

# Prayer Poems

Poetic Reflections for Sundays and Feastsdays  
by Sister Juliemarie McDonald, SND

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## Teachability

by SR. JULIEMARIE MCDONALD, SND on [09/21/2018](#)  
in [ORDINARY TIME](#)

Twenty-fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time Cycle - B

**“But they did not understand the saying, and they were afraid to question him.” (Mk 9: 32b)**

### Teachability

Teacher,

Enter my mind, my heart, my soul.

Announce to me your words of wisdom.

Change and transform me through my experiences.

Help me to look beneath the surfaces of these experiences.

Anvil-like, hammer home to me that pain can be a positive teacher.

Burdens need not break me; they can make me.

## About Sr. Juliemarie McDonald, SND

Sister Juliemarie McDonald joined the Sisters of Notre Dame of Chardon, Ohio in 1951. She holds an MA in English Studies from John Carroll University MA in Scripture from St. Charles Seminary. After 32 years of teaching classes ranging from first grade to college level, she then became a researcher, campus minister, director of religious education and a pastoral minister in Mease Hospital in Dunedin, Florida. In her semi-retirement, Sister Juliemarie writes reflections and faith sharing sessions for the young sisters in formation in Africa, Philippines, Korea, India and the USA. Her spare time is spent as a crafter.



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**I may make mistakes, but mistakes can make me.**

**Lead me into the inner sanctuary of my heart to ponder like Mary.**

**Invite me often to see, to study, to suffer. Only then will I be**

**Teachable. Only then will I understand your spiritual wisdom.**

**Your creation and words are filled with life-giving grace,**

**“Notice me! Notice me! They cry out even in silent times.**

**They will teach you wisdom and understanding.**

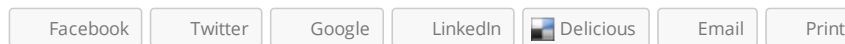
**Speak to me in the quiet; don't be afraid to question.**

**Tell me what you learn, what you understand.”**

### For Reflection and Sharing:

1. Why do you think the apostles and Disciples did not understand Jesus?
2. What teaching of Jesus don't you understand?
3. Where may you find answers to your questions?
4. Have you ever thought of being a catechist teacher?
5. Why is pondering such a necessary step to understanding?
6. How can creation be a teacher?
7. What characteristic do children possess that you lack?

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