



# God, Sex and the Meaning of Life

MAY 2017

VOLUME 55

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**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

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**

- [Natural Family Planning](#) - The Marriage Preparation Program



**We are now booking into 2017.**

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](#)

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## GSML News

We are leading a *Theology of the Body for Teens* program in a Toronto School this semester. Three classes are attending the program for twelve weeks.

**Teachers:** you should consider this program in your classroom in the fall. At the very least contact Rose 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

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](mailto:gsmlministry@gmail.com)

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## Bible Study

The adventure continues: In the fall of 2017 we are starting ***Revelation: The Kingdom Yet to Come.***

**20 Theology of the Body for Teens Workshops and Classroom Sessions**

In this intriguing look at one of the most talked-about books in Scripture, Jeff Cavins explores Revelation to demonstrate how the kingdom established by Christ in his Church is intimately connected with the kingdom of heaven, especially through the celebration of the Mass.

You will learn what all the mysterious figures and images of Revelation present, as well as what will happen during the Second Coming of Christ, what has already happened, and what is happening now in salvation history. It is a 11 week course which will start Wednesday, Sept. 13 or Friday, Sept 15. Please join us Wednesday mornings from 9:30 am – 11:30 am (or Friday evenings from 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm)

Purchase of the Study Guide is Optional at a cost of \$35.

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

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

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

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**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 4<sup>th</sup> 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.

**May 27                      Great Annual Catholic Quiz**

Join us for an opportunity to win prizes.

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**Join the New Evangelization**

***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 Rose at 905-683-9055 or [gsmlministry@gmail.com](mailto: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 Rose at 905-683-9055 regarding programs and workshops we can run in your schools or parishes. Or email [gsmlministry@gamil.com](mailto: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.

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**Theology of the Body Training**

All the Saturdays of June and July 2017 (except Canada Day)

10 am to 4 pm

Presenter: Sr. Helena Burns, fsp

Pauline Books & Media – 3022 Dufferin St. (at Lawrence W) Toronto

\$60 for 8 Saturday course (not same talks repeated each week)

Registration required 416-781-9131 or [srhelenaburns@gmail.com](mailto:srhelenaburns@gmail.com)

## Theology of the Body ...

- Are you the person you want to be? Are you happy and fulfilled?
- If you're wondering if there is more to life than just "getting by" and are ready to focus on what really matters then discover this extraordinary Catholic teaching called Theology of the Body.
- Given to us by St John Paul II, author and presenter Christopher West unpacks this teaching in his DVD series "Discovering the Master Plan for Your Life".
- Will be presented for adults in a DVD format and open discussion.
- 4 consecutive Tuesdays at Merciful Redeemer Parish hall starting May 30<sup>th</sup> from 7:30 pm – 9:30pm.
- A great opportunity to prepare for level II offered next spring.

For information and pre-registration contact Anthony 416-302-4253 or Tod [TOB@bell.net](mailto:TOB@bell.net)

A fee of \$20.00 per person or \$25.00 per couple, which includes workbook will be collected at the first session.

## Theology of the Body Congress 2016: Volume II

This second part of a compilation from the 2016 Theology of the Body Congress delves into the joys and struggles of marriage, feminism, infertility and single life. Presenters Christopher West, Edward Sri, Sr. Helena Burns and other engaging and insightful Catholic speakers.

There are over 15 talks, which can be purchased at \$1.99 each or \$29.95 USD.

If you would like to purchase these talks [click here](#)

Theology of the Body Congress Volume I can also be found on the above link.

This compilation from the 2016 Theology of the Body Congress tackles the biggest issues teens face in a challenging culture: the problem with pornography, the challenge of same-sex attraction, and the meaning of life itself.

## **The New Evangelization Summit An international event that will inspire thousands of Catholics to be engaged in the New Evangelization**

This two day conference will bring together speakers who are leaders in the New Evangelization to provide inspiration, encouragement, training, practical wisdom and resources on how Catholics can effectively evangelize. All Catholics – pastors, missionaries, lay ministers, and the lay faithful – will benefit immensely from this powerful opportunity to be further equipped in the fundamental mission of the Church.

The annual NES will be held in Ottawa and streamed to 30 host-sites. The broadcasting of the event will provide a way for Catholics from around North America to participate in the Summit. Thus approximately 5000 like-minded Catholics from across the continent will be united in one goal – to be formed as evangelists and be part of a network of Catholic evangelists.

May 12-13, 2017 in Ottawa, ON  
**and broadcast to host sites throughout North America (see below)**

[Click here](#) for more details.

## **The New Evangelization Summit – Local Host Sites**

Friday, May 12 – 7 to 9:15 p.m. and

Saturday, May 13 – 8:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Holy Family Parish

91 Ribblesdale Dr., Whitby

Holy Family Parish Whitby will be a host site for the annual New Evangelization Summit. The conference will livestream to the parish from Ottawa. This two-day conference will encourage, train and provide resources on how Catholics can evangelize effectively.

**COST:** \$35, includes lunch **PHONE:** 905-665-6470

For more information [click here](#)

**OR in Toronto**

Cost \$45.00

Location St Benedict Catholic Church, 2194 Kipling Avenue in Etobicoke

Dates and times Friday, May 12: 7:00-9:30pm (EST). Check-in starts at 6:15pm. Saturday, May 13: 9:00am - 4:30pm.

Other details Saturday lunch is provided. Questions can be directed to [info@newevangelization.ca](mailto:info@newevangelization.ca).

## Conference on Conscience Rights and Healthcare Professionals

Tuesday, May 16 - 1 to 5 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m.

University of St. Michael's College

The Coop (Brennan Hall)

81 St. Mary's St., Toronto

The Conference begins with an overview of federal and provincial laws regulating euthanasia and assisted suicide. The policies of some of the provinces and regulatory bodies concerning these procedures will be reviewed. Conscience issues arising from these laws and policies will be addressed by theologians, healthcare professionals, and others. Other topics to be addressed:

- Research on conscience rights
- Continuing education on conscience rights in professional practice
- Right action and professional practice

**CONTACT:** Canadian Catholic Bioethics Institute **EMAIL:**

bioethics.usmc@utoronto.ca **PHONE:** 416-353-4224

**POSTER:** <http://bit.ly/ccbiconference>

## Theology of the Body I: Head & Heart Immersion Course

WITH CHRISTOPHER WEST

June 18, 2017 – June 23, 2017 **all-day**

Black Rock Retreat Center  
1345 Kirkwood Pike  
Kirkwood, PA 17536  
USA

\$1175 - 1275

Samantha Kelley  
[Email](#)

## THEOLOGY OF BODY--SR. HELENA BURNS, FSP / PART 1--FINDING TRUE LOVE IN THE MEDIA

Published on Mar 25, 2017

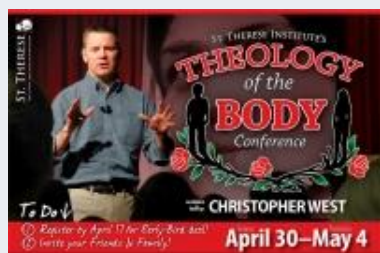
PART 1--FINDING TRUE LOVE IN THE MEDIA

With 8th grade Confirmation students & their parents, Columbus, OH, 2016.

[Click here](#) to watch the presentation.

## THE GOSPEL OF THE BODY AND THE LITTLE WAY: Living St. John Paul II's Theology of the Body with the Help of St. Therese of Lisieux (Spring 2017)

***"Brace yourself! If we take in what [John Paul II] is saying in his Theology of the Body, we will never view ourselves, view others, view the Church, the Sacraments, grace, God, heaven, marriage, the celibate vocation...we will never view the world the same way again."***  
-Christopher West



St. Therese School of Faith and Mission in Bruno, Saskatchewan, is pleased to present *"THE GOSPEL OF THE BODY AND THE LITTLE WAY: Living St. John*



*Paul II's Theology of the Body with the Help of St. Therese of Lisieux"* with well-known speaker and author, Christopher West. Join the students of St. Therese for a transforming journey that opens the heart to deeper intimacy with the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

- What it means to be made in the image and likeness of God
- Why God created us male and female
- How the physical union of man and woman is innately oriented toward life and love, and how this union is the essential foundation for a life-affirming society.
- How we can come to an understanding of human existence only through a proper understanding of human sexuality
- How the Theology of the Body can enable us to live wholly integrated lives
- How seeing the world through the lens of the TOB is a key to happiness
- How to proclaim this liberating message to others
- ***St. Therese InSTITUTE exclusive:*** How St. Thérèse recognized and lived these truths in her life.
- and much, much more...

For more information [click here](#)

## **Theology of the Body: According to the Teachings of Saint John Paul II – Journal**

All written content has been reviewed by a Catholic spiritual director to cross check that all statements are align with the teachings and tenants of the Roman Catholic Church.

© 2017 Heart of Mary Women's Fellowship. The "Our Beginning" devotions, along with other bible studies, Marian Consecration, Catholic Talks, and other free downloads can be found at [heartofmarywf.com](http://heartofmarywf.com):)

Heart of Mary Women's Fellowship © 2016 [Click here](#) for the Journal

## **Fatima, Marriage, and the Theology of the Body**

[Brian Kranick](#)

It has been reported that Sister Lucia of Fatima wrote a letter to Cardinal Caffarra predicting that "the final battle between the Lord and the reign of Satan will be about marriage and the family." Not long after, Pope John Paul II was in the midst of his famous "Theology of the Body" talks on marriage and the family when a Turkish assassin attempted to kill him. The assassination attempt happened on May 13, 1981, the Feast day of Our Lady of Fatima, and the same day that Pope John Paul was going to announce the establishment of his Pontifical Institute for Studies on Marriage and Family. John Paul credited "a mother's hand," Our Lady of Fatima, with saving his life that day, and consequently, allowing for the promulgation of his exegetical insights on the theology of the body.

To read more [click here](#)

## Theology of the Body, Part 3

Matthew Coffin

In John Paul II's Theology of the Body, he compares and contrasts the three states of man: "Original Man," mankind before the Fall or first sin, "Historical Man" man after the Fall, (our current state,) and "Eschatological Man," man following Christ's second coming, (our life in heaven).

### Original Man

The state of original man concerns two human beings: Adam and Eve. They viewed each other with, "all the peace of the interior gaze." God walked in their midst, suggesting an intimacy with their creator we can only imagine. Adam and Eve's lives were untouched by sin. Vice, depravity and despair were foreign to their experience. Everything in creation was perfect. The world was a temple in which human beings worshiped the one true God.

The boundary line between the state of original man and historical man is the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. This is key. Man was the only person in the garden. The animals were not persons. They could not choose like Adam could. They could not till the ground or tend to the garden as human beings were called to do.

We have a choice. We can love God or reject God. We can be good stewards or bad stewards. The tree of the knowledge of good and evil represents this choice.

<http://www.bigcatholics.com/2010/03/theology-of-body-part-3.html>



# **ENCYCLICAL OF THE SYNOD OF BISHOPS OF THE MAJOR ARCHBISHOPRIC OF KYIV-HALYCH OF THE UKRAINIAN GREEK CATHOLIC CHURCH CONCERNING THE DANGER OF GENDER IDEOLOGY**

## **Introduction**

1. In the twentieth century, the people of Ukraine suffered from a godless Soviet regime that attempted to forcefully tear people from the roots of faith and impose an atheistic worldview. Presented as the only “scientific” one, this worldview denied human persons’ freedom of conscience and deprived them of the right to freely profess their religious beliefs. At the beginning of the twenty-first century, the world stands before similar challenges, which, however, are not accompanied by open and bloody persecution, but rather are served by hidden ideological means of destroying Christian faith and morality, as well as universal human values. Some of these challenges relate to areas of human sexuality and family life, and are not new to Ukraine; rather, they are accented or presented in public consciousness in a new manner. Others are entirely new and even far removed from the Ukrainian context, but certain forces are attempting to artificially impose them upon us.
2. In particular, gender theories are a significant threat today, attempting to destroy the perception of human sexuality as a gift from God that is naturally linked to the biological differences between man and woman, as well as introducing a dangerous disorder to human relationships and attacking the foundations of interpersonal communication. The concepts of human dignity and freedom are undergoing extensive manipulation and the true meaning of these essential moral categories is being displaced and distorted. All these efforts are being implemented very actively, systematically, and thoughtfully, using political expediency and populist slogans. However, their true nature and purpose remain hidden from the public. As a result, Ukrainian society—sensitive to asserting its dignity and freedom—is in danger of thoughtlessly accepting as truth questionable atheistic theories founded in attempts to affirm human dignity, to achieve equality among people, to defend the human right to freedom, and so on.
3. Under these circumstances, the Church-Mother seeks by means of this Encyclical to warn the faithful and all people of good will of the threats

that are hidden behind gender ideology and similar worldview systems, and recall the traditional biblical, Christian, and universal values upon which interpersonal relationships and the way of organizing social life are based.

To read the entire Encyclical please [click here](#)

## Conversion, Family Life And Theology Of The Body

Fr Sean Kilcawley

<https://soundcloud.com/fr-sean-kilcawley/conversion-family-life-and-theology-of-the-body>

## Recommended Reading

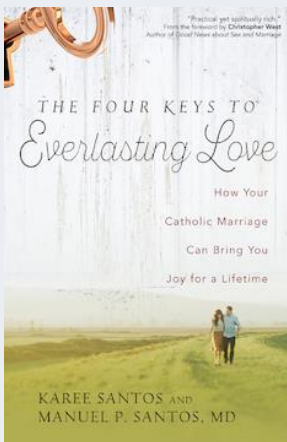
***The Four Keys to Everlasting Love:*** How Your Catholic Marriage Can Bring You Joy for a Lifetime

by Karee Santos and Dr. Manuel P. Santos

Pope Francis, in his recent exhortation *Amoris Laetitia* ("Joy of Love"), praises marriage as a unique "friendship marked by passion" and "a free, faithful, and exclusive love." We live in a culture that doesn't cherish the permanence of marriage, according to Karee and Manuel Santos. Even Catholics aren't immune from the epidemic of divorce. But how can you make the ideals of being forever, faithful, fruitful, and free a reality? How can you maintain a healthy Catholic marriage when society is pushing against it?

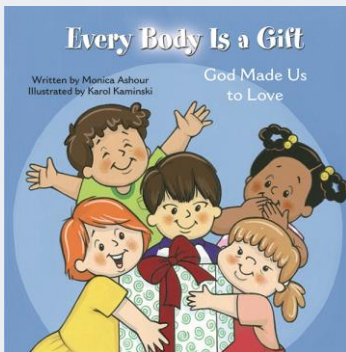
In *The Four Keys to Everlasting Love*, the Santoses draw on real-life stories, scriptural principles, and the timeless wisdom of St. John Paul II to help you celebrate the sacrament of Marriage without downplaying the difficulties of married life. In doing so, they will inspire you to stay in love with each other, Christ, and the wisdom of the Church.

The Santoses tell their own story as well: how they learned not to cling to personality, culture, or religious differences; how they learned to put family first; how they overcame health crises that exacted a physical, emotional, and spiritual toll; and how they navigated stressful holiday get-togethers with extended family. They let God transform them and make their marriage stronger.



Each chapter provides discussion questions, action prompts, quotes from the Catechism of the Catholic Church and various popes, and additional online and print resources to stimulate the couple's conversation, mutual understanding, and positive change. Free worksheets and other supplemental resources are available on the authors' website, [canwecana.blogspot.com](http://canwecana.blogspot.com)

### What a good idea!



## Donate Catholic Books to Catholic School Libraries

Every Body is a Gift: God made Us to Love

By Monica Ashour

Everybody Has a Body: God Made Boys and Girls discusses the similarities and differences between male and female bodies. It does this in a language that young children can understand. The book introduces children to the way gender contributes to the dignity of the human person. Everybody Has a Body is a simple, fun introduction to the differences between boys and girls. Ideal for ages 2-5.

**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. 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 p.m.

## The Marriage Preparation Program

### Overview

Our goal is to educate engaged couples about the scientific aspects of natural family planning; to provide information on a wide range of family planning issues, including the health and fertility risks of contraceptive technology; to examine the positive dynamics for relationship with the use of natural family planning.

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



*Natural Family  
Planning Association*

*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](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.godsexandthemeaningoflife.com/](http://www.godsexandthemeaningoflife.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.