



IN OUR MOTHER'S ARMS

By Kelly Reed

I have had a devotion to the Blessed Mother since I was a little girl, and over the course of many years, it was Mary who led me to the foot of the cross where I met her Son, my Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. The power of prayer, and especially Mary's intercession, has always been an integral part of my spirituality. As a reminder of that, I have worn the Miraculous Medal, along with my chain and cross, most of my adult life.

About 18 months ago I became very ill and ended up being admitted to the hospital while the medical staff tried to determine what was wrong with me. I rapidly declined and was transferred to the Cleveland Clinic where doctors were finally able to diagnose me with an acute case of viral encephalitis. During this time, I became less and less responsive and I was unaware of what was going on around me. My husband and children, on the other hand, had to deal with the agony of the unknown and my deteriorating condition.

But then, after a couple of days, I woke up and within another couple of days, my faculties had returned and I was discharged from the hospital. It was pretty amazing; I had completely recovered and was back to my old self.

Later, I researched viral encephalitis (probably not a good thing to do) and learned that I was not only lucky to have survived unscathed, but my complete and rapid recovery was nothing short of a miracle – or as I like to believe, it was a miracle. This virus can be extremely debilitating, even fatal, and the length of time for rehabilitation can take months.

I also learned that so many had been praying for me during this time. In particular, I received two cards for healing where I had been enrolled at the National Shrine of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal. One of these was from a relative in New York, and another from a friend in California. Truly I was covered in prayer from coast to coast. I am so grateful for the power of prayer and for all those who prayed for me, and especially the intercession of our Blessed Mother. God heard those prayers and healed me.

“Oh Mary conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee.”



Hal and Kelly Reed have been married for 41 years and are active parishioners at St Joan of Arc in Toledo. They have eight children, five wonderful in-laws, and 12 grandchildren so far. Kelly is a retired teacher having taught Theology for many years at Notre Dame Academy where she was also department chair. Hal retired from The Andersons as Chief Operating Officer after 37 years with the company. They are enjoying retirement, traveling, visiting kids and grandkids, and spending their children's inheritance.

Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

Our world is pining for good news. God's supply is **you**. Your short, moving story of "God with us" will make a big difference in someone's life.

Right now you can think of at least one moving moment in your life. An example of "God with us." Please take a moment now to simply email me the possible subject of your story. If you're motivated, sure, write it out (no more than 500 words). We'll help you land it. Many will be blessed. We want to feature a new story every week.

Thank you in advance!

So blessed to be united in building the Kingdom,



Greg and Stephanie Schlueter
Image Trinity | Mass Impact

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Call: (814) 449-8808

WEB: ILoveMyFamily.us

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Uniting Christians throughout our region in reaching and discipling "unchurched."

The great calamity of this day dates back to the beginning of time, and punctuates our one, underlying, unifying, eternity-defining mission:

"The future of humanity passes by way of the family."
~ Pope St. John Paul II

Marriage and family have always been Satan's most fierce point of attack. Why? Because man and woman image God and exist to make Him, who is love, known. (Gen. 1:27)

It's no longer subtle. Things hidden in darkness are coming to light. (Mark 4:22) It's not just playing out among those who've been deceived into rejecting their Maker, but also under the roofs of many who profess Him. Now more than ever good Catholic families are looking for a solid anchor. Lived encounter. Community enlivened by the Holy Spirit. Remnant.

God is with us. His holy presence remains powerful. Transformative. We give witness to His holy presence reviving, renewing, strengthening vibrant marriages overflowing into their families and into the world. We desire this for everyone.

Marriage and family are God's supreme gift of Himself. His promise of renewing the face of the earth. Being poured out right now. We are passionate about engaging as many as possible in this great ADVENTURE of striving to live it.

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WHERE ARE YOU HEADING?

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"The future of humanity passes by way of the family."
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