



First Week of Advent
Saturday, December 5th, 2020

Julia Horlander, a Junior, shares her reflections on today's Scripture readings.



IS 30:19-21, 23-26; PS 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6; MT 9:35–10:1, 5A, 6-8

In today's Gospel, Jesus goes around all the villages and towns, preaching the word of God to all the people he comes across. He also cured their illnesses and healed their injured. Now, the most famous thing Jesus is compared to is that He is the vine and we are the branches. You can also compare Jesus to a doctor and us, the people, as his patients.

We actually talked about this in theology class last week with reference to the sacrament of Anointing of the Sick. Back when Jesus was on earth, he was brought to the sick, the injured, etc. People hoped that he would heal them, and every now and then, Jesus would heal them or raise someone from the dead without even being approached. For example, he brought back Lazarus and the widow's son all from the dead. We are the patients that Dr. Jesus is curing. You know he's good because he went to heaven college!

In the Scripture, Jesus then tells his twelve apostles to "Go to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. As you go, make this proclamation: 'The Kingdom of heaven is at hand.' Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse lepers, drive out demons." The reason behind this is because "The harvest is abundant but the laborers are few." Jesus realizes that he can't possibly go out and heal every sick person, raise all the dead, clean all the lepers, and drive out everyone's demons all on his own. In this way, Jesus is preparing the apostles for his inevitable death.

Now, everyone knows you have to wait in the waiting room before you can actually see the doctor, no matter if there is one or thirteen in line. This can take us back to today's psalm. The refrain says, "Blessed are all who wait for the Lord." During this season of Advent, we are all waiting for the coming of Jesus, just like the Jews were waiting for a savior. During this time of waiting, let us pray about what we have asked for from God. If we have not gotten an answer yet, may we think about this phrase that I would like to end with.

God never says no. He says one of three things: yes, not yet, or I have something better in mind. While we wait for our healing, let us wait with patience, knowing that God has something planned for us that will be better than what we expect.

Faith: Lived, Deepend, Celebrated

During these uncertain times, we welcome your prayer requests. The Bishop Chatard community will lift up your prayer intentions in the weekly BCHS Prayer Chain. **Email Mr. Steven Patzke, at spatzke@bishopchatard.org, your prayer intentions or to join the prayer chain.**