

Following up on Pastor Bill's homily about the blind man receiving his sight and seeing Jesus, who he had trusted while unseeing, gives me all kinds of ideas to write about our enforced "Stay at Home" period. In just two days I have come across some remarkable, foresighted and creative ideas advanced by others.

I regret having given away my sewing machine for I would be making masks and wrap around garments for health workers. That is, if I could see well enough again to thread the needle. But on a local level, I just heard that Grain Valley school bus drivers will deliver meals to children, as well as pick up their homework assignments. I suppose the drivers don't have to grade them, because they might give all A's to the ones who sat in their seats, and an F to those who ran around in the bus. No, Nancy, surely not Grain Valley students misbehaving on the bus! My apologies, GV parents.

Speaking of students, 16 Blue Springs High School basketball girl players, all greeted newspaper readers with smiles and four fingers held up to symbolize the four state tournaments the team has won in past years. Regrettably, the virus has canceled all sports tournaments and the girls' hope of bringing home a 5th championship this year. But they are as good players as they are "good sports." Congratulations, girls. Memories of the tournament cancellation and their positive response will linger long into their mature years.

Teachers from several districts will report tomorrow, Monday, when spring break ends, for training on long distance learning. It's called by a fancy word, "streaming," I think, and for some teachers it will be old news. For other, such as dinosaurs like me, it would be a challenge. But take heart, teachers of all varieties. You are getting paid to attend a course that you might have to fund yourself some day.

The people who already are being hurt by this shutdown include my beautician. Her salon work is her only source of revenue, and she came in last week on her regular day off, to give me a hair cut and perm, guaranteed to outlast this shutdown and then more time. She explained she was afraid she couldn't work me in before the announced "stay at home" program. I think she earned a little extra in her tip, that would be right, wouldn't it?

I just spent 45 minutes on the phone trying to order groceries for a curbside pickup tomorrow. Time ran out and all slots were taken before I could get my email registered. Still, it's a savvy idea and I will try earlier tomorrow, since Niel and I belong to the certain (you know who) group, the elderly.

But for ones less fortunate and less aware, put on your thinking cap and see if you can do something different that follows the safety rules. You don't want to harm yourself or your family. Out there is a place and a task for you. And by the way, my rose bushes have the tiniest little red tinged rolled up buds that will soon turn into leaves and then into blossoms. Nature and God always manage to mitigate (that means "make easier") our troubles, if we just open our eyes and see. I will be watching those bushes on a daily basis, you can be guaranteed.