

We wish you, first of all, God's richest blessings in this new year, as we look for the coming of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

We have recorded our first covid death in Grenada. This was a case of a 70+ year old Grenadian man who had just returned to Grenada a couple of weeks ago and tested positive. He had been in quarantine from the time of his arrival.

We have had a number of other new cases of covid, but all the cases are either new arrivals to Grenada, or directly related to the cluster of cases from the Sandals Resort. (Some of the Grenadian workers were infected from guests who were positive. It seems that the quarantine protocols were not being strictly followed.)

We are now under curfew again, from 8 p.m. to 5 a.m. Everyone must be at home during those hours, unless they have a special permit. The gov't. acknowledged that they were doing that so that there would not be parties during the holiday period. (The curfew began before Christmas.) All new year's fireworks displays were canceled. Restaurants are back to carry-out only - no dine-in service.

Everyone is still required to wear masks at all times in public spaces. Every public place has hand sanitizing spray that must be administered before you can enter. Many places are requiring you to write your contact information in a log book (or taking a picture of your ID). (Sometimes, I spend more time getting into a store than what I actually spend inside the store.) But at least we didn't go into another lockdown.

As a result of the rise in cases, the reopening of schools has been delayed. (We normally would have started a new term tomorrow.) This seems to largely be due to parental anxiety, as there is no significant rise in risk to students, in that all cases are directly connected to the Sandals cluster, or are new arrivals.

We (principals) have a zoom meeting on Tuesday with the Ministry of Education. I am hoping that the decision will be to reopen next week (only 1 week delay). Often there is little consideration for the long-term negative impact of students having extended periods of time out of school.

We ended 2020 with what may have been our rainiest day of the year, resulting in some rivers coming up onto the road.

We are hoping that we will be able to travel at some point this year. Susan would like to be able to visit her 91-yr old mother, May Felty-Evarts in TX.

In Grenada,

Reuben & Susan Mains