

Catholic Faith Corner

Understanding, Teaching, and Living the Faith

Sea of Galilee at Sunrise



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The Value of Christmas Cards

by KATHLEEN GLAVICH, SND on [JANUARY 8, 2020](#)
in [BLOGS](#)



For decades my mother saved all her Christmas cards. Each year she rubber-banded them and put them in brown bags. Some people might call her a hoarder, but these cards were precious to her. My cards this year are hanging from my kitchen counter as seen above. The are part of my Christmas decorations and will stay up until Epiphany, the traditional time to de-decorate. Then I will take the ones that have religious pictures and send them to St. Dominic parish. Parishioners there take them to El



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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Salvador, where people put them on their walls. (One sister noted that very few cards have religious pictures nowadays.)

For me, and likely for you too, Christmas is the only time I reconnect with most of the people who have played a role in my life. I look forward to the news the cards (and sometimes the letters) bring. This year a Sister gave me a copy of a poem by “Anonymous” that expresses the meaning behind this annual ritual of sending cards. It makes a good insert for next year’s Christmas cards. The poem spoke to me, and I think it will probably speak to you:

We have a list of folks we know, all written in a book.

And every year at Christmas time we go and take a look.

And that is when we realize that these names are a part,

Not of the book they’re written in, but of our very heart.

For each name stands for someone who has crossed our path sometime.

And in that meeting we’ve become the “Rhythm of the Rhyme.”

And while it sounds fantastic for us to make this claim,

We really feel we are composed of each remembered name.

And while you may not be aware of any special link,

Just meeting you shaped our lives more than you can think.

For once you’ve met somebody, the years cannot erase

The memory of a pleasant word of of a friendly face.

So never think our Christmas cards are just a mere routine

Of names upon a Christmas list, forgotten in between.

For when we send a Christmas card that is addressed to you

It’s because you’re on the list of folks we are indebted to.



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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For you are but a part of the many folks we've met,

And you happen to be one of those that we prefer not to forget.

And whether we have known you many years or few

In some way you have had a part in shaping the things we do.

And every year when Christ comes we realize anew

The "Biggest Gift" life can give is MEETING FOLKS LIKE YOU!

And may the Spirit of Christmas that forever and ever endures

Leave its richest blessings in the heart of you and yours.

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Marilyn January 8, 2020 at 1:24 pm



Thank you so much. I will print this out on Christmas-y paper and include it with our cards next year. God bless you for all the ways you inspire us.

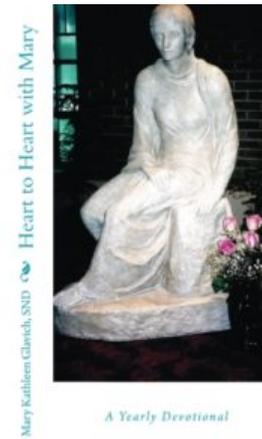
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Newest Book

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.

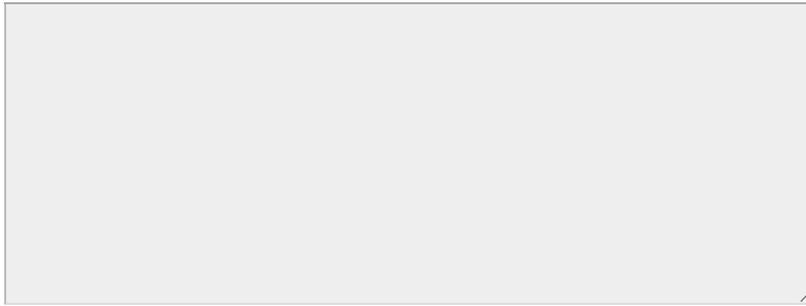
Featured Book

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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