

Catholic Faith Corner

Understanding, Teaching, and Living the Faith

Sea of Galilee at Sunrise



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Retreat: A Vacation with the Lord

by KATHLEEN GLAVICH, SND on [JULY 4, 2012](#)
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We recharge our laptops and our cell phones. Sometimes our spiritual lives need recharging too. We religious have the luxury of making a week-long retreat every year. This is a time to withdraw from the busyness of ministry and world events and concentrate on deepening our relationship with God. Its a time to ask big questions, such as What am I doing with my life? What needs to change? Who is God for me? Anyone can make a retreat.

Retreat houses as well as parishes offer opportunities for solitude, silence, prayer, and reflection. These range from thirty-day retreats

to half-days of recollection. Usually they are conducted by a retreat director. But private retreats are also an option. My community has the practice of making a morning retreat on one Sunday each month. Family and work commitments can make it difficult to get away for a formal retreat. But those who take their spiritual life seriously can carve out a few hours now and then to spend time with the Lord. I heard of one woman who drives to a quiet street, parks her car, and enjoys free time there praying.



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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A retreat may lead us to God through the wonders of creation. This past week God touched me through a running stream with thousands of darting tadpoles, thirteen soaring chicken hawks, and a fiery red sunset. God spoke through the Bible I read in my room and the readings at Mass. He spoke through the director, who presented Jesus as a rule-breaker who followed his heart. And God showed me a new way to pray.

God tells us in a psalm, "Be still and know that I am God" (Psalm 46:10). In the gospel Jesus invites, "Come apart and rest awhile" (Mark 6:31). A wit pointed out that if we don't come apart and rest awhile, we may just come apart!

Has a retreat ever made a difference in your life? How?

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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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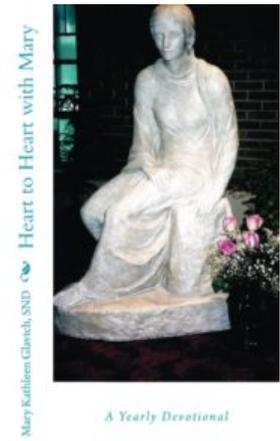
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Newest Book

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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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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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