

Catholic Faith Corner

Understanding, Teaching, and Living the Faith

Sea of Galilee at Sunrise



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About



Who Am I?

I'm a Roman Catholic who has lived in Cleveland, Ohio, except for one year. Where I grew up I could walk to twelve churches, each a different nationality. I am Slovenian and Polish. As a child I dreamed of being a teacher. In the seventh grade, the desire to be a teaching Sister was born in me. Right after my 18th birthday I joined the Sisters of Notre Dame, an international community whose primary ministry is education. (See www.sndchardon.org.) Before most of us Sisters returned to our baptismal names, I was known as Sister Mary Kirene, a name

derived from the chi-rho, a symbol for Christ. My feast day is Christ the King. Notre Dames have some form of Mary in our names, reflecting our devotion to Our Lady.

Education

I attended Hodge School until the seventh grade. Yes, I was a public school kid. Then I went to St. Francis School for two years and to Notre Dame Academy for high school.



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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I hold a BA degree from Notre Dame College of Ohio and have served as president of its Alumni Association. My MA degree is in secondary education (English) from the University of Minnesota. Since then I've taken courses at St. Mary's Seminary and attended numerous lectures and workshops.

Ministry

I've taught in Catholic schools and CCD programs and conducted Bible study courses for parishes and diocesan religion courses for catechists. For three years I served as vocation director (recruiter) for my community and for the Diocese of Cleveland. Most recently, I've been the director of the Parish School of Religion at St. Dominic Parish in Shaker Heights. Currently I'm an honorary member of the parish staff at St. Dominic's. To my delight writing is now my full-time occupation.

Writing History


In 1979, I began writing for publication while teaching religion and English at Regina High School. At the prompting of another Sister, I submitted a paper on religious life for publication. The paper was a requirement of a retreat. "The Joy No One Can Take from Us" appeared in *Review for Religious*. Bitten by the writing bug, I corrected students' papers on Friday night and planned the next week's lessons on Saturday. This left Sunday free to write. I rose at 6:00 a.m. to spend as much time as possible writing articles. Several of these were published in magazines and journals, including one in the *Sunday Magazine* of Cleveland's *The Plain Dealer*. Encouragement came from many sources. After reading my article in *Review for Religious*, a bishop in Nigeria sent me an airmail letter in which he quoted Blessed Teresa of Calcutta: "Write, for if your writing should make anyone more aware of God and their neighbor, then you must write."

My writing hobby blossomed into a full-time ministry when I was assigned for two years to the team writing a Benziger high school religion series. Later, I became general editor of my community's Loyola elementary school religion series *Christ Our Life* and saw it through three revisions over a span of 13 years. In this position I wrote two preschool programs (one for three-year-olds and one for four-year-olds) that won an international award. I also was editor and author for a children's version of the Little Rock Scripture Study published by Liturgical Press. For two years I wrote a column in *Religion Teacher's Journal*. Other religion series I wrote for were Ave Maria Press's and St. Mary Press's high school series and the Maronite elementary school series, *Faith of the Mountain*. Beyond this writing, I've had more than eighty books published and have edited books others have written. Also annually I write eight homilies and sets of intercessions for FAITH Catholic Publishing of the Lansing



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A Yearly Devotional

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.

Diocese. My first novel, a historical romance, was published in 2013: *The Fisherman's Wife: The Gospel According to St. Peter's Spouse*. It has its own website at www.facebook.com/St.PetersSpouse

Speaking Engagements

Occasionally I speak at national and diocesan conventions and give workshops and retreats. In fact, my first book was the result of the first time I spoke in public. It was at the NCEA convention in Anaheim. After putting so much work into the talk "Twenty-Six Ways to Lead Students into Scripture," I decided to give it a longer life by turning it into 26 chapters, which Twenty-Third Publications published as *Leading Students into Scripture*. This book published in 1987 is still alive as *Leading Young Catholics into Scripture*. A surprising invitation to speak came from the United Arab Emirates. In 2010 and 2011, I was a featured speaker at a two-day conference there for catechists from six Arab countries. In 2014, I spoke in Dubai and in Oman.

Hobbies

I enjoy reading (naturally), playing the piano, and crocheting baby blankets for my community's annual Barbeque and Boutique, which occurs on the last two Sundays in September.

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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?")

Of Interest

The Fisherman's Wife

100 Catholic Blogs by Catholic Sisters and Nuns

Ideas for Church fundraising

Recent Posts

Columbus, Washington, and Democracy

Posts in Review

Simple Pleasures

Blessings, Bless, and Blessed

Seeing God in Everything and Reiki

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.



[Learn More](#)

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