



John tells us about an unusual sequence of events in today's Gospel: We are told that "Jesus loved Martha, her sister & Lazarus," but then, we hear, "So when he heard that he was ill, he remained for two days in the place where he was," as if His love for them was the reason for that He chose to delay His coming to them. But if Jesus loved them so much, why didn't He go in haste to heal Lazarus? Why didn't He spare them the pain & heartache of death? Why did He abandon them to their suffering?

But whether we consider our own pains or that of Martha, Mary & Lazarus, Jesus Christ says to us, "This illness is not to end in death, but is for the glory of God, that the Son of God may be glorified through it." After all, Jesus Christ is the same God who promised, "I will open your graves & have you rise from them. . . I will put my spirit in you that you may live. . . thus you shall know that I am the Lord. I have promised, and I will do it. . ." When God permits evil, it is only because He knows He can draw an even greater good out of it, & not because He actively desires evil to be done. If God permits an illness, He does not wish it to end in death –the eternal death of the soul – but for the glory of God, & if, as St. Irenaeus tells us, "The glory of God is the living man. . ." then God only permits an illness in order to bring about our fullness of life. St. Irenaeus goes on to say, ". . . & the life of man is the vision of God." How then, does experiencing illness grant us the vision of God?

To begin with, it opens our eyes to how much we need Him. Mary & Martha send word to Jesus when Lazarus falls sick, knowing that, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." They know that He brings healing & life, & they desire His presence. St. Augustine tells us that, "The entire life of a good Christian is in fact an exercise of holy desire. You do not yet see what you long for, but the very act of desiring prepares you, so that when he comes you may see & be utterly satisfied." Do we, in our need, remember that Jesus Christ said, "Those who are well do not need a physician, but the sick do. I did not come to call the righteous but sinners"? And when He asks us, "Do you want to be well?" Are we ready to respond, "Yes!"? An awareness of our own spiritual infirmity & desire for God's healing prepares us to receive God as He truly is.

1st Day School Supplies

As we have done in the past, we are offering parents the opportunity to order school supplies online. It is easy & all of the supplies that your child needs are just one click away, & delivered to the school. The link is live & parents can place orders for next year.

<http://1stdayschoolsupplies.com/kits.php?sid=92406>



Dear Parents/Guardians,

Monday we are closing the 3rd quarter of our school year. Only nine more weeks remain. I am sure that students are looking forward to the end of the school year & summer.

Next week **March 30**, we will hold Parent/Teacher conferences from 1:00 PM- 3:00 PM. Due to time constraints, teachers will only meet with families if there is a need.

A gentle reminder that students are not permitted to wear summer uniforms until we announce the date. That also includes gym uniforms.

Friday, March 31st -- NO SCHOOL for students. The teachers will attend an annual lenten retreat.

As the year comes to the end I would like to **thank** our **PTG** board who will be finishing their term at the end of the year –

April Wade
Steve Opresko
Lauren Barkauskas
Laura Conner
Mindy Dieckmann

I would like to express my **appreciation** for their hard work over the past five years.

With that being said, I would like to **welcome** our **new board** members for next year.

Anthony Biomonte
Kyle Erikson
Melissa Catello (Grogan)
Deb Luther
Sheila Saykiewicz
Holly Sommer

We are looking forward to the new beginning & new ideas for the upcoming school year.

Please consider volunteering during lunch & recess in April. Here is the link to sign up.
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904044da9a72eabff2-lunchrecess9#/>

The talent show is back!!! Start thinking about your child's talents. More information will be coming soon.

Congratulations to the following **6th grade boys**: Caden C., Quinn C., CJ R., & Ryan S., who were all selected to play in the **Diocesan 6th Grade Boys All-Star Basketball Game**. The 6th Grade Roundball Classic games will be played at Seton LaSalle High School on Thursday & Sunday.

Have a blessed weekend!

Sr. Daniela Bronka
St. Bede School Principal