

Catholic Faith Corner

Understanding, Teaching, and Living the Faith

Sea of Galilee at Sunrise



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Blessings upon Blessings

by KATHLEEN GLAVICH, SND on [MARCH 21, 2012](#)
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Recent changes in the Mass have woken us up to the words said. What caught my attention is that twice we proclaim, "Blessed be God forever!" We do what we were created to do: We recognize God's greatness and praise him with all the angels and saints. *Bless* is a two-way word. We **ble**ss God at Mass because he has **ble**ssed (gifted) us with the bread and wine that become Jesus. But *ble*ss also means to wish that God would favor someone.

You don't have to be ordained to impart a blessing. A friend of mine blessed his two daughters before they went to bed. He made a Sign of the Cross on their foreheads. When a third daughter came along, he started kneeling before her so she could bless him too. He wished he had thought of this earlier. There is a special bond between him and this youngest now.

We call anything good that happens a blessing. Therapists advise people to list the day's blessings every night. This is a way to avoid depression and help ensure a good sleep.

Most interesting are those blessings that come in disguise! Being sent to the University of Minnesota to get an MA in math (of all things!) made no sense when I was head of a high school English department. But I enjoyed many enjoyable,



Mary Kathleen Glavich, SND

I'm a Sister of Notre Dame, of Chardon, Ohio, the author of eighty-plus books on religious education and spirituality, including a novel, "The Fisherman's Wife: The Gospel According to St. Peter's Spouse." I enjoy giving talks and retreats and was a pastoral associate at St. Dominic Church. I also edit and self-publish books for others.

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enriching years in Minnesota...especially after I switched to pursuing a degree in English.

People can be blessings for us. When I was asked to speak at a convention for the first time, my introverted self was alarmed. But then someone remarked, "Well, if you can teach, you can talk." That gave me the courage to say yes and changed my life.

On the other hand, we can be blessings for other people. Some people in our lives may sorely be in need of a blessing. Who can you be a blessing to today?

What blessing in disguise have you experienced on your life's journey?

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About Sister Kathleen Glavich, SND

Jesus ordered us to make disciples of all nations and teach them. Mary Kathleen, a Sister of Notre Dame from Chardon, Ohio, responds to this call through writing, speaking, giving retreats, and teaching. Her motto, adopted from Eddie Doherty's gravesite, is "All my words for the Word!"

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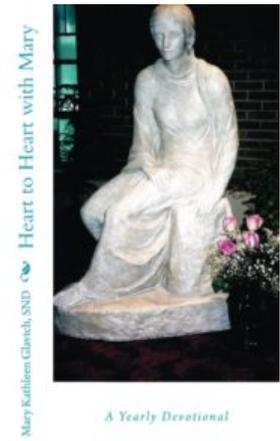
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Newest Book

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Featured Book

Totally Catholic! A Catechism for Kids and Their Parents and Teachers

Do you wish you had a simple, child-friendly summary of what Catholics believe? This book took first place in the Association of Catholic Publishers awards 2014 in the category of Children's Books. It can be purchased from Pauline Books and Media or from me. (\$14.95)

A Heavenly Book

Do you believe in angels? Most people do. The Catholic Companion to Angels offers heavenly facts about these majestic creatures, confirming that you can turn to them for help. Uniquely, The Angels comes with three covers (statue, stained-glass, or painting). Choose the one you like best.

Available from ACTA Publications and me.
(\$10.00)

My First Novel!

The Fisherman's Wife is the story of St. Peter's spouse, the long-suffering but delightful woman who puts up with Peter and his obsession with the itinerant preacher named Jesus. Through her we meet Peter, Jesus, and other biblical characters. In Capernaum she witnesses Jesus' healings and hears his words. The book is based on the Gospels, legends, and what is known about first-century Jewish women. The rest is sheer imagination. Order directly from me FOR AN AUTOGRAPHED COPY at kglavich@ndec.org.

A Bit of Humor

A Slow Student During indoor recess, the third and fourth graders were playing school. Taking part in the game, the teacher, Sister Janet, sat at a child's desk. Adam, who was playing the teacher, came up to her and asked, "And just how many years have you been kept back?" (from "Why Is Jesus in the Microwave?")

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About the Sisters of Notre Dame, Chardon, Ohio

The Sisters of Notre Dame of Chardon, Ohio, belong to an international congregation of more than two thousand apostolic women religious. We are one in mind and one in heart for the transformation of the world in Christ.



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