



Dear Clergy,

In light of all the concerns and health risks related to the novel coronavirus (COVID19) I want to reach out and share a few words.

First and most importantly, THANKYOU for your continued presence and service with our patients; please know YOU make a difference with every connection!

Second, Hartford HealthCare has a well-researched and up to date information zone for COVID19 on our website which can be accessed by going to www.windhamhospital.org or www.backushospital.org Please utilize this as a resource for understanding the facts including best practices for staying healthy.

Third, *out of an abundance of caution*, we are implementing a screening process for all persons who enter any of our hospitals which include Windham and Backus. The screening takes less than 2 minutes and I thank you in advance for your patience. **If you have a hospital ID badge you have used in the past, I ask that you DO NOT use it to gain entry without going through the screening process.**

Please note that the changes associated with this situation are fluid and I will keep you up to date with any adjustments as they impact you or your ministry. **If you serve one of our hospitals as an on call priest and choose not to come in for health reasons please let me know immediately so we can make adjustments.** Please feel free to call me with ANY questions or concerns (860-933-0303).

We have not had any cases of COVID19 in either of our hospitals at this time. We are taking comprehensive steps to keep our acute care patients as safe as possible, hence the extra precaution. Thank you for your patience and understanding. Again, please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or comments. We want you safe and healthy so you may continue to share your gifts of care and compassion to our patients, families and staff.

Blessings, m

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