Ivan Karamazov asked whether we can accept a world in which God allows children to suffer. His question is a powerful version of the ancient question: if God exists and is both perfect and all powerful, whence comes evil? Sick children—and adults, for that matter—put this question into sharp focus but also add another, seemingly paradoxical, dimension to it. If we are made in the image of God, and if being fully human means to be true to our natures, then how can we account for the occurrence of deadly diseases and the suffering that results from them? In this talk, Dr. Meredith turns to the philosophy of Thomas Aquinas to help address these questions.