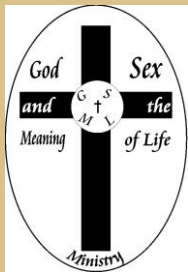


If you received this twice, please accept our apologies. If the Newsletter does not appear as it should please go to our Website at <http://www.godsexandthemeaningoflife.com/Newsletters.html> - click on Volume 34 - to view the document. If you would prefer to receive this email as a PDF attachment please let us know.



# God, Sex and the Meaning of Life

NOV 2013

VOLUME 34

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

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**Book a Theology of the Body for Teens Workshop in 2014**



**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](mailto:gsmlministry@gmail.com)

## **GSML News**

### ***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.

The group is enjoying the book, *Theology of the Body for Every Body*, by Leah Perrault. If you are interested in joining us please contact us to order a copy, price approximately \$12.00 Contact us at [gsmlministry@gmail.com](mailto:gsmlministry@gmail.com)

Everyone welcome. Bring your questions on Catholic Faith.

### ***Theology of the Body for Teens***

We have held over 20 Theology of the Body for Teens Workshops and therefore know the material extremely well.

We are currently running a Theology of the Body's for Teens monthly, in Toronto. If you would like more information about these programs, or to book one in your school, church or group, contact our youth leaders, Rose and Pat Heron, at [roseheron@gmail.com](mailto:roseheron@gmail.com) or Rose Heron at 905-683-9055 or [gsmlministry@gmail.com](mailto:gsmlministry@gmail.com)

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

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

### ***Theology of the Body for Grades 6,7 & 8***

At present we are facilitating this wonderful program at St. Bernadette's Parish, 21 Bayly St. E., Ajax, once a month, after the 5:00 pm Mass on Saturday.

Dec. 7, 2013

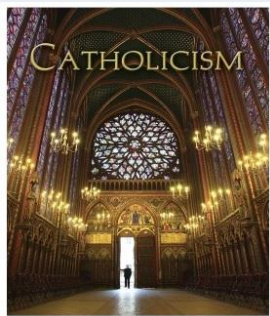
To Use or Not to Use? That Is the Question

If you are interested in this new program, please contact us at [gsmlministry@gmail.com](mailto:gsmlministry@gmail.com)

### ***Theology of the Body and Marriage Preparation***

Our Facilitators are ready to speak about Theology of the Body and Marriage Preparation. Contact us to arrange this talk at your parish Marriage Preparation Course.





**Session Ten – Nov. 23**

World Without End –  
The Last Things

**These sessions are  
free and truly  
inspiring.**

## Catholicism

By Fr. Robert Barron

**DVD series with discussion**

- DATES:** Nov. 23, 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](mailto:stbreg@gmail.com)

### **WORLD WITHOUT END - THE LAST THINGS**

“Explore the Church's conviction that life here and now is preparation for an extraordinary world that is yet to come a supernatural destiny. Father Barron presents the Catholic vision of death, judgment, heaven, hell and purgatory as he journeys to Florence, Ireland and Rome.

The vision of the Church sees beyond this world and invites us to consider a world without end. Father Barron shows how this vision is supported by the mystery and truth of the Resurrection of Jesus.”

For more information on the series go to: [www.catholicismseries.com](http://www.catholicismseries.com)

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

**GENERAL AUDIENCE  
OF WEDNESDAY, 24  
OCTOBER**

*"Man is "alone." That  
means that he,  
through his own  
humanity, through  
what he is, is  
constituted at the  
same time in a*

## **Man's Awareness Of Being A Person Pope John Paul II**

### **Summary of the Sixth Audience by Tom Kennedy**

In the previous audience, the Pope told us about man's original solitude both as the male human, and as a species. In this audience, he told us that Geneses portrays man as a person with all the qualities that describe him, or make up his being.. God gave man the order not to touch the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. This gave man the features of self-determination and choice. He gave us free will. This, by itself, gives man qualities that belong only to him.

Original solitude includes self –consciousness and self-determination, which give man an awareness of who and what he is, and the ability to make his own decisions. The fact that man is “alone” allows him to understand his role within the realm of his existence, and is the first meaning of original solitude. This allows us

*unique, exclusive and unrepeatable relationship with God himself"*

**To read the Audience [click here](#)**

to understand the words "I will make him a helper", and the second meaning of original solitude.

We are told that man is made in the image of God, and later that he is shown to be a "subject of the covenant". This means that he was created with the dignity and function of being a person, and that he was created with the dignity and function of being "a partner of the Absolute". In other words not only was he human, but he was created in a covenant or holy, binding agreement and partnership with God. He is allowed by both of these states to know and choose between good and evil. Through his humanity then, he is a partner with God, and he has a unique, never to be repeated relationship with God Himself.

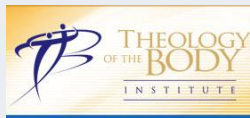
Man is of the visible world. A body among bodies". Through the body, he knows he is alone.

The Yahwist text of the bible tells us that "there was no one to till the land" which can be read in context with the Elohist text "Fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion...." This refers to man's work of tilling the earth. To have "dominion" means that he alone in all of creation can dominate it because he is alone, has that capability, and was told he could change it to meet his own needs "irrigate the whole land". We can say then, that this activity belongs only to man, and is a further meaning of original solitude.

## **The Chastity project**

Jason and Crystalina Evert have spoken to more than one million people on five continents about the virtue of chastity. After working for Catholic Answers in San Diego for more than a decade, the couple moved to Denver and began a new ministry focused solely on promoting purity: Chastity Project.

[chastityproject.com](http://chastityproject.com)



## **Theology of the Body Institute**

### **Upcoming Course:**

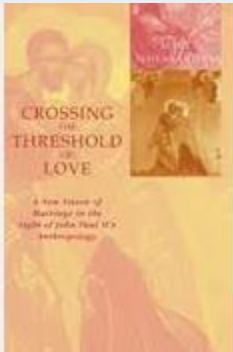
January 5-10, 2014 - Quarryville, Pennsylvania

Writings of John Paul II on Gender, Marriage and Family

with Dr. John Grabowski

[Click Here](#) to register online

For more information [click here](#).



## Recommended Reading

*Crossing the Threshold of Love: A New Vision of Marriage*

by Mary Shivanandan

In this most exhaustive and scholarly assessment of John Paul II's Christian anthropology ever written, Mary Shivanandan examines the scientific data and the theological analysis that underlie his teachings on marriage and sexuality. Her book will be an essential text for the study of the development, meaning, and implications of Catholic doctrine in this controversial area. It is both lucid and multi-disciplinary. Its appearance marks a new stage in the debate over sexuality in the modern world.

For more information  
[click here](#)

*These summaries come from the John Paul II's International Film Festival Website.*

*While we cannot fully recommend any of these films as we have not viewed them, we did see For Greater Glory and highly recommend it.*

## John Paul II International Film Festival - 2012

- **Restless Heart**

RESTLESS HEART uses a historic backdrop to tell the true story of Augustine of Hippo -- one of the Catholic Church's most beloved and well-known Saints.

- **If Only We Had Listened**

Follow Immaculee Ilibagiza, a genocide survivor, as she returns to Rwanda, uncovering the secrets of Kibeho, where a prophecy took place, while reconciling with her painful past. Buried beneath the bones of a million victims, a story of faith and hope emerges, and Immaculee reveals that the prophecy of Kibeho is not just a warning for Rwanda, but for the entire world

- **The Fighter's Ballad**

MATURE LANGUAGE (17+ ONLY) London...present day. A violent, desperate man breaks into an inner city church. With him, he brings the anxiety and anger of contemporary society. Once inside the church, he faces his greatest opponent...a world weary Priest. The Fighter challenges the Priest, on the fundamental fabric of

life...faith and death, belief and passion. The scene is set, in the fight for truth, redemption and forgiveness.

- **The Greatest Miracle (El Gran Milagro)**

A story of the unseen sense of going and participating in church. It focuses on three characters and their guardians. This is what is understood to happen within a celebration of mass. From confession, to each part of mass such as communion, the offerings and our prayers for those who have gone to heaven or purgatory. Thus having hope and faith will help the stories advance through the explanation of mass.

- **California Solo**

MATURE LANGUAGE (17+ ONLY) A former Britpop rocker who now works on a farm gets caught driving drunk and faces deportation after living in Los Angeles for many years. His efforts to stay in the U.S. force him to confront the past and current demons in his life.

- **The War Of The Vendee**

In 1793, after enduring three and a half years of mounting persecution by the architects of the French Revolution, a small band of peasants and nobles in a section of western France began a Catholic 'counter-revolution' The sacrifices of the Vendean people resulted in countless martyrdoms, but ultimately won the restoration of religious freedom for all of France. This film is suitable for all ages, and features a non-traditional cast made up entirely of children.

- **Rise And Dream**

Rise and Dream, a documentary, is the story of 13 teenagers who live with the challenges of poverty in a volatile region of the Philippines. When they volunteer to learn traditional instruments for a once-in-a-lifetime concert, the pressure mounts. Their perseverance is inspiring, but the triumph of the teens and their families in their everyday lives invites us to a new understanding of people living in poverty.

- **Somewhere West**

While battling with a terminal illness, Ian decides to forgo treatment and head West in search of solitude and a beautiful place to spend his final moments. However, despite his best efforts, Ian becomes the center of a makeshift family of troubled, but kind-hearted characters who help him in the redemptive process of letting go, opening his heart and finally reaching his undetermined destination.

- **7 Days Of Sacrifice**

7 Days of Sacrifice follows three young men throughout the course of a week as they fight to reject the significant pressures and demands of a self-indulgent culture. The men live together in community for seven days and refuse to eat, believing that their diminishing physical strength will be buoyed by a maturing understanding of the purpose of their own lives and human life in general human life and real, authentic friendships

- **For Greater Glory**

A chronicle of the Cristeros War (1926-1929); a war by the people of Mexico against the atheistic Mexican government.

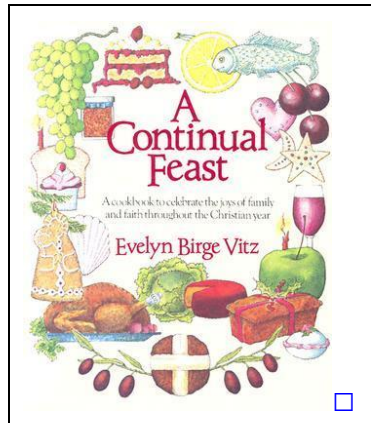
**What a good idea!**

Just in time for Christmas.

[Ignatius Press](#)

## **Donate Catholic Books to Catholic School Libraries**

### ***A Continual Feast: A Cookbook to Celebrate the Joys of Family & Faith Throughout the Christian Year***



"A cookbook full of wonderful recipes and ideas drawn from throughout the Christian tradition, with suggestions about when, and why, these dishes might be served. It contains more than 275 recipes with which to celebrate all the holidays throughout the Christian year, as well as the many shared rituals that strengthen family bonds and enrich the significance of the day to day events of our lives.

How these rituals, rites and feasts came about, how they are celebrated around the world, and how you can bring them into your home are described every step of the way. Includes wonderful illustrations.

A Continual Feast brings new meaning to "breaking bread together." A book to cook from and learn from, it includes: menus for holidays and every day recipes for all occasions from church picnics and Sunday suppers to birthdays, namedays, confirmations, and baptisms; wonderful cooking projects for children; recipes for Christmas giving; thoughtful suggestions on taking food to others; customs associated with many great Christian holidays from Advent through Pentecost as well as various saints days around the world; traditional meanings associated with particular foods; tips on fasting and abstinence; recipes that incorporate leftovers; quotations from the Bible and various theological and gastronomic sources; many recipes of varied ethnic origins; a wealth of Christian history and thought."

## **Peter's Points to Ponder**

There have been a number media spins on a recent interview with Pope Francis where the topic of abortion was mentioned, including misquoting or paraphrasing the quote to better facilitate the "media sound bite". In

one instance the Pope was quoted as saying that Church has been “too obsessed with homosexuality and abortion”, triggering the belief among some that the Holy Father is opening the way for a change in Church teachings on these very important topics.

To clarify, the Holy Father said “We cannot insist only on issues related to abortion, gay marriage and the use of contraceptive methods. This is not possible. ... But when we speak about these issues, we have to talk about them in a context. The teaching of the church, for that matter, is clear and I am a son of the church, but it is not necessary to talk about these issues all the time.”

The Holy Father’s remarks are very clear that there will be no change in Church teaching. Abortion and gay marriage are grave sins, and the Church (or more specifically the Pope) has no authority to redefine what is sinful.

The Holy Father’s remarks were not meant to suggest that abortion or gay marriage is somehow becoming “acceptable”, taken in the full context of the interview, the Holy Father was focusing on the need to be a welcoming Church, a Church that spreads the Good News of Jesus Christ (The Gospel). As a Church, it is not enough that we wag a finger at those who are sinning. We need to offer them help; we need to assure them that despite their previous wrongs, the Church stands ready to welcome them “home”. Pope Francis is suggesting a new tone of language is required because we can not properly evangelize if all we do is recite the rule book. We need to be more than just the laws and commandments; we need to be a loving Church, a Church that stands ready to forgive. These comments, when taken in full context, reaffirm using a somewhat different language. What the Holy Father has been saying time and time again, God doesn’t tire of forgiving his people; we tire of asking for forgiveness.

While speaking to an audience of Catholic gynecologists just days after this interview was published, the Holy Father said, “Every child that isn’t born, but is unjustly condemned to be aborted, has the face of Jesus Christ, has the face of the Lord” and pointed to , a “throw-away culture” that fails to respect life. The Holy Father went onto implore those in attendance to stick with their convictions and help bring lives into the world rather than take them.

Let us stand ready to forgive those who have made the mistake of an abortion and assure them of Christ’s loving presence. We cannot end abortions without a change in hearts, and reciting rules to hardened hearts will not work. We need to turn the hearts of stone, to hearts that ache for God’s love and God’s forgiveness.



**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.*

## Girl Talk - for Mothers and their Daughters

Our goal is to provide information on the fundamentals of young girls' cycles in the presence of their mothers; to facilitate mother-daughter communication in this delicate area; to support parents in their task of educating their daughters in Christian sexuality.



[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.



## 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](http://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 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 body of your email.