

# Catholic Faith Corner

Understanding, Teaching, and Living the Faith

Sea of Galilee at Sunrise



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## God's Presence Everywhere All the Time

by KATHLEEN GLAVICH, SND on [MARCH 26, 2014](#)  
in [BLOGS](#)



Artist: Fr. Bob Gilroy, S.J.

Remember the joke about the little boy who was afraid to get the broom out of the dark closet for his mom? She assured him, "Don't be afraid. God is everywhere." So the little boy cracked open the closet door a little and called in, "Hey, God, would you hand me the broom!" Catholic Vitamins is a podcast that presents topics following the alphabet. Last week I spoke on U for the Ubiquity of God. (You can listen to this talk on [www.catholicvitamins.com](#). It's in the second half of the program.) Ubiquity was a pleasant topic because God's omnipresence is a comforting attribute. We are never alone because God is constantly with us, and so we needn't feel lonely or be afraid. God says in Isaiah 41:10, "Do not fear, for I am with you. . . I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

One thing I like about the Catechism of the Catholic Church is that along with calling God Most High, it calls God Most Near. How can God be everywhere? He is the eternal, infinite spirit. He is not restricted by space or time. God is in everything he created simply by the fact that he is the cause, the source of all being. (But everything is not God or even a part of God. To think so is the error of pantheism.) God keeps



**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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everything in existence. If God stopped thinking about you, the chair you are sitting in would be empty.

St. Paul said, "In him we live and move and have our being." God is like the air we breathe: invisible, life-giving, all around us. There is a story about a little fish who is looking for the ocean. He asks a big fish, "Where is the ocean?" The big fish replies, "It's what you're swimming in." "But this is just water," the little fish replies, and he swims on in search of the ocean. This is what we're often like. Although we are swimming in God, we don't realize it. Marty Rubin observed, "Solitude is when we discover that we are not alone." Sometimes at prayer we become acutely aware of God's presence. Beholding a fantastic piece of God's creation (They are ubiquitous!) also might bring us to stand before God in awe.

The beautiful Psalm 139:5-11 sings about God's omnipresence: "Behind and before you encircle me and rest your hand upon me. . . .Where can I go from your spirit? From your presence, where can I flee?/ If I ascend to the heavens, you are there; if I lie down in Sheol, there you are. /If I take the wings of dawn and dwell beyond the sea, /Even there your hand guides me, your right hand holds me fast./ If I say, 'Surely darkness shall hid me'. . .Darkness is not dark for you."

Jesus, who doesn't lie, promised, "I will be with you always." The apocryphal Gospel of Thomas, a collection of sayings of Jesus, includes this one: "Split wood; I am there. Lift up a rock, you will find me there." That's why St. Patrick—and we—can say, "Christ with me, Christ before me, Christ behind me; Christ in me, Christ beneath me, Christ above me; Christ on my right, Christ on my left; Christ in breadth, Christ in length, Christ in height."

We call Israel the holy land. But because God is everywhere, our land is holy too. And yes, he's got the whole world in his hands.

When have you been keenly aware of God's presence? What do you do to remember that God is with you, loving you and caring for you?



### 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!"

[Learn more](#)

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**a** June 19, 2014 at 12:01 am



Hi! I've been reading your website for a while now and finally got the bravery to go ahead and give you a shout out from Lubbock Texas! Just wanted to tell you keep up the great work!

REPLY

**Kathleen Glavich, SND** June 19, 2014 at 7:03 am



Thank you for your comment. I spoke in Lubbock once. It was a wonderful experience.

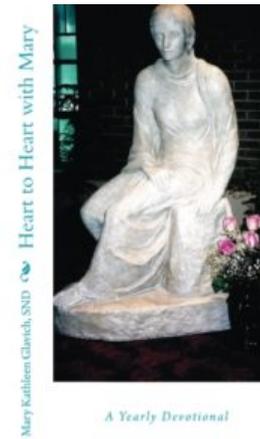
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### Newest Book

In "Heart to Heart with Mary: A Yearly Devotional" Our Blessed Mother speaks to us every day of the year and a suggestion is provided for a response. It is similar to the popular book "Jesus Calling" and can be found on Amazon or purchased from me.

### 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.

**Submit**

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](mailto: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?")

### Of Interest

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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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