened their recent expansion of their assisted living community, which introduces 14 additional apartments, brand new common spaces, and renovated dining rooms. "This change allows us to meet the ever-growing need for additional high-end supportive services and enables us to serve more residents in Assisted Living," said Pace Alford, Director of Independent and Assisted Living. The community, which also offers independent living, rehabilitation, and skilled nursing care, now has 48 Assisted Living apartments in total.

To learn more about this expansion, please visit the community's website: www.LourdesMcKeen.org/new-senior-living-community-west-palm-beach



Elevating the Dignity of All

Pope Francis's social encyclical *Fratelli Tutti* offers the Pontiff's guidance to creating a better, more just and peaceful world through fraternity and social friendships. When it comes to healthcare and serving today's seniors and their loved ones, the emphasis on fraternity through our deeds is especially relevant.

The encyclical discusses the key principles of caring for others, ensuring each other's dignity, and acting out of love versus politics or financial interests. Pope Francis guides us to embody fraternity not only through our words, but also through our actions. Our deeds should be dedicated "to serving the common good, able to place the dignity of every human being at the centre and assure work to everyone, so that each one can develop his or her own abilities."

This is more relevant than ever when it comes to our communities and caring for our aging residents. As Carmelite System employees, when we start each day at the community, we should remind ourselves of the importance protecting the dignity of our seniors, while supporting their independence and their continued growth, no matter the challenges they may face. While "work" may not seem relevant as you read that excerpt, think of the term "purpose" instead. As we care for our seniors, treating them with love, respect, and dignity also means providing them growth opportunities that meet their passions and interests and foster their sense of purpose.

Pope Francis emphasized "the global health emergency has helped demonstrate that 'no one can face life in isolation.'" This reminder again highlights the importance of fraternity and treating each other with compassion. As employees at our communities, you play a key role in living out these ideals.

To read the full summary of the encyclical on Vatican News, please [click here](#).