

# God, Sex and the Meaning of Life

MAR 2019

VOLUME 66

**Note:** Email [gsmlministry@gmail.com](mailto: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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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](mailto:roseheron@gmail.com)

**We have held over**

- [Recommended Reading](#) – *Theology of the Body in One Hour*
- [Donate Catholic Books to Catholic School Libraries](#)
- [Natural Family Planning](#) - *The birth control pill is killing women, but no one's warning them of the risk*



**We are now booking into Fall of 2019.**

Toronto's Cardinal, Thomas Collins stated: "One crucial area is the Catechesis of Human Love, or Theology of the Body, developed by Blessed Pope John Paul II which, when widely offered, can greatly strengthen Christian family life, and the life of discipleship." – Archdiocese of Toronto: Pastoral Plan, 2013

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

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## GSML News

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**If you would like to have your Theology of the Body event published in this Newsletter, please remember the publishing dates of January, March, May, July, September and November. Please give us the information prior to these months.**

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## Our Programs

**Teachers!!! Pastors!!! Youth Group Leaders!!!**

**Now is the time to arrange a Theology of the Body course for your students or youth or young adults.**

Let us facilitate the program, while you study the various aspects to increase your proficiency to present all or parts in the future.

Invite us in for 10 weeks and you will be surprised by the results.

**Identity. Gender. Love. Chastity.** *The world is a difficult place for teens,*

## **23 Theology of the Body for Teens Workshops and Classroom Sessions**

and it has become increasingly hard for parents and educators to help teens discover the truth about their bodies, their sexuality, and their unique call to love.

**We can do this together.**

**Contact Rose Heron** at 905-683-9055 or [roseheron@gmail.com](mailto:roseheron@gmail.com) to find out the details. It is presented at a very minimal cost.

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### **Theology of the Body Study Group**

At the present time we are studying the ***Catechism of the Catholic Church***, with an eye towards the **Theology of the Body**. Take this opportunity to learn about your faith. Bring your questions and we will find the answers together.

Please join us on Monday mornings, from 9:30 am to 11:30 am. in St Bernadette's church hall 21 Bayly St. E. Ajax. Hope to see you there.

Monday mornings from 9:30 to 11:30

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

Contact: Tom or Susan Kennedy 905-427-6137  
[gsmlministry@gmail.com](mailto:gsmlministry@gmail.com)

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### **Interesting News**

St. Joseph's Highland Creek decided to host *Great Adventure Timeline Bible Study* Tuesday evenings and over 117 people have signed up. This is an indication that people are hungering for programs like this. Some have said after completing this program, "Now I understand the Bible readings." - Can you think of anything more wonderful? This is salvation history and where we discover Jesus.

We are willing to help you start this program in your parish, sharing ideas and information, even talking to your volunteer group.

Contact us at [gsmlministry@gmail.com](mailto:gsmlministry@gmail.com) or call Susan at 905-427-6137

### **Bible Study**

St. Bernadette Church Hall

***Prophets: Messengers of God's Mercy*** – Starting September 2019

by **Thomas Smith & Sarah Christmyer**

MORE INFORMATION TO FOLLOW.

Contact: [gsmlministry@gmail.com](mailto:gsmlministry@gmail.com)

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

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## Join the New Evangelization

We offer various workshops for **Every Body** including:

- *God, Sex and the Meaning of Life*—for adults
- Theology of the Body for Young Adults
- *Theology of the Body for Teens*—in school program or in the Parish
- *Theology of the Body for Grade School*—Gr 6-8
- *Guiding Your Child Through the Sexual Minefield*
- *Theology of the Body and Confirmation*
- *Girl Talk*
- *Marriage Preparation and Theology of the Body*
- *Theology of the Body in the Classroom*
- *Training on the Theology of the Body*
- *Retreats on the Theology of the Body*

***We can custom tailor any Workshop for your Group.***

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*"We pray for the ongoing formation/conversion of our hearts and minds, that we, the Bride may become more conformed to our first love, the Bridegroom. Let us pray to the Lord."*

## Theology Of The Body-Inspired Prayers Of The Faithful

Click [here](#) and then press the Download button.

Prayers include:

- For the Pope, bishops, priests and Church leaders
- For Those Who Have Died
- For Our Lady's Intercession
- For Jesus, the Bridegroom and His Bride, the Church
- For Conversion and Healing
- And more

**GET INSPIRED.  
DISCOVER YOUR  
MISSION. DO  
SOMETHING FOR GOD.**

## **CALLING ALL GIRLS**

**A SPECIAL EVENING FOR MOTHERS & DAUGHTERS**

**REGISTER NOW!**

**FRIDAY MARCH 22, 2019**

**7 P.M. TO 10 P.M.**

**JOHN PAUL II POLISH CULTURAL CENTRE  
4300 CAWTHRA RD., MISSISSAUGA, ON**

An evening of short high-powered talks. Meet new people. Learn the truth. Talk about it. Discover who you are. Have fun. Avoid mistakes. Improve your relationships. Speakers and topics to include:

- **Dr. Ray Guarendi** from EWTN – The logic of being Catholic
- **Isabella & Natalie Bruno** – 3 Tips for a great mother-daughter relationship
- **Kataryna Ryba** – Straight from the heart
- **Dorothy Pilarski** – The truth about work

Early bird rates are available. Register at <http://dynamicwomenfaith.com/>. For more information, please contact 416-907-1042. Register early to avoid disappointment.

## **Dynamic Women of Faith – Catholic Women’s Conference**

March 23 8:00 am

John Paul II Polish Cultural Centre  
4300 Cawthra Rd., Mississauga

Celebrating our 10<sup>th</sup> year! Mass celebrant: His Eminence Thomas Cardinal Collins. Includes a light breakfast, lunch, free parking and a free book. Speakers and topics to include:

- **Dr. Ray Guarendi**– Laughter: The Sanity of the Family Life
- **Mary Wagner**– Jesus won my heart
- **Fr. Eric Mah**– Lawyer to Priest – The Journey
- **Dorothy Pilarski**: - Motherhood matters

Register at <http://dynamicwomenfaith.com/>.

For more information, please contact 416-907-1042.

Register early to avoid disappointment.

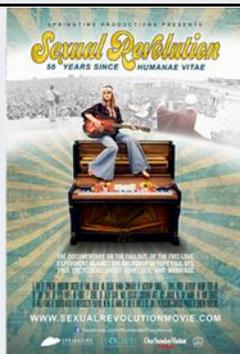
## **Theology of the Body - Sr. Helena Burns, FSP.**

Did you know that God, the Church, the Bible, Creation and Science are all saying the

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|   | <p>same thing about what's good for our bodies and souls, our physical, spiritual and relationship health?</p> <p>Join us at the Parish Hall on April 30 at 7:30 p.m. for an overview of John Paul II's comprehensive 'Theology of the Body'. Learn what it means for our lives and how it's the answer to all of today's hot button issues.</p> <p>Hosted by St. Dominic Parish, Oakville and Oakville Conquest and Challenge Junior Club.</p> <p>Tuesday, April 30, 2019 at 7:30 PM – 9 PM</p> <p>St. Dominic Parish, Oakville<br/>2415 Rebecca Street, Oakville, Ontario L6L 2B1</p>  |
| <p><u>By Archdiocese of Toronto</u></p>   | <p><b>Made for More – Christopher West</b><br/>An evening of visual beauty, live music, and reflection that will open your senses to the secret of God revealed in all of creation</p> <p><b>May 28 Toronto EAST - Scarborough</b> (<a href="#">TICKETS HERE</a>)</p> <p>St. Barnabas Roman Catholic Church<br/>10 Washburn Way<br/>Toronto, ON M1B 1H3</p> <p><b>May 29 Toronto WEST - Mississauga</b> (<a href="#">TICKETS HERE</a>)</p> <p>Merciful Redeemer Parish<br/>2775 Erin Centre Boulevard<br/>Mississauga, ON L5M 5W2</p> <p>Wednesday, May 29, 2019 at 7 PM – 9:30 PM</p> <p>For More Info Contact - Stephanie Benedetti -<br/>sbenedetti@archtoronto.org - 416.599.7676 ext. 224</p> |
| <p><i>PRIMARY MISSION</i><br/><i>To provide consulting, training, and resources to start-up and sustain strong parish youth ministry at the parish level, and young adult ministry at the parish and local level.</i></p> | <p><b>RE:GENERATION: Campus &amp; Chastity Missionaries</b></p> <p>Re:generation is a missionary program offered by the office of Catholic youth in the Archdiocese of Toronto.</p> <p>We are on the search for College and University students and recent grads who are willing to dedicate one or more years in serving as Re:Generation Campus Missionaries beginning in the Summer of 2019.</p> <p>While on mission, you will receive extensive training, formation and</p>  |

ongoing mission support. As a missionary you will be evangelizing and witnessing to current College and University students throughout the Archdiocese of Toronto.

Contact, [click here](#)



Humane Vitaea new documentary ***Sexual Revolution: 50 Years Since Humanae Vitae*** examines the encyclical's continuing prophetic witness and exposes the hidden motives of money and eugenics that lie behind the promotion of the chemical cocktail that fueled the sexual revolution, namely, the contraceptive pill.

## New Film on the Revolutionary War Against Women

*Sexual Revolution* is a sad indictment of where we have come to, and a frightening indication of where we are heading.

K.V. Turley

*Sexual Revolution* is a well-made, thought-provoking documentary. It has a stellar list of contributors including [Archbishop Charles J. Chaput](#), [Dr. Peter Kreeft](#), [Mary Eberstadt](#), [Christopher West](#), [Abby Johnson](#), [Dr. Janet Smith](#), alongside archive footage of [Drs. John & Evelyn Billings](#) and [St. Mother Teresa](#). The film traces the personal history of a young woman's search for the truth about human sexuality, but it is also a social history, a secret history if you like, of much that is wrong in our society.

In the opening shots of *Sexual Revolution*, you could be forgiven for thinking that you had stumbled into the wrong movie. A beautiful young woman, Alana Newman, dressed as if she was on her way to or from Woodstock, is driving a Volkswagen camper van. It all looks very 1960s. In fact, this young woman has a troubling secret that has propelled her on a journey for which no camper van alone could provide transport. As the film recounts, Newman's journey became one of discovery that led her unexpectedly to the Catholic faith.

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

**From Catholic Radio**  
**"Faith in Action"**

## Faith In Action: "Love And Theology Of The Body"

with Katrina Zeno

"LOVE AND THEOLOGY OF THE BODY" - Jim Ganley and Brigid Ayer talk with nationally and internationally known author and speaker, Katrina Zeno, on love & Valentine's Day from a Catholic perspective in light of Theology of the Body. Zeno, serves as Coordinator for the St. John Paul, II Resource Center for the Theology of the Body & Culture for the Diocese of Phoenix, AZ. For more information, go to [www.katrinazeno.com](http://www.katrinazeno.com)

To listen to the Podcast [click here](#)

**Video**

## Fr. Mike Schmitz: Why God Gave Us Bodies

God made the world—and you—on purpose. What is that purpose? Well, that's what St. John Paul II went to great lengths to explain in his Theology of the Body talks, which Fr. Mike sums up beautifully in this video. With

profound simplicity, Fr. Mike—inspired by St. John Paul II—shares the fundamental truths of this ingenious vision of humanity and sexuality. Made in God’s image and likeness, you are your body, and you are made for love. What you do with your body matters. You’ll have to watch the video to get the last and most powerful point. It’s amazing.

To listen to the video [click here](#)

***This week long course is amazing.***

## **Theology of the Body: Head and Heart Immersion**

**March 17, 2019 – March 22, 2019  
Black Rock Retreat Center,  
Quarryville, PA**

The Theology of the Body I Head and Heart Immersion Course examines the main themes of Pope Saint John Paul II’s Theology of the Body. Focused themes include: creation in the image of God, fall and redemption, Christian ethics and ethos, freedom and person, gender and vocation.

### **All our week-long retreats include:**

- Five days of learning & interactive lecture (30 hours of master’s level instruction)
- Fantastic workbook so you can focus on receiving vs. note-taking
- Daily Mass, adoration, and confession
- Accommodations & delicious meals
- Time for relaxation and networking
- Gorgeous grounds to soak in God’s natural beauty
- Optional round trip shuttle from Philadelphia International Airport

### **All-Inclusive,**

*(accommodations, meals, workbook & materials, etc.)*

[Click here](#) to register

*“John Paul’s famous line from the letter: ‘The history of mankind, the history of salvation, passes by way of the family,’ is actually chilling at this point,” Staudt noted, “because what we’re seeing is that we don’t have hope for the future, we’re not investing for the future of society or for the Church. We’re just living for the present moment, and*

## **After 25 years, what JP2’s Letter to Families can teach today’s world**

Denver, Colo., Jan 30, 2019 / 04:05 am (CNA).- Pope John Paul II was born Karol Wojtyla, a man from a small town in Poland who lost all of his immediate family - mom, older brother, an infant sister, and father - by the time he was 20 years old. Shortly thereafter, he vowed a life of celibacy as a Catholic priest. And yet, Wojtyla would go on to be remembered as “Pope of the Family.”

25 years ago next week, on Feb. 2, 1994, Pope John Paul II penned his “Letter to Families,” the subject of which was spurred by the United Nations’ declaration that 1994 would be the “Year of the Family.”

*for our own selfish desires. So I think John Paul was already recognizing that the foundation of society itself is already in jeopardy, if people are not getting married, if they're not having kids. They're saying no to the future."*

At the time, U.S. divorce rates were higher - about 4.6 per 1,000 people, compared with 2.9 in 2017. But marriage rates were also higher - 9.1 compared with 6.9 for those same years. Legalized same-sex marriage was still considered a taboo political idea, and would remain so for more than a decade. And Bruce Jenner still went by Bruce Jenner.

But even though it was written 25 years ago, many Catholics in family life ministries believe that the Church is only beginning to see the fruits of John Paul II's message to families.

To read more [click here](#)

**THE CATHOLIC EBOOKS PROJECT**  
*Provides a library of links to Christian ebooks and texts that may be read online or downloaded LEGALLY and for FREE, and are FAITHFUL to the truths that God entrusted to His one true Church.*

## **Online ebook: A Comparison of the Theology of the Body by Pope John Paul II with St. Thomas Aquinas**, by Thomas Petri

Locating a Spousal Meaning of the Body in the Summa Theologiae: A Comparison of a Central Idea Articulated in the Theology of the Body by Pope John Paul II with the Mature Work of St. Thomas Aquinas (Dissertation), by Thomas Petri, S.T.D. (Washington, D.C.: Catholic University of America, 2010). 452 pages. Copyright and All Rights Reserved by Thomas Petri. Available in [pdf format](#) (on this page) at the Catholic University of America University Libraries.

Either click on the pdf format in the above paragraph or [click here](#) – look for the same paragraph on the webpage and click it. The book will download and you can then save it.

## **Ask Christopher West - Podcast**

Since the early 90's, author and speaker Christopher West has devoted his life to spreading John Paul II's revolutionary teaching on human life, love, and sexuality: The Theology of the Body. His beloved wife Wendy, mother of their five children, has served as his confidante, friend, and support through these long years of ministry. In this podcast, Christopher and Wendy combine their wisdom to tackle the toughest questions dealing with vocation, sexuality, marriage, and the Catholic faith.

To hear the Podcasts [click here](#)

*"We must be aware of the sensuality of Catholicism." – Jared Zimmerer*

## **Human Physicality and the Near Occasion of Sin**

by Jared Zimmerer

*"Pornography, as well as puritanism, are both deeply flawed visions of the human body.*

Is it possible to display an image of a human form in such a way that it is not to be construed as simply a near occasion of sin? From Michelangelo's

'David' to Bernini's 'St. Teresa in Ecstasy', erotic presentations of the human form are not necessarily intended to be pornographic, but rather are ways to express the body as a divine gift. The sculpture of David invites the viewer to envision more than just a body, rather it represents the body of the young Israelite as an expression of the status of the human person as being made in the image and likeness of God. Bernini's 'St. Teresa in Ecstasy' suggests that her body is not something leading her away from divine union, but instead it is to be understood as the intertwining of erotic gratification and agape devotion as the height of mystical experience. It seems today that in both of these types of displays, we find what pornography and Puritanism both lack: an integration of the eros and agape that fulfills the divine purpose for the body."

To read more [click here](#)

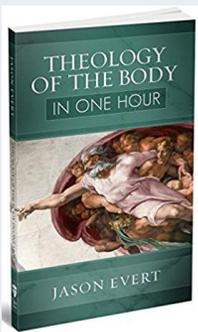
*"It was in TOB that my perspective on the human person completely changed, impacting the way I view fashion"*

## What My Faith Taught Me About the Power of Fashion

By Lillian Fallon

Being a devout Catholic who's into fashion has always put me in an unspecified category among other Catholics. The typical response I get is one of genuine surprise. To be fair, a Catholic who's actively pursuing a career in fashion isn't terribly common.

And I'll admit that for years, I didn't even really know how my faith and lifelong interest in fashion coincided. Fashion was my superficial, materialistic, worldly passion contradicting my traditional Catholic beliefs that encourage detachment from material goods. So, instead of applying to fashion schools like I had always dreamed of, I applied to Catholic colleges.



## Recommended Reading

### ***Theology of the Body in One Hour***

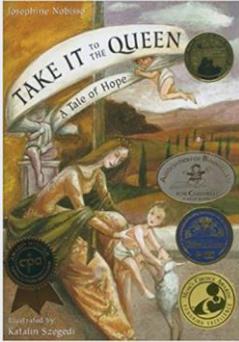
By Jason Evert

Today's sexual confusion is not caused because the world glorifies sexuality, but because the world fails to see its glory.

Through his Theology of the Body, St. John Paul II unveiled the beauty of God's plan for human love. In 60 minutes, discover how the human body in its masculinity and femininity reveals who we are and how we are called to live.

*"In Genesis, God did not intend to present a scientific treatise, but to express profound truths about humanity that are just as valid and unchanging (and archaic) as the laws of physics." Theology of the Body in One Hour*

**What a good idea!**



## Donate Catholic Books to Catholic School Libraries

### ***Take It to the Queen: A Tale of Hope***

by Josephine Nobisso (Author), Katalin Szegedi (Illustrator)

With exquisite artwork and evocative text, this original fable explores the events of Jesus' life, and demonstrates the role of the Virgin Mary as the benevolent agent of God's people. Reduced to desolation by a king and prince who feel they have been wronged, the residents of a once-favored village must seek help from the queen, a native of their devastated town. Religious subjects are presented clearly in an allegorical style that proves entertaining, and also serves to provide children with examples of virtue and good behavior.

**St. Clare Church**, 1118 St. Clair Av. West, Toronto. (one block E. of Dufferin). Initial Presentation 2nd Tuesday of each Month starting at 8pm in Padre Pio's Room, basement room in the Church.

**St. 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.*

## The birth control pill is killing women, but no one's warning them of the risk

The young newlywed put herself at risk for collapse, stroke, heart attack, and death every day when she popped her birth control pill. Tragically, she had no idea there was any danger. Even medical personnel thought her symptoms were no big deal, and on more than one occasion chalked her symptoms up to dehydration. They never told her it could be that her contraception was causing blood clots.

*The pill kills truth. It exists and is prescribed to women amid a swirl of chaos; amidst contradictions and lies; and amidst dead, blind, and profoundly injured women.*

To read the article [click here](#)

For more information contact Natural Family Planning Association at [toronto.naturalfamilyplanning.ca](http://toronto.naturalfamilyplanning.ca)



*Natural Family Planning Association*

[toronto.naturalfamilyplanning.ca](http://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](mailto:gsmlministry@gmail.com)

[www.godsexandthmeaningoflife.com/](http://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](mailto:gsmlministry@gmail.com) with unsubscribe in the subject line of your email.