



God, Sex and the Meaning of Life

JAN 2017

VOLUME 53

Note: Email gsmlministry@gmail.com to book a Theology of the Body Workshop for your Parish or Group.

For more Information about GSML Ministry [click here](#)

Don't forget to join our Theology of the Body Study Group:

Every Monday morning from 9:30 am - 11:30 am at St. Bernadette's Parish Hall, 21

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We are now booking into 2017.

Bayly St. E. Ajax

"But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear;" 1 Peter 3:15

A Theology of the Body Workshop would help your parish or group grow in the knowledge of their Faith.

Let's give our teens an opportunity to discover the truths.

Contact: Rose and Pat Heron at roseheron@gmail.com

Toronto's Cardinal, Thomas Collins stated: [John Paul II] "His teachings, and especially his *Theology of the Body*, are a permanent gift of immense benefit to us all. I earnestly invite everyone to study prayerfully the teachings of Pope John Paul, especially the *Theology of the Body*. -We need very much in these days to deepen our awareness of the dignity of the human person, and Pope John Paul helps us to do that." - Address of Archbishop Thomas Collins - 32nd Annual Archbishop's Dinner, Oct 27, 2011

To read the full address [click here](#)

GSML News

Learn How to Water Colour at our Art Social and Fundraiser

Join us at a fun workshop where you will learn the basics of watercolour painting. This workshop will cover the use of watercolour brushes and will explore various techniques such as making washes and painting wet-into-wet.

No drawing skill is necessary. Registration:

By email: gsmlministry@gmail.com

By phone: Jan at 905-420-8696

Location: St. Bernadette Church Hall 21 Bayly St. East Ajax, Ontario
Date: Saturday February 6, 2016
Time: 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Cost: \$40.00

Fundraising Event for the Theology of the Body Ministry

All proceeds go to programs in our Elementary Schools.

Theology of the Body Study Group

Our group is studying, *Our Lady of Guadalupe: Mother of the Civilization of Love* by Carl Anderson, Supreme Knight of the Knights of Columbus and Eduardo Chavez. The authors trace the history of Our Lady of Guadalupe from the sixteenth century to the present, and discuss how her message was and continues to be an important catalyst for religious and cultural transformation.

Monday mornings from 9:30 to 11:30

St. Bernadette's Parish Hall, 21 Bayly St. E. Ajax

Contact: gsmlministry@gmail.com

**We have held over
20 Theology of the
Body for Teens
Workshops and
Classroom
Sessions**

Bible Study

The adventure continues: In the fall of 2016 we started looking at **Acts: The Spread of the Kingdom**, which explores the story of the Early Church in light of the Holy Spirit and demonstrates how this story is important for all Disciples of Christ.

Enrich and deepen your faith. Learn how the Church accomplishes the monumental task of teaching, preaching, healing and restoring outcasts with the Holy Spirit working with and through Her, and how you are also called to participate in the Kingdom of God.

It is a 20 week course which started Sept. 14 & Friday Sept 16. Please join us Wednesday mornings from 9:30 am – 11:30 am OR Sept 16 (Friday evenings from 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm)

Purchase of the Study Guide is Optional at a cost is \$40.

St. Bernadette's Parish Hall, 21 Bayly St. E. Ajax

Contact: gsmlministry@gmail.com

For more information about the program [click here](#)

Apologetics

Apologetics means giving a reasoned explanation for your faith. A Catholic apologist charitably explains and defends Catholic doctrine using Scripture, history and common sense.

Join us the 4th Saturday (after the 9:00 a.m. Mass) of every month for an opportunity to learn to explain your faith clearly, defend it charitably, and share it confidently.

Jan 28 "Why Do I Need The Church"?

In his DVD, Dr. Edward Sri looks at why people say they like Jesus but don't need a church. He teaches why we can't fully love the King but reject His Kingdom and how Christ did not save us as individuals, but calls us to enter the communion of the Church

Feb 25 "Mary and the Saints"

Dr. Edward Sri's DVD explains why growing in a relationship with Mary and the Saints brings us to a closer relationship with Christ

Let's Get Going

Teachers

Wondering what the Theology of the Body is all about and how it can help your school and students' lives? NOW is the opportunity to plug in and find out. Embrace the New Evangelization and make a difference in your class and school.

Take the time to invite our group, GSML Ministry (Archdiocese of Toronto approved) into your classroom for 12 weekly sessions using the Theology of the Body for Teens program. You, will experience it along with your students and therefore be prepared to teach and use the material next semester.

Just think 12 classes, once a week where you sit, observe and participate as you like and learn new material. See the [article](#) from the Diocese of Pembroke to see how one group put this into effect in their school.

We have been in several schools in the Toronto Archdiocese and have effectively brought the Theology of the Body to their students. Because their teachers took on the responsibility of this message, one school went from Pro-choice to **Pro-life**. The whole fabric of the student body changed.

You can make the difference in your school.

For more information contact Tom at 905-427-6137 or gsmlministry@gmail.com

Parents

We can no longer sit back and leave sex-ed up to the schools; the government program is focused on society's views of sex. Chastity, abstinence, and other Catholic teachings are not taught.

You must join the fight for YOUR child's soul. Encourage your schools to have the Theology of the Body programs taught in them, both Secondary and Elementary School. Encourage your parish to run these programs.

We have the tools that you need to equip yourself and your child to resist the pull of the world.

Contact Tom (905-427-6137) regarding programs and workshops we can run in your schools or parishes. Or email gsmlministry@gamil.com

You can make a difference.

Pastors

The hardest thing is to talk about sex and while we don't in our Theology of the Body programs and workshops, we do talk about the Church's teaching on morality. We give parents tools that can help safeguard their children and themselves against the influences of society.

Make a difference in your parish life.

One program you might consider is:

- ***Girl Talk***

This workshop is for mothers and daughters and provides information on the fundamentals of young girls' cycles in the presence of their mothers. It facilitates mother-daughter communication in this delicate area and supports parents in their task of educating their daughters in Christian sexuality.

Theology Of The Body Training--Toronto, January 2017

Jan 7.14.21.28, 2017
10 am – 4 pm
\$40 for 4-Saturday-course

Speaker: Sister Helena Burns, fsp

Pauline Books & Media
3022 Dufferin St. Toronto
(near Lawrence W subway)

For more information [click here](#)

Theology of the Body ...

- addresses "How can I live my life in a way that brings happiness and fulfillment?"
- is given to us by St. John Paul II and sets people free to live the life of greatness to which we are all called.
- is an adult faith formation program that unfolds God's plan for life, love, marriage, and family.
- is for singles, engaged couples, married couples, and youth 18+.

Discovering the Master Plan for Your Life

A 2 Day presentation & discussion series beginning in 2017

St. Ignatius Loyola RC Parish

2300 Burnhamthorpe Rd W., Mississauga, ON, L5L 3T6

Saturday January 21 and 28, 2017

9:30 to 1 pm

Fee \$25.00 per person (includes 1 workbook) or \$30.00 per couple (includes 1 workbook) or \$10.00 for repeat Participants

For information and pre-registration contact Anthony Mendes 416-302-4253 or TOB@bell.net.

A fee of \$25.00 per person or \$30.00 per couple, which includes workbook, and a fee of \$10.00 for repeat participants will be collected during registration at the first session.

Men's Conference - Band of Christian Brothers

Saturday February 18, 2017,

with Fr. Larry Richards, and Archbishop Christian Lépine of Montreal

The theme is "Step Up". The day will strengthen and challenge men to become the man God created them to be. Mass, Adoration and Confession will take place.

Location: Canada Christian College, 50 Gervais Drive, Toronto (Don Mills & Eglinton)

Date: Saturday February 18, 2017

Schedule: 9:00AM – 4:30PM (Detailed schedule [click here](#))

Parking is FREE on site (first come first served). Lunch is available at venue for \$6.

Contact for tickets or more information:

<https://www.serviamministries.com/events/step-up/>, info@ServiamMinistries.com or 1-888-522-2070.

The expositions and teachings on 'THEOLOGY OF THE BODY, the most prized blessing of the Millennium' – Mar Jose Kalluvelil

TORONTO: The Theology of the Body has evolved 'the most prized possession of the Millennium', were the words of Mar Jose Kalluvelil, Bishop of the Syro-Malabar Apostolic Exarchate, Canada while addressing the inaugural session of the two-day seminar on Theology of the Body for life for teachers, parents and youth held at Michael Power St Joseph's High School, Toronto. He added that the Seminar would immensely benefit the budding young generation who are faced with very many questions on faith, morals, body, sex and sexuality, for which they struggle to find the right dispositions.

How could we help the upcoming generation in their quest to find answers as to ethical living and what constitutes moral standards?, how could we acquaint them of the challenges the Christian World is facing today?, how do

we set right this distorted and erroneous image of our body and sexuality? were some of the topics that were picked up for open discussion, learning and practical discourse at this seminar. It was led by Mr. Babu John, the founder of "Theology of the Body for life" mission and a world-renowned resource on the subject.

To read the rest of the article [click here](#)

TOB Tuesday: Theology of the Body, Part 1

By Matthew Coffin

"In his Theology of the Body, Saint John Paul II seeks to establish an adequate anthropology in which the human person, in both his spiritual and physical dimensions, reveals truths about God. George Weigel has called it, "one of the boldest reconfigurations of Catholic theology in centuries." Part 1 examines the philosophical developments that preceded it. Major schools of thought have been greatly oversimplified in order to show how St. John Paul II's contribution is necessary, transformative, and faithful.

Augustinianism

Prior to the thirteenth century, the dominant school of thought in Catholic theology was that of St. Augustine. Early in the fifth century, Augustine refuted the heresy of Pelagianism. Pelagius taught that Adam's original sin did not taint human nature. For that reason, Christ's sacrifice on the cross was neither necessary nor redemptive. A neo-Platonist, Augustine uses the philosophy of Plato, together with the deposit of faith, to oppose Pelagianism and create a new way of looking at everything.

The resulting synthesis, Augustinianism, is objective. It acknowledges truth, including moral truth, as outside of us, not a matter of personal opinion, therefore, universal, not particular to individuals, cultures, or circumstances. According to Augustine, we can know truth through Revelation, right reason, and the Church.

Augustine's theology is also deductive. Deductive reasoning begins with a general idea and ends with a specific one. Father Richard Hogan describes this approach (later used by scholastics, especially Thomas Aquinas):

One started with a "given" which was accepted, e.g., God is a pure spirit, and added what was called the minor term, e.g., a pure spirit does not have a body... (then) drew a conclusion, e.g., God does not have a body.

Finally, Augustinian theology is principled. Principles flow from objective truth and deductive reasoning. The opposite of principled is experimental.

Experimental knowledge comes from personal experience..."

To read the full article [click here](#)

Immaculate Conception and Theology of the Body

Volumes could be written about the connection between this feast and the "great mystery" unfolded in John Paul II's Theology of the Body (TOB). For starters, it's no mere coincidence that John Paul II began writing his TOB on this marvelous feast day — the handwritten date on page one of his original manuscript says December 8, 1974. And above that he wrote this dedication: *Tota Pulchra es Maria* — "You are all beautiful, Mary" — a clear adaptation of the bridegroom's words in the Song of Songs, "You are all beautiful, my love, there is no blemish in you" (Song 4:7). It's a long held tradition of the Church to recognize Mary as the "unblemished" bride spoken of in the Song of Songs. As the perfect model of the Church, Mary represents the mystical bride for whom Christ "gave himself up ... that he might sanctify her" that she might be "without spot or wrinkle ... holy and without blemish" (Eph 5:25-27).

Of course, it may seem odd to speak of Mary in some way representing Christ's "bride." Bishop Fulton Sheen explained it this way: "Now we've always thought, and rightly so, of Christ the Son on the cross and the mother beneath him. But that's not the complete picture. That's not the deep understanding. Who is our Lord on the cross? He's the new Adam. Where's the new Eve? At the foot of the cross. ... And so the bridegroom looks down at the bride. He looks at his beloved. Christ looks at his Church. There is here the birth of the Church" (Through the Year with Bishop Fulton Sheen, Ignatius Press 2003).

To read more [click here](#)

New Pro-Life Programs Launched for Catholic High School Students

Two new pro-life educational programs were recently launched geared towards helping Catholic high school students understand Church teaching on the dignity of human life and the need to be actively involved in defending life.

The Catholic pro-life organization American Life League [released](#) a new program entitled "Who Was the Real Margaret Sanger?: A Look at the Woman Who Made Birth Control Popular in America." And Students for Life of America (SFL) [teamed up](#) with Healing the Culture to bring their "Philosophical Foundations" resource specifically to Catholic high schools through SFL's new "Faith Foundations" program. These new programs are among a growing number of pro-life resources developed for Catholic high school students. The Cardinal Newman Society does not endorse specific curricula or educational

programs and published this report for informational purposes only.

To read more [click here](#)

Recommended Reading

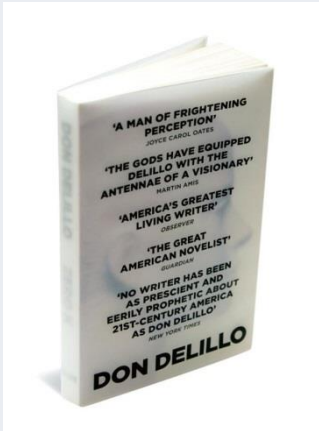
Zero K

As with earlier works, the novelist asks if there is really anything worth living for, given the state of the world

At the end of Stanley Kubrick's 2001: A Space Odyssey, astronaut Dave Bowman is reborn as a star child. As man has evolved over the centuries, Kubrick suggests, attaining more advanced states of being, this is the highest, closest to God. It's a haunting image: a luminescent foetus in a glowing spherical sac, floating above the earth. Like an angel. A "superman". In Don DeLillo's *Zero K*, there is a similar vision of sublimity. A woman suspended in a casing, a body "lit from within". "It was a beautiful sight. It was the human body as a model of creation." And in a sense, the woman is also waiting to be reborn sometime in the unknowable future. In perfect, untainted, evolved form.

DeLillo's novel centres around the theology of the body. Its corporeal form—in a way, this is his most guttural book, the most raw one, because we are inundated with bodily images, from the real to the unreal (the white, featureless mannequins littering its pages)—and its spiritualities relating to time and humanity.

The long first section of the book is set in a certain remote nowhere. A barren landscape, which the narrator, Jeffrey Lockhart, fails to geographically contextualize. He has travelled a "marathon journey" by aeroplane, and been driven into seemingly unmapped territory to arrive at a compound of low geometric structures, bleached as the landscape. He describes them as "buildings in hiding, agoraphobically sealed", blind buildings, "designed to fold into themselves...when the movie reaches the point of digital collapse". It's



through this air of strangeness, and distance, that we enter the novel. As though narrator, and reader, are trapped in a movie set, everything imbued by the unreal.

What a good idea!

Donate Catholic Books to Catholic School Libraries

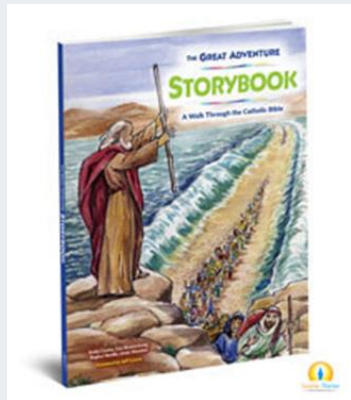
The Great Adventure Storybook

by Emily Cavins, Lisa Bromschwig, Regina Neville, Linda Wandrei

The Great Adventure Storybook helps students, children, and families read through the Bible together using the same color-coding and chronological approach as the adult Great Adventure Bible Timeline. This beautifully illustrated resource introduces God's love story to children while helping them to understand how the Catholic Church is the body of Christ on Earth – and shows them what part they play in God's plan. Build a foundation of faith with your family today!

- The Great Adventure Storybook:
- Connects the Bible with the Catholic faith beginning in Genesis and ending in Revelation.
- Guides the reading through selected Bible verses with Bible Reading Checklists.
- Ties in important elements of the Catholic faith with helpful icons.

For more information [Click here](#)



St. Joseph's Health Centre 30 The Queensway (Education Centre A, #1B 105A), Toronto - Initial presentation: 1st Tuesday, each month at 8 p.m.

St. Patrick Church 921 Flagship Dr., Mississauga - Initial presentation: 2nd Thursday, each month at 8 p.m.

St. Mary of the People Church 570 Marion Ave., Oshawa - Initial presentation: 2nd Tuesday, each month at 8

Understanding fertility is key to good marriage

By Agnieszka Krawczynski, Canadian Catholic News

SURREY, B.C. – For Dominic and Lisa Price natural family planning is exactly that –natural.

Few couples are as enthusiastic about using NFP as the Trinidadian couple, who moved to Canada in 2012. They have appeared on TV and taught hundreds of couples how to use the Billings Method to achieve or avoid pregnancy.

"If you look at the cycle and you look at God's design, He created women with naturally occurring cycles of fertility and infertility," Lisa said.

She calls these "naturally occurring phases" that women are generally not taught to watch for.

"Contraception has been promoted as a fix-all. When you get into the complications of using it, the side effects of using it, there's a heavy price you pay," she said.

p.m.

Natural Family Planning is not only a valuable tool for married couples, but all women can use it to monitor their health.

Lisa believes Billings, one of three major methods of NFP, is better for women's health and for a marriage relationship than contraception.

"There are no drugs. There are no devices" or side effects, Lisa said. "You already have something that works."

To read the full article [click here](#).

Or contact Natural Family Planning Association at toronto.naturalfamilyplanning.ca



*Natural Family
Planning Association*

toronto.naturalfamilyplanning.ca

The teachers of the Natural Family Planning Association provide this valuable education at no charge, as described in our mission statement:

The mission of the Natural Family Planning Association is to teach the Billings Ovulation Method of family planning while promoting an understanding and appreciation of fertility that reflects Catholic teachings as outlined in *Humanae Vitae*. We serve the entire community regardless of religious background: single women, married and engaged couples, adolescents as well as those who provide teaching and counseling to them.

Visit our website for news, and resources for:

- Teachers
- Parents
- Teens
- Articles
- Books
- Websites
- And more

God, Sex and the Meaning of Life Ministry

Our Ministry is approved by The Archdiocese of Toronto and has presented over thirty Workshops on Saint Pope John Paul II's Theology of the Body in Parishes in the Toronto Archdiocese. As well, in the fall of 2009, we organized and held a Theology of the Body Conference in Toronto. This conference was attended by over 1000 people. At the same time, we facilitated a Luncheon meeting on this same topic for Priests and Seminarians with over 120 in attendance. We have held over twenty Theology of the Body for Teens workshops and have been invited into four high schools to provide a session

on the Theology of the Body in the Classroom. We have also held workshops for Parents.

Please keep GSML Ministry in your prayers

Contact information: gsmlministry@gmail.com

www.godsexandthmeaningoflife.com/

God, Sex and the Meaning of Life Ministry has Toronto Archdiocesan approval

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