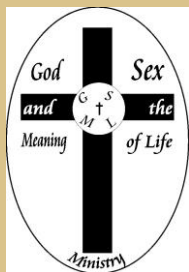


If you received this twice, please accept our apologies. If the Newsletter does not appear as it should please go to our Website at <http://www.godsexandthemeaningoflife.com/Newsletters.html> - click on Volume 38 - to view the document. If you would prefer to receive this email as a PDF attachment please let us know.



God, Sex and the Meaning of Life

JUNE 2014

VOLUME 38

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 - 11:30) at St. Bernadette's Parish Hall, 21 Bayly St. Ajax

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We are now booking into the fall of 2014.

GSML News

Apologetics

We are facilitating the Apologetics at St. Bernadette's Parish in Ajax. Sessions are held the fourth Saturday of the month after the 9 a.m. Mass – start 10:00 a.m. **No Sessions in July or August.**

Sept. 27 **How to Win an Argument Without Losing a Soul.**

The next Apologetics after the summer, will be held in Sept. and the topic will be *How to Win an Argument Without Losing a Soul*. This will be a DVD presentation with Matt Fradd. Discussion will follow. This is a perfect topic for Apologetics as it helps guide Catholics in how to defend the Faith.

For more information [Click Here](#)

Book a Theology of the Body for Teens Workshop for the fall

Teachers: We are willing to come into your classroom and help facilitate the Theology of the Body for Teens program. This program normally runs 12 weeks, but we can adapt it to a shorter schedule. Also, there are plenty of opportunities for essays, projects or other necessary student involvement.

It will also provide a valuable experience with the ToB material to see how easily it can be incorporated in the curriculum without a lot of study on your part.

We are very knowledgeable on the ToB for Teens as we have held over 20 Workshops and have been invited into 4 High Schools.

There has been terrific feedback from the Students

Understand the Entire Bible

The Bible Timeline: The Story of Salvation

Imagine how our parish would change if all of us had a profound encounter with God in Scripture. The Bible is at the heart of everything we do and believe as Catholics. A good Bible study has a way renewing parish life, and enriching the faith of parishioners.

The Bible Timeline is a fascinating study that takes you on a journey through the entire Bible. You will go deep into each period of salvation history and

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

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

Contact:

gsmlministry@gmail.com

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

Contact: Rose and Pat
Heron at
roseheron@gmail.com
or 905-683-9055

The word **apologetics** comes from the Greek word *apologia* found in **1 Peter 3:15** and means "defense." The Bible says that we're to always be ready (thus the name of this ministry) to give a "defense" (an *apologia*) to people who ask us about the hope we have as Christians.

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

discover the amazing story woven throughout all of Scripture. Using a unique color-coded system, you will learn the major people, places, and events of the Bible and see how together they form the foundation of our faith.

Join us for *The Bible Timeline* at **St. Bernadette** at 21 Bayly St. E **Ajax** beginning Tuesday Sept 16 from 7pm to 9 pm or Wednesday Sept. 17 from 9:30 am to 11:30 am and continuing **24** weeks. For more information or to register for the study, gsmlministry@gmail.com

Theology of the Body Study Group

The Theology of the Body Study Group will start again on Sept. 8th

Theology of the Body touches all aspects of our Catholic faith and is deeply rooted in the Bible. It is part of the New Evangelization. Drop in and see what it is all about.

ToB Study Group meets every Monday morning at 9:30 am at St. Bernadette at 21 Bayly St. E Ajax in the hall.

Contact us at gsmlministry@gmail.com

Everyone welcome. Also bring your Catholic Faith questions as we delve into many topics.

Theology of the Body for Grades 6,7 & 8

We will be starting the program again in October, so if your grade 6th, 7th or 8th missed out, this will be a perfect opportunity to be part of it.

If you are interested in this program, please contact us at gsmlministry@gmail.com

Theology of the Body and Marriage Preparation

Our Facilitators are ready to speak about Theology of the Body at Marriage Preparation programs.

As Pope Benedict XVI said, "The Theology of the Body is a way to find true love."

Let's make use of this wonderful tool to help strengthen marriages.

Contact us to arrange this talk at your parish Marriage Preparation Course.

Contact Rose Heron at: roseheron@gmail.com or 905-683-9055



To better understand JPII's writings we have decided to include summaries of the ToB.

To read the Audience [click here](#)

"Formed in the image of God, also inasmuch as they form a true communion of persons, the first man and the first woman must constitute the beginning and the model of that communion for all men and women, who, in any period, are united so intimately as to be one flesh." – JP II

Man Becomes The Image Of God By Communion Of Persons

Pope John Paul II

Summary of Audience Ten - by Tom Kennedy

We are trying to understand the meaning of the unity and indissolubility of marriage by looking at the words of Christ when he referred to what it meant "in the beginning" in Genesis.

To understand original unity, we have to look at man in his entirety - in the riches of creation on which The Theology of The Body is based. This study which started out with man being "alone" must also include the communion of persons.

We recall in Genesis that man said "bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh...", and because of this we understand that "man's" understanding of himself encompassed both the masculine and feminine as though there were two unions of the Divine and humanity, and both unions experienced the same supernatural solitude. In effect, there are two ways of being a body as well as a "man", both of which completed each other - two levels of existence which depend on each other and complete each other, as well as two ways of being aware of the meaning of the body.

Genesis 2:23 shows that femininity discovers its meaning in the presence of masculinity, while masculinity discovers itself and is made worthy through femininity. The sexual act, which is an essential part of the person and not just a characteristic, shows us that man is a unique, never to be repeated, creation, which is established by the body as "he" or "she". The presence of masculinity and femininity alongside each other, and together with each other, shows the richness of man throughout history as well as salvation history.

Although the "unity" in Genesis is expressed in the marital act, the bible tells us that sex, masculinity and femininity are basic characteristics of man both male and female which allows them to become one flesh, and to submit their humanity to the blessing of fertility. Yet, this whole process doesn't stop at the surface of our sexuality. We have to examine the body and sex in the full understanding of man and the "communion of persons". We have to see it in light of the revelation of the body from the beginning.

"A man cleaves to his wife" and "they become one flesh" remind us that when man and woman join together in the conjugal act as "one flesh", they are bound together in the mystery of creation. This means reliving the original value of man which emerges from the mystery of solitude before God. Becoming "one flesh" is a bond created by God through which we discover our own humanity in original unity and the duality of mutual attraction.

Sex is not just a basic human instinct. The mutual expression of sex surpasses the original solitude of the body, and recognizes the body of the second person (the second "self") as one's own.

All of this is tied together with choice. Genesis tells us men and women were created for unity, but it also indicates that through the unity they become one flesh, and right from the beginning it was a union of choice. A man "leaves his father and mother and cleaves to his wife" which shows that a man, by nature, belongs to his parents, but cleaves to his wife by choice, as does the woman.

As we are created in the image of God in so far as we form a true communion of persons, Christ appeals to the text in Genesis, and shows us that this is the model for the communion of persons, and that it not only applies in the beginning, but for all time.

It is through the two-fold solitude that we see man's self-determination, in other words the ability to choose, which is based on his self-consciousness. Through being a body, and that body being also male or female, mankind unites so closely as to become one flesh, and through that unity man becomes aware of the meaning of the body through mutual self-giving of the persons. Genesis reveals that each union of man and woman shows us the original full meaning of the body, and, in a way, renews the mystery of creation. Woman was taken out of man, becomes wife, and through becoming a mother she becomes mother of the living. Procreation is rooted in creation, and reproduces its mystery.

Couples for Christ:

Gift of Life Conference

Session 1: Desire

Session 2: Design

Session 3: Destiny

Session 4: ...Special

Topics

Christopher West is Coming to Toronto

Let Me Love You

November 22, 2014

Canada Christian college

50 Gervais Drive, Toronto, Ontario M3C 1Z3

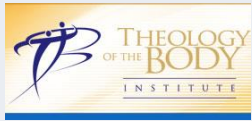
Ticket/person: **\$25.00** (+\$12 Workbook)

Mass at 8:30am to be celebrated by Rev. Fr. Ben Ebcas

For more information and ticket sales

please contact **Couples for Christ:**

905-209-7025 • cfcgolqta@gmail.com



www.tobinstitute.org

Theology of the Body Institute

August 17-22, 2014

Love & Responsibility Immersion Course
with Dr. Janet Smith
Quarryville, Pennsylvania

[Click Here](#) to register online

To see a video of testimonies [click here](#)

"The Theology of the Body Institute offers a unique environment for clergy, religious, and lay faithful to experience the gift Blessed John Paul II left the Church through his Theology of the Body. Watch the video below for a more in-depth representation of the classes offered by the Theology of the Body Institute."

We went to the last Congress and found it very informative. We're going again this year and are really looking forward to it.

Nominate - The Congress will seek to recognize outstanding accomplishments in promoting, living and understanding the Theology of the Body. Excellence demonstrated in Theology of the Body through the various fields of arts, academia, social justice, diocesan outreach, parish outreach, publishing, catechesis, activism, evangelization will be considered.

2014 International Theology of the Body Congress

The 2014 International Theology of the Body Congress will once again be the most expansive gathering of experts and popularists in the history of this extraordinary teaching. Held in **Philadelphia July 9 – 11, 2014** and hosted by the Theology of the Body Institute, the world's leading experts and members of the Church hierarchy will gather to teach and network with educators, activists and devotees to apply this teaching to many facets of the Catholic Faith and everyday life.

To find out more or to register [click here](#)

Speakers include:

Janet E. Smith
Damon Owens
Christopher West
Dr. Peter Colosi
Brian Butler
Rose Sweet
Bill Donaghy
Andrew Comisley
Dr. Deborah Savage
Emily Simpson
Mother Olga of the Sacred Heart

*On the Internet from Sr.
Helena Burns Blog,
Hell Burns
hellburns.blogspot.ca*

Theology Of The Body: For Teens Part 2

To visit the site [click here](#)

Men are called to be warriors, defenders, lovers (not players), priest-father. (4 archetypes: men are simpler)

4 Original Archetypes of Man:

1. King
2. Warrior
3. Lover
4. Priest-Father

Women are:

(12 original mysteries of women: women are more complex)

1. God's Masterpiece
2. Model of the Human Race
3. Garden Enclosed
4. Fountain Sealed
5. Master of her own mystery
6. Genius (in her receptivity)
7. Creator of Culture
8. The First Evangelist
9. Icon of the Church
10. Icon of Heaven
11. Daughter, Sister, Bride, Mother
12. Sum total of all beauty

In short, the one who is loved.

You need to register –
to find out more [click
here](#)

There are over 25
lectures listed.

The Newman Connection

Online courses on the Theology of the Body for example

The Rich Gift Of Love: An Insight into JP II's Theology of the Body. To whom will I entrust myself? How will I know if another person is worthy of my love? Worthy of my trust? How will I know if I am worthy of another's love and trust?

This course explores John Paul II's understanding of love as self-gift, loving through our bodies and doing it in the context of living for our families, our society and our culture.

Lecture by Sister Jane Dominic Laurel, O.P. – Aquinas College

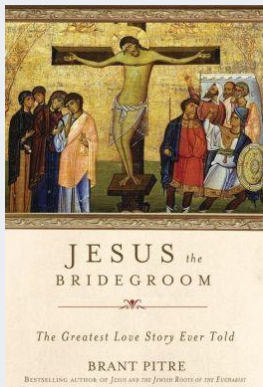
Dominican Sisters of St. Cecilia

Ignitum Today
The Social Network of
the New Evangelization
Generation.

A Woman's Guide to Understanding Men: Part I

Ladies, this series is for you. I have no doubt in my mind that there is a guy in your life that has driven you crazy at one point or another. Let's face it: it's inevitable. It could be a father, brother, uncle, boyfriend, or husband. It doesn't matter. I'd be willing to bet in a lot of cases, it's all of the above. I've decided to wade into the murky, piranha filled waters of writing about anything to do with gender, and try to explain the basics of how your guy is. Before I go any further, I want you to know that I am not an expert, nor do I consider myself to be one. This is a topic that has always interested me, and I base what I write on what I have picked up over the years reading John Eldredge, listening to the talks given by Catholic psychotherapist Dr. Phil Mango, research, and my own experiences of being a husband for ten years and a father of four children. I also know that all men are different. What I say may not entirely apply to everybody, so consider this speaking "in general."

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



"In the pages of *Jesus the Bridegroom*, dozens of familiar passages in the Bible—the Exodus, the Song of Songs, the

Recommended Reading

Jesus the Bridegroom: The Greatest Love Story Ever Told

by Brant Pitre

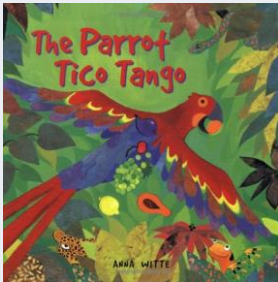
"In *Jesus the Bridegroom*, Brant Pitre once again taps into the wells of Jewish Scripture and tradition, and unlocks the secrets of what is arguably the most well-known symbol of the Christian faith: the cross of Christ. In this thrilling exploration, Pitre shows how the suffering and death of Jesus was far more than a tragic Roman execution. Instead, the Passion of Christ was the fulfillment of ancient Jewish prophecies of a wedding, when the God of the universe would wed himself to humankind in an everlasting nuptial covenant.

Wedding at Cana, the Woman at the Well, the Last Supper, the Crucifixion, and even the Second Coming at the End of Time—are suddenly transformed before our eyes. Indeed, when seen in the light of Jewish Scripture and tradition, the life of Christ is nothing less than the greatest love story ever told.”

To be sure, most Christians are familiar with the apostle Paul’s teaching that Christ is the ‘Bridegroom’ and the Church is the ‘Bride’. But what does this really mean? And what would ever possess Paul to compare the death of Christ to the love of a husband for his wife? If you would have been at the Crucifixion, with Jesus hanging there dying, is that how you would have described it? How could a first-century Jew like Paul, who knew how brutal Roman crucifixions were, have ever compared the execution of Jesus to a wedding? And why does he refer to this as the “great mystery” (Ephesians 5:32)?

As Pitre shows, the key to unlocking this mystery can be found by going back to Jewish Scripture and tradition and seeing the entire history of salvation, from Mount Sinai to Mount Calvary, as a divine love story between Creator and creature, between God and Israel, between Christ and his bride—a story that comes to its climax on the wood of a Roman cross.”

What a good idea!



Donate Books to Catholic School Libraries

The Parrot Tico Tango

by Anna Witte

Parrot Tico Tango is a mischievous parrot who always wants what others have, so he can't resist stealing the delicious looking fruit of his rainforest friends. But Tico Tango learns his lesson when greed finally gets the better of him and he takes on more than he can carry. His companions forgive him but only on the condition that he dance the tango for them!

Peter's Points to Ponder

In Christ's "Sermon on the Mount" we hear a very strong language in Matthew 5: 27-30 about Lust; "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery.' But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart." (Matthew 5: 27-28).

In this context St. Matthew's writings would appear to be written for men; however, the sinful act of Lust is not limited to males, though often times more noticeable with males. This fact does not in any way limit the importance of this text to both sexes, or the devastating impact that lust can have on either sex.

(See TOB #25, April 25, 1980).

In his General Audience of November 5, 1980 (TOB #47), the Holy Father St. Pope John Paul II examines the words of Christ as an accusation of the human heart, or an invitation for something greater; in this examination the Holy Father looks at the natural attraction of the sexes. This attraction is what allows for the continuation of the human species, but it's so much more than that. The attraction of the sexes must be oriented toward the good of the other, and not just the gratification for one's self. Erotic love (mutual attraction of the sexes) and what is ethical are not opposed to each other, rather they come together when lived in a mutual self-giving of one to the other in marriage. The words of Christ are not a condemnation of sex, or marriage; rather they truly are an invitation to transform one's heart to the good. In a society that seems obsessed with instant gratification, this is very counter cultural; however, if we truly desire the best for ourselves, and those around us we must look to protect against lust.

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.

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

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



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.



Catholic Insight

Consider subscribing to Catholic Insight, the magazine for Canadians who would like to deepen their knowledge of the Faith and to discover the authentic teachings of the Catholic Church.

To view articles or subscribe go to www.catholicinsight.com

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

To unsubscribe to this newsletter, reply back with this email to gsmlministry@gmail.com with unsubscribe in the body of your email.