

Of saints, friends, books, and what's going on in my crazy life.



On the Road to Emmaus

Hello friends! Happy Easter! He is risen! But will we know Him when we see Him? If we're absorbed with our own concerns, maybe not. That's the joy of breaking bread with others. We slow down. We chat. We enjoy. Where will you see Him this month?

Women Saints of the Americas

The past several weeks, I've really enjoyed writing about the women saints and the corporal and spiritual works of mercy. I'll wrap that up this coming week. Next, I'm going to focus on the saints of the Americas whom I haven't blogged about before. A little later this month, I'll be writing about St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, the first native-born citizen of the United States to be canonized. Kindnesses received during a personal tragedy sparked her conversion to Catholicism. She went on to establish the Sisters of Charity, the first

U.S. congregation of religious sisters. Elizabeth reminds me that even what we consider small, routine acts can have huge ripple effects.

See the Wednesday's Woman entries in my blog.



Friends in Faith



Beth Haug and my sister have been friends for decades... since right around their fifth birthdays. Beth had a special way about her when we were kids--those big, beautiful brown eyes, that sober, thoughtful nature, punctuated at just the right times with an impish grin. Beth was strong even then, growing up in a large, sometimes troubled family.

But perhaps her biggest challenge came years later when she was in an auto accident that left her and her two sons injured, including a life-changing traumatic brain injury for one of the boys. The family made it through, buoyed by

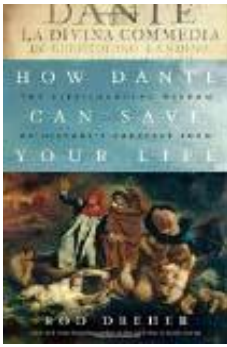
faith and community. Her three sons (including one born after the accident) are grown now, and Beth and her husband recently moved to a new town to start the next phase of their lives.

Beth loves to talk about "God winks," the times the Lord gives us a little boost in times of trial. I don't think she's even aware how many times her loving nature and quiet faith lived large provide God winks to others.

Which of your friends inspires you?

On the Nightstand

Wow. I became so engrossed last month in Rod Dreher's *The Little Way of Ruthie Leming* that I overrode my Metro stop one day! So this month, I'm going to be reading what in essence sounds like a sequel: *How Dante Can Save Your Life: The Life-Changing Wisdom of History's Greatest Poem*. Rather than a study guide for Dante, the book tells of the spiritual and physical crisis Dreher experienced in the aftermath of a big decision he made after the death of his sister, Ruthie.



What's on your nightstand?

What's Going On?

On April 19, I'll be speaking on the women saints and wisdom at the Council of Catholic Women at [St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception Church](#) in Fredericksburg. I'm excited about catching up with my "Fred" friends and making some new ones! In addition, I'm working on a couple of May presentations, one at my home parish here in Arlington.

May God bless you exceedingly! --Melanie

Copyright © 2016. All rights reserved.

STAY CONNECTED:



Melanie Rigney, 4201 Wilson Blvd. #110328, Arlington, VA 22203

[SafeUnsubscribe™ {recipient's email}](#)

[Forward this email](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [About our service provider](#)

Sent by melanie@rejoicebeglad.com in collaboration with

Constant Contact 

Try it free today