

Catholic Faith Corner

Understanding, Teaching, and Living the Faith

Sea of Galilee at Sunrise



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Self-Esteem and Fitting In

by KATHLEEN GLAVICH, SND on [AUGUST 28, 2019](#)
in [BLOGS](#)



As a teacher, I sometimes came across a situation in which a child who was a little different was shunned or picked on by classmates. Perhaps you observed this when you were a student. Maybe you can identify with that child! The epidemic of bullying seen in our country bears out the fact that the strongest can make the weakest miserable. If there are days when you feel awkward and

odd, if you wonder if there is something wrong with you, if you are not invited to parties or kept out of cliques, here are some things to ponder:

1. Keep in mind what St. Francis de Sales said: "Do not desire to be other than you are, but desire to be very well what you are."
2. Many of our best human beings were a bit strange, including some artists (Vincent Van Gogh, Salvador Dali) and some saints (St. Philip Neri and Catherine of Alexandria). Jesus himself was an outcast in his hometown. People called him crazy and possessed.



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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3. Out of all the people God could have created, he brought you to life and he loves you.

4. Here is a recent reflection from my book *Heart to Heart with Mary*:

Being an Original

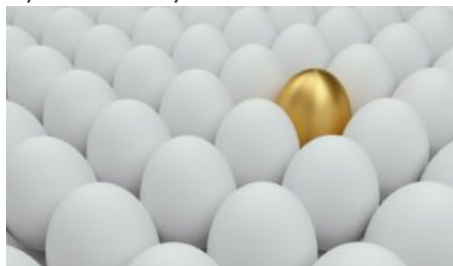
August 25

My child, at times you might sense that you are different from other people, that you don't fit in with the group. Don't let that disturb you, and especially don't try to change in order to be like everyone else. You are a unique individual with your own gifts, feelings, and thoughts. Love yourself for who you are. I do, dear.

If people criticize you for being different, refer to you as "weird," or shun you, they are not real friends. Don't allow them to prevent you from being your own person. Be who you want to be. When you surrender your independence and imitate other people, you are being false to yourself and insult the God who fashioned you to be you. It will not lead to happiness.

By acknowledging that you are splashed with rich blessings and walk this earth as a one-of-a-kind creation, you will grow in confidence and attain an inner joy. So be happy in your own skin, darling, and know that you do not have to go along with the crowd. Jesus and I didn't always fit in either.

Share with Mary what you like about yourself.



Share this:



Tagged as: [being different](#), [bullying](#), [odd](#), [self-esteem](#), [strange](#), [unique](#)

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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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check this out August 29, 2019 at 5:13 am

This site was... how do I say it? Relevant!! Finally I have found something that helped me.
Thank you!



REPLY

Kathleen Glavich, SND August 29, 2019 at 9:31 am

You're very welcome. Thank you for the feedback!



REPLY

Sue September 4, 2019 at 3:14 pm

I've told you this before, but the book you just mentioned is my ALL TIME favorite book. I read a page every night before getting in bed and then ponder it. Im generally asleep in no time!! It's sooo like talking to Mary.
You did a marvelous job on this book. Thank you so much again!!!
I'm going to share this one with my granddaughter.....
Sue



REPLY

Kathleen Glavich, SND September 9, 2019 at 3:50 pm

I'm so glad you are enjoying my book, Sue. It's my favorite one now too, and I use it every day. Please do me a favor by adding a one- or two- sentence review of it on Amazon if you can.



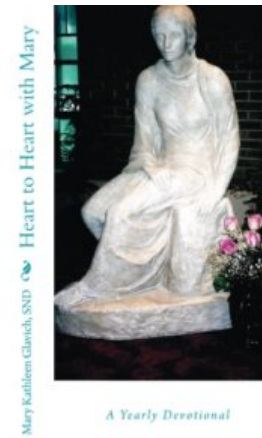
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Newest Book

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.

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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