March 29, 2022

Dear Praying Family and Friends,

Gilda Radner was famous for creating the character Rose-anne Roseannadanna on Saturday Night Live. At the end of her madcap presentation - usually involving Rube Goldberg sorts of complications of something ordinarily simple - she'd end her monologue with these words:

It just goes to show ya - it's always something! If it's not one thing, it's another.

Roseanne Roseannadanna came to mind as I was settling into the hospital, prior to Dose 2 of the Bigger Bite drug.

The phone rang in my room. It was the head of the Infection Protection Team at the hospital. An intake nurse had taken a COVID test on me about an hour after I arrived. It came back positive! Yup, Roseanne Roseannadanna was jeering me from the sidelines!

After much consultation and total failure to find any symptoms (my temperature, for example, was 97.6, then 97.4 ten minutes later, oxygen 99 percent, blood pressure 109/50, etc.) they decided that I was in COVID recovery from when I had COVID in January, very likely not infectious now.

Nevertheless, for the duration, I am quarantined to my room, and nurses and technicians don't enter without full personal protective gear.

However, the Lord heard my pleas, and those of my extended family who were quickly summoned to pray for deliverance from this snarl. I was told Dose No. 2 would proceed the next day.

All that was yesterday (March 28). Today is March 29, and I'm under observation until Thursday, when I will get another dose, then home midday on Friday. So far, no "adverse events!"

And the lymph nodes continue to shrink! The "gold standard" test for tumor regression is not my fingers, but a PET scan. I'm not sure when that's coming up, but it will be soon. Meanwhile, I'm rejoicing at the changes in the right direction that I can detect with my own fingers.

Next update this coming weekend - a summary of my own conferencing with my oncologist on Thursday, and a preview (if I can extract it from him) on the calendar for the month of April.

Much love in Him,

Fr. Bill Mouser