

Catholic Faith Corner

Understanding, Teaching, and Living the Faith

Sea of Galilee at Sunrise



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Christmas Musings

by KATHLEEN GLAVICH, SND on [DECEMBER 24, 2019](#)
in [BLOGS](#)



Mary Christmas and a Happy New Year! Here is a Christmas gift for you: Two reflections from my book *Heart to Heart with Mary*:

Love Made Flesh



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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December 24

My child, some things are so awesome that words fail us. Imagine what it was like to hold my newborn son in my arms knowing he was the Son of God. Joseph and I were silent before this tremendous miracle. How great is the love that compelled God to become one of us, his mortal creatures.

Mentally kneel at the wooden manger and gaze down on the infant Jesus sound asleep on some hay. Marvel at his little nose, his delicate eyelashes, his tiny fingernails. Watch his chest rise and fall with each breath. Know that within that chest is a heart of flesh beating with love for you.

Let your heart overflow with love for God and thankfulness. In your mind remain there in silent adoration. I will be there too, looking at both you and Jesus with quiet joy. I am elated that I was privileged to play such a huge role in your salvation. Be still and savor resting in your vision of the Bethlehem nursery. In the silence of that night, stay rapt in adoration as long as you can. When you can linger no longer, carry away with you the peace of that scene. Let it spill over from your heart into your home.

L. Speak to Mary about the magic and mystery of her first night with her son.

Spreading Joy

Christmas

December 25

My child, when Jesus restored the possibility of eternal life to the human race, all creation rejoiced. My heart, too, was filled with gladness. You celebrate the Christmas season with friends and family in honor of the saving event. It is a time to bring cheer to everyone but especially to those who are not as fortunate as you. I would like you to forget about your own happiness and concentrate on giving joy to others, not just at Christmas but every day.

With that selfless attitude, you do not care about amassing treasures for yourself. You are not bothered if you give someone a present or do a favor and it is not returned. Rather, you go out of your way to spread joy. Invite a lonely person to share a meal with you. Perform a random act of kindness. Compliment someone. Renew your relationship with a person who dropped out of your family or circle of friends. Present someone with an unexpected gift.



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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By bringing joy to others, a sweet joy will bubble up in your own heart. You will also make me very happy, my dear.

L Talk to Mary about how people have made you happy and ways you can spread joy.

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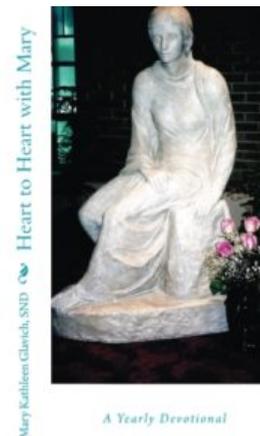
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Newest Book

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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