

Catholic Faith Corner

Understanding, Teaching, and Living the Faith

Sea of Galilee at Sunrise



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Mindful of the Invisible Ones Who Serve

by KATHLEEN GLAVICH, SND on [SEPTEMBER 2, 2015](#)
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A few weeks ago, some 400 of us Sisters met at a hotel to plan our future. On the last day, one of the hotel workers commented, "We liked having you because to you we weren't invisible." How often we take those who serve us for granted and even overlook them. (Maybe you are one of the "invisible" ones.) So, I'm thinking, what if we put on glasses that enable us to see these special people and acknowledge their presence by saying a word or two, especially a thank you. Yes, we leave a tip for the person who cleans our hotel room, but how much more meaningful if we personally delivered our thanks, looking the person straight in the eye. Who are some of the other people who make our lives smooth and help us in ways that we are scarcely aware of?

What about the clerk who rings up and bags our purchases? We needn't engage in a long conversation that irks the people lined up behind us. A simple thank you or a short compliment will do such as "You are really speedy" or "I like your hairdo." At Christmas we express our thanks to our postal carrier and newspaper deliverer, but it



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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would warm their hearts if on some ordinary day we went out of our way to step outside to say, "I appreciate how you always pick up the letters I put in my mailbox so I don't have to go to the post office" or "I always know I can count on reading my newspaper at breakfast because you are so reliable." Then there are the people who wait on us in a restaurant. What can we say to engage them as persons instead of barely noticing them until we're missing a fork or the meal is too salty? Then too there are the librarians who shelve our books and DVDs. The silence that reigns in a library should not inhibit us from saying, "Have a good weekend" or just a "Hello" and "Good-bye" to them.



Jesus said that whatever we do to the least ones, we do to him. We certainly wouldn't ignore him!

The majority of people he paid attention to and worked miracles for were the little ones: the lepers, the despised Samaritans, women who were accounted as nothing in his culture. He even held up as models children, who also had no social status. We are familiar with the disciples and women who supported Jesus in his ministry, but there are others who aren't named. Can you imagine how Jesus treated the man who sold him the wood he used in his carpenter shop, the boy who loaned him the bread and fish, the woman who cooked the meal at Zacchaeus's house?

Who are other people that tend to be invisible? Maybe someone in your own family who is taken for granted?

If you are or were one of the invisibles, were you ever surprised by someone actually seeing you?

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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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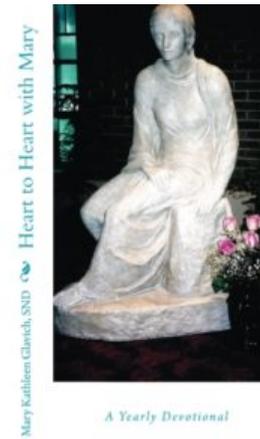
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Newest Book

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.

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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