

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 30 - 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

MAR 2013

VOLUME 30

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.

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Book a Theology of the Body for Teens Worskhop for the Year of Faith



Pope Benedict XVI proclaimed the Year of Faith, which will began on October 11, 2012, and will continue through November 24, 2013..

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

Contact:

gsmlministry@gmail.com

GSML News

Bazaar / Garage Sale

GSML Ministry is holding a Bazaar / Garage Sale to raise funds to promote the spread of the Theology of the Body. Please support this worthy endeavour.

Date: Saturday April 20

Time: 9:30 am to 2:30 pm

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

Featuring:

**Grandma Cupcakes and Crafts table
Bake table
Jewellery
White Elephant Table
Refreshments
prizes
and other wonderful items.**

If you have previously loved, clean, quality items that you no longer use or want, we would appreciate them for our White Elephant area. No clothing or furniture please.

Items and baked goods can be dropped off on Friday April 19 between 5 - 9 pm. Hope to see you there.



Theology of the Body Study Group

Every Monday morning at St. Bernadette's Parish Hall, 21 Bayly St. E, Ajax from 9:30 am to 11:30 am. We are studying Katrina Zeno's book, *The Body Reveals God*.

We are training several volunteers at the ongoing *Theology for the Body Teens* session. These interested people will take the program back to their own parishes.

Consider holding a *Theology of the Body for Teens* at your parish to learn how to facilitate it.

Everyone welcome. Bring your questions on Catholic Faith.

Theology of the Body for Teens

At present we are facilitating a Theology of the Body for Teens Workshop once a month (for 12 months) at a parish in Mississauga.

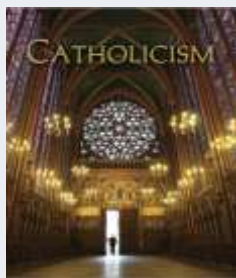
Theology of the Body for Grades 6,7 & 8

At present we are facilitating this wonderful program at St. Bernadette's Parish in Ajax, once a month.

March 2, 2013	Who Am I? Discovering My True Identity
April 6, 2013	Our Story: God's Plan, Human Sin, Jesus' Love
May 4, 2013	Me, Myself, and I: Body and Soul
June 1, 2013	How Should I Act?

Other Activities

Helping the First Communion and Confirmation students make virtue beads



Session Four - Mar. 23

Our Tainted Nature's Solitary Boast - Mary, The Mother Of God

Catholicism

By Fr. Robert Barron
DVD series with discussion

DATES:	Every 4th Saturday next two Mar. 23 & Apr. 27, 2013
TIME:	10:00 am to 11:30 am (doors open at 9:30)
LOCATION:	St. Bernadette's Parish Hall, 21 Bayly St. E, Ajax
COST:	Free (please register)
REGISTRATION:	stbreg@gmail.com

You do not have to attend all sessions to enjoy this series

Catholicism Dates

March 23, 2013; April 27, 2013; May 25, 2013; June 22, 2013; Sept. 28, 2013; Oct. 26, 2013; and Nov. 23, 2013

Session Five - April 27

The Indispensable Men - Peter, Paul And The Missionary Adventure

March 23 - OUR TAINTED NATURE'S SOLITARY BOAST - MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD

In this episode, Father Barron masterfully correlates the Catholic Faith's testimony to the revelation of God in Christ with the vivid practices of reverence offered to his Mother. Mary is explained as an on-going presence, an actor in the life of the Church.

Father Barron journeys to the humble remains of Mary's house in Nazareth, to the ruins of the ancient city of Ephesus and to the great Marian shrines of Lourdes and Guadalupe to explain the Church's teachings about Mary as the Mother of God, the Immaculate Conception and the dogma of the Assumption.

April 27 - THE INDISPENSABLE MEN - PETER, PAUL AND THE MISSIONARY ADVENTURE

Father Barron calls Peter and Paul two indispensable men, the ones without whom the church never would have emerged and survived. In telling each man's story, Father Barron shows how the Holy Spirit worked through all the apostles and disciples to build the Church.

Following the trail of these apostles as they took the Gospel to the ends of the earth, Father Barron presents the foundations of the apostolic faith, particularly the revelation of Christ's resurrection from the dead.

For more information on the series go to: www.catholicismseries.com

To better understand JP II writings we have decided to include summaries of the ToB.

On 12 September 1979, in the second of his General Audiences on the Theology of the Body, the Holy Father expounded the words of Christ, "In the beginning the Creator made them male and female." continued...

To read the Audience [click here](#)

BIBLICAL ACCOUNT OF CREATION ANALYSED

Pope John Paul II

Summary of the second Audience by Tom Kennedy

John Paul II refers briefly to the discussion between Christ and the Pharisees mentioned in his first talk, where Christ directs us back to "the beginning" when reflecting on marriage. The Pope tells us that the two creation accounts in Genesis have to be considered in context with Christ's words "Have you not read that the Creator from the beginning made them male and female...?",

The first, which was written after the second, tells us the seven day cycle of creation in a theological manner, which stresses man's relationship with God (created in His image), whereas the second is more of a generalized abstract account, which is more in line with Christ's words, teaching us about original innocence, man's happiness and man's fall. Although the second account gives God human attributes - he breathed life into them, he formed them - we must remember God is not in our image, we are made in his, and that God did not literally breathe, it is merely a human way of expressing the concept of giving life. In this narrative, we are created male and female. We are created together with

the visible world, but we are different. We are told we are not like the other visible creatures, but that we are in God's image, and we are in fact given dominion over the rest of creation.

Even though man is a physical being, the first account, which is theological, tells us that only man cannot be understood in terms of the world alone because "God created man in His image" (note the bible only specifies man) "male and female he created them." This creation story is free of any conclusions based merely on opinions or feelings, but on concrete reality. This gives us greater insight into the reasons for our existence. As this creation story also informs us of God's perspective of procreation, "Be fruitful and multiply, fill the earth."

To understand the spiritual aspect of man, we must first understand the value, the good, of man. After the creation of man "God saw everything that he had made, and behold it was very good."

To be held in Merciful Redeemer Parish Hall
2775 Erin Centre Blvd.,
Mississauga, ON L5M
5W2

The Theology of the Body ...

- addresses "What does it mean to be human?" and "How can I live my life in a way that brings happiness and fulfillment?"
- is given to us by Blessed Pope John Paul II and setting 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 human love, life, marriage, and family.
- is for everyone: singles, engaged couples, married couples, and youth 18+.
- will be presented over 5 consecutive Tuesdays beginning Tuesday, April 9th @ 7:30pm to 9:30pm in Merciful Redeemer Parish Hall 2775 Erin Centre Blvd., Mississauga, ON L5M 5W2.

For information and/or registration contact Anthony Mendes 416-302-4253, or Melvin Marques marquem@rogers.com or Tod Markelj TOB@bell.net.

A fee of \$20.00 per person or \$25.00 per couple, which includes workbook, and a fee of \$5.00 for repeat participants will be collected at the first session.

Registration required by April 1st, 2013.

Get inspired * Make new friends * Celebrate the Year of Faith * Grow spiritually * Gain strength

Learn about true femininity * Become an advocate * Stand up for your beliefs

Understand the true meaning of marriage * Learn the truth about the pill * Refresh your spirit

Dynamic Women of Faith

Saturday March 23, 2013

Sheraton Airport Hotel & Conference Centre
801 Dixon Road, Toronto, Ontario

Speakers:

Fr. Peter Giopatto, OMI
Damien Goddard
Dorothy Pilarski
Leticia Velasquez
Sarah Gould & Tricia Everaert
Tanzél Picard The Pill

Rekindle your Faith during the Year of Faith
Stand for Freedom. Stand for Faith
Raising Catholic Kids
Parenting a Special Needs Child
The Feminine Gift
Our Daughters, Ourselves

For more information visit www.dynamicwomenfaith.com or call 905 -279 -7702

Please consider sharing this wonderful and energizing video, with people on your email distribution list. CWL etc, friends, family
https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=UQ9q9AvpY7g

Peter Kreeft is coming to Toronto

For information on Peter Kreeft [Click here](#)

FYI - Catholic Chapter House



Will be bringing Peter Kreeft to Toronto on **Saturday June 8, 2013.**

Peter Kreeft, Ph.D., is a professor of philosophy at Boston College and at the King's College (Empire State Building), in New York City. He is a regular contributor to several Christian publications, is in wide demand as a speaker at conferences, and is the author of over 67 books.

Catholic Chapter House seeks to serve Catholics who wish to gain a deeper understanding of their faith, live their lives according to the teachings of the Catholic Church and share their faith with others by making Catholic publications, resources and faith sharing more accessible both online and offline.



If you have an opportunity to attend this Course you should. It is amazing.

Theology of the Body Institute

June 9-14, 2013

Theology of the Body I: Head & Heart Immersion Course
with Bill Donaghy
Quarryville, Pennsylvania

For more information [click here](#)

The Body Speaks

By Kathryn Hermes, FSP

"The Theology of the Body is a very positive view of humanity: we are called to *be* Gift. It's not really, in the end, about what we do. We are Gift and this gift includes fertility. In the theology of the body's presentation of God's language of love impressed on the human body, I discover that I am more than just my body, that my fertility is more than just something to be managed. It shows me how—male and female—we together reveal the very mystery of God who is love. And that makes me feel good about myself. It means the human body also has a language: love.

This new approach, which is actually as old as creation, makes me want to embrace my femininity, *all* of it. It makes me feel that I'm beautiful, even though I'd never win a beauty contest. It reminds me that I'm worthy of respect and that sex is holy."

To read more [Click here](#) and follow the links on the left hand side.

Keynote presenter:

Fr. Alan Boisclair

NFP: Dr. Maria Wolfs

Pornography as an

Obstacle: Msgr.

Edward Arsenault

Pro-Life Symposium for Clergy

The Body, Sexuality, and Marriage: "Supporting Lasting Marriages"

Ottawa - April 16-17, 2013

There is a need for supporters to sponsor a priest or deacon to attend. For more information contact Priests For Life at 1.888.300.2007 or email: mail@priestsforlifecanada.com

Also see: www.priestsforlifecanada.com

From FaceBook:

[Roman Catholic](#)

[Archdiocese of Toronto](#)

From FaceBook

Jan 27 reading - 1 Cor. 12:12-30

Our culture is filled with mixed messages about the body: scantily clad on billboards, offensive when breastfeeding in public; proclaiming sex as good, permitting and even celebrating prostitution. This week's second reading uses the metaphor of the body to describe God's people and the value of each person. The reading also celebrates the sanctity of the body and the need to give it proper reverence. When Jesus reads the prophecy in the synagogue and declares it fulfilled in their hearing, it is his body that makes his proclamation so profound. Here, in this man, in his very being, in his body and our presence, God is acting. The same is true for us. That is why we must set captives free, feed the hungry, clothe the naked, respect and love the one with whom we have sex, and love and protect both the mother and the baby during pregnancy.

Source: www.cccb.ca

"When we put feeling at the top of our priority list we become selfish."

Theology of the Body Talk

Mar.16 - Theology of the Body - Charles and Christine

<http://www.salesiansisterscanada.com/Duc-in-Altum--Toronto.html>

E-mail: ducinaltum.toronto@gmail.com

Contact: Sr. Cora, FMA (289)-597-2208/ C: (416) 597-2208



Pope John Paul II, *Humanae Vitae*, and the Theology of the Body

February 3, 2012 By [Charles W. Norris](#)

***Humanae Vitae*, correctly understood and followed, could change the world.**

In September 2010, Fr. Matthew Habiger, OSB, Associate Director of Natural Family Planning (NFP) Outreach visited and made a presentation to adults and teenagers here in Camas, Washington. Fr. Habiger recommended that I procure a copy of Michael J. Waldstein's book on the theology of the body, entitled; *Man and Woman He Created Them*, (Paulist Press). I was certainly impressed with the beauty of his translation, but it was not until reading the last section pertaining to John Paul II's discussion and analysis of *Humanae Vitae* that I concluded that the Pope saved till last the crowning gem of his

weekly catecheses.,, to read more [click here](#)

Charles W. Norris, M.D. is a retired Obstetrician/Gynecologist and a graduate of the Georgetown University School of Medicine, class of 1957. He can be reached at chazno@comcast.net.



"Man is unique and unrepeatable above all because of his heart, which decides his being from within."
(TOB Dec.2, 1980)
p. 177

From MaterCare International (Canada)

Dear Friends,

Dorothy Day once called nursing the highest possible service a woman could offer as she administered to the sick and dying in New York. All over the world, it is men and women of the medical field who drive the mission of maternal health advocacy.

On Wednesday, Nigeria's Minister of Health disclosed that "the lifetime risk of dying from pregnancy and child birth in Nigeria is 1 in 23". Continuing, he stated that these horrific rates are a direct result of the lack of skilled professionals.



To become a health care professional requires vocation, a vocation that MaterCare's Dr. Robert Walley explores in his film entitled *The Vocation of the Obstetrician*. **You can view the short 5 minute film here.** In it, he calls obstetrics the "most privileged of specialties".

Today, Dr. Walley still firmly believes in the ability of comprehensive obstetrics to save the lives of the many needlessly dying women and children across the globe and has developed the Project Isiolo maternity clinic in rural Kenya to deliver on this belief.

Does someone you know have a calling to be a health care professional in the developing world? Consider MaterCare International as a concrete way to fulfill that vocation. Lack of skilled attendants is a major contributor to the world's poor maternal, newborn and child health indices. If you or someone you know is a health care professional, contact us at info@matercare.org to find out how you can help.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Derwey
Social Media Director, [MaterCare International \(Canada\)](#)

"The human body includes right from the beginning...the capacity of expressing love, that love in which the person becomes a gift – and by means of this gift – fulfills the meaning of his being and existence." - From *(TOB Jan 16, 1980)* p.63

Theology of the Body vs 50 Shades of Grey

by [Judy Keane](#)

With fan-fiction origins, E.L. James book, *50 Shades of Grey*, has officially become the most widely sold book in Britain – ever. The book, the first in a trilogy, includes explicit scenes and heavy doses of bondage, dominance and sadism. Here in America, the originally self-published book still stands near the top of *The [New York Times Best Sellers List](#)* with international sales hitting more than 65 million in print and digital copies.

So far, it's been translated into 30 languages making its author, a British housewife and mother of two, a multi-millionaire overnight. With a fan-base of teenagers, college students, along with single and married women over 30 – the critically panned book series dubbed "Mommy Porn," has launched the way into a largely untapped market of female erotica readers. To read more [click here](#)

From the National Catholic Register

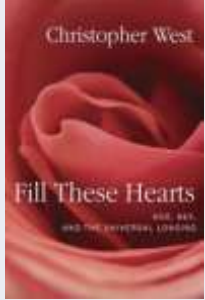
www.ncregister.com

5 (Secular) Reasons Not to Live Together Before Marriage

BY JENNIFER FULWILER

In secular circles, it was commonplace for couples to move in together as soon as their relationships got serious, often not getting married until years later. There wasn't even a stigma about it. Living together (the thinking went) had the advantage of saving money on rent, and gave couples a much-needed opportunity to see if they could happily live under the same roof before making a bigger commitment. In fact, for many people, it was out of respect for the institution of marriage that they chose to cohabit. "I never want to get divorced," one friend told me as she moved her belongings into her boyfriend's apartment, "so it's important to me to make sure we can really work together before going through with a wedding."

To read more [click here](#)



Recommended Reading

Fill These Hearts: God, Sex, and the Universal Longing

By Christopher West

Fill These Hearts is a book about desire. Not trivial wants or superficial cravings, but the most vital powers of body and soul, sexuality and spirituality, that haunt us and compel us on our search for something. Weaving life-altering lessons together from classical and contemporary art, pop music, movies, and the Christian mystical tradition, popular theologian Christopher West explores the ancient but largely forgotten idea that the restless, erotic yearnings we feel in both our bodies and our spirits reveal the cry of our hearts for God. Along the way, West blows the lid off the idea of Christianity as a repressive, anti-sex religion by demonstrating that Christ came to stretch and inflame our desire for love and union to the point of infinity. - from the book

What a good idea!



For Grades 7 & 8

Donate Catholic Books to Catholic School Libraries

Encounter: Experiencing God in the Everyday is a Catholic Bible study designed specifically for middle school kids. This captivating program guides students toward a powerful Encounter with God.

Not Just a Bible Study - A ***Life-Changing*** Experience

Encounter: Experiencing God in the Everyday is more than a Bible study program. It is a life-changing experience that speaks directly to the hearts and minds of middle school aged kids. Designed specifically for 6th to 8th grades, Encounter uses the color-coded Bible Timeline learning system to reveal the story of our faith and God's plan for our lives. As your students are drawn into this story they will come to a new and profound understanding of who God is. Most importantly they will see God not as a distant doctrinal concept, but as a loving Father who desires a meaningful and lasting encounter with them.

Peter's Points to Ponder

In light of Pope Benedict XVI's decision to retire, I wanted to reflect upon the pontificates of Bl. John Paul II, and Pope Benedict XVI. In these two pontificates, we see various aspects that may at first glimpse appear to be opposite, but seen in their full context provide a fuller picture of the

human life.

The most striking contrast between the two papacies is the way they ended. Bl. John Paul II died in office after many years of great public suffering; and Pope Benedict XVI decided to retire so that the world does not have to witness the suffering of his old age. In Bl. John Paul II we see the lesson that there is dignity in suffering, and it's a normal part of the human condition. With Pope Benedict XVI, his decision to retire teaches us that there is more to the world than power. The Holy Father could have decided to remain as Supreme Pontiff, and no one (short of God through death) had the ability to stop this decision. Yet, the Holy Father, in a humble act of love for the Church reminds us that humility is truly a virtue that can be practiced by everyone.

Instead of writing vast Papal documents, Pope Benedict looked to further explain, or enrich the writings of Bl. John Paul II. Throughout his pontificate, Bl. John Paul II spoke about marital love as an image of God's love (most evident in "Theology of the Body"). In his first encyclical letter, "God is Love", Pope Benedict XVI continued on the theme of love. In this encyclical, the Holy Father spent time reflecting on Eros and Agape, and reflected that the two different forms of love cannot be seen as separate. "Yet *eros* and *agape*—ascending love and descending love—can never be completely separated. The more the two, in their different aspects, find a proper unity in the one reality of love, the more the true nature of love in general is realized." (Deus Caritas Est, P. B. XVI)

Bl. John Paul II was a young, athletic, playwright, actor and philosopher who leveraged his acting abilities throughout his pontificate. His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI was a more academic, theologian. At the onset of his Pontificate (before being struck by illness and infirmity) Bl. John Paul II embraced the role of his Pontificate and travelled the world over to bring the Good News to all the people, not just the people who could travel to Rome. He leveraged his acting skills, and became what arguably could be described as a "larger than life" figure; that said, Bl. John Paul II used these skills to ensure our eyes were set firmly on Christ. Pope Benedict XVI, was the 5th oldest Pope at the time of his election, and as an older man was more of a grandfatherly figure to the Church, a man who would Sheppard his people with a more quiet, subtle love.

During this time, let us pray for Pope Benedict XVI, and his health; and especially for the Cardinals of the world as they gather to elect a new Supreme Pontiff.

St. Joseph's Health
Centre 30 The
Queensway (Education
Centre A, #1B 105A),
Toronto - Initial
presentation: 1st

Dr Evelyn Billings, world-renowned pioneer of natural fertility regulation, died

PRESS RELEASE - 16th February 2013

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.*



It is with full hearts that we write today to tell you the death on 16th February 2013 of our beloved founder, Dr Evelyn Livingston Billings AM, DCSG, MBBS (Melb), DCH (Lond) aged 95 after a short illness.

Dr Lyn, as we all knew her, together with her husband, Dr John Billings, founded the Method of natural fertility regulation which bears their name. Her studies on breastfeeding mothers and women approaching menopause made a major contribution to the work.

For half a century they travelled the world teaching and promoting their Method in faithfulness to Pope Paul VI's call to "men (and women) of science (and) physicians (to) be obedient to the Lord's call and to act as faithful interpreters of His plan."

Personal friend of three Popes, in 2003 Lyn was made a Dame Commander of St Gregory the Great by Pope John Paul II and she was an active member of the Pontifical Academy for Life.

Couples in more than 100 countries bear testament to the wonderful work of this selfless woman and her husband. In China alone, where they trained thousands to teach their Method, a substantial drop in the abortion rate has been attributed to their work.

She is survived by 8 of her 9 children, 39 grandchildren and 31 great grandchildren.

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



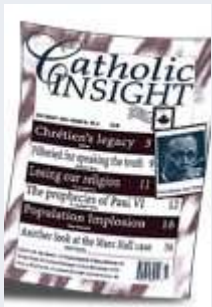
<http://www.naturalfamilyplanning.ca/toronto/>

The teachers of the Natural Family Planning Association provide this valuable

education at no charge, as described in our mission statement:

To provide instruction with respect to the ovulation method of family planning using the Ovulation Method (Billings).

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 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 sixteen 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.godsexandthethemeaningoflife.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.