



## What Does a Saint Look Like?

Happy All Saints Day! I love this day, and not just because I enjoy researching and sharing the stories of the women formally canonized or beatified. I love it because it reminds me that we all have saints in our lives--family members and friends, a teacher who had a special impact, perhaps even someone whose name we never knew but who gave us a smile one particularly bad day, and that smile kept us from going down a wrong path. In the same way, we all have the opportunity to be saints to others. Let's look for ways today that we can reflect Him to others--and be grateful for the way others reflect Him to us.

---

## Friends in Faith: Kat Sigler

When I think of my friend Kathleyne Sigler, I think of her voice—one of those strong, confident soprano voices that flies like a bird, fearless and sure it's going where the Lord goes. I also think of her faith and courage in navigating some of the most difficult challenges a woman can face. It's not that Kat is perfect—she'd be the first to laugh at that notion—but even in struggle, she radiates amazing joy.

Small wonder, then, that she chose [Joyful Colors](#) as the name for her new greeting card business. I can't exactly describe her considerable talent; to me, the colors seem vibrant and peaceful at the same time, kind of like our ideal relationship with the Lord. Kat reminds me that we are all artists and are called to, as she says on her site, "testify to the Light," whether we do it with our voices, our painting, our words, or the way we care for others.



---

## "Jesus never abandons those who trust in Him" --Clelia Merloni



Next Saturday in Rome, Clelia Merloni (1861-1930) will be beatified. One would think she must have been tempted to feel abandoned--and sorry for herself--many times. Her mother died when she was just three. She suffered from a life-threatening illness. Clelia inherited a large fortune after having helped to create a community of women religious... only to have the fortune disappear due to another's financial mismanagement, which resulted in death threats against her. Internal strife followed, and she had to leave the community. Finally, two years before her death, she was allowed to return. Clelia inspires me because she kept slogging through all this, confident in the Lord's direction.

I'll be writing a bit more about her later this month in my Wednesday's Woman feature (short profiles of beatified and canonized women).

Wednesday's Women

---

## On the Nightstand: *Gaze Upon Jesus*

I'm planning to get an early start on Advent with this new six-week scripture study on Jesus's early years through the eyes of Mary and other women in his life. What a great idea [Gaze Upon Jesus](#) is! It comes from [Women in the New Evangelization](#), for whom I'm privileged to write occasionally. The opening pages of the book are comprised of gorgeous color paintings of the Annunciation, Visitation, and more from the Vatican Museums to help put yourself in the setting. In the introduction, the editor and WINE founder, Kelly Wahlquist, invites the reader to ask: "How am I being called to gaze upon Jesus like the women in the Bible? In what ways can I allow the gaze of Christ to penetrate my soul and transform my life?" Challenging questions indeed.



What's on Your Nightstand?

---

## What Else Is Up in My World:

- The [Future with Hope Women's conference](#) is done, but the memories and gratitude remain. In the coming weeks, the website will be updated with pictures and videos from the event. Please pray for discernment on my next steps for this little ministry.
- I'll be joining my friends from [Landings International](#) at a table at the Arlington Diocesan Catechetical Conference in Reston, VA, on November 17. Stop by and see us!
- I've been a project manager for longer than I care to admit, but I'm going to try to formalize that by taking a weeklong "boot camp" this month to prepare for the rigorous Project Management Professional exam in December. That's another prayer request, please. Thank you.

Blessings on your November, especially the opportunity to gather with family and friends. Coming in December--a reboot of last year's popular Advent giveaway! In Christ, Melanie

---

[melanie@rejoicebeglad.com](mailto:melanie@rejoicebeglad.com) | [www.rejoicebeglad.com](http://www.rejoicebeglad.com)

Other ways to keep the conversation going:

