

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.godsexandthmeaningoflife.com/Newsletters.html> - click on Volume 22 - 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 2011

VOLUME 22

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](#)

Contents

[GSML News](#)

[Important Announcement](#)

[ToB Teen Study Group](#)

[A Biblical Walk Through The Mass](#)

[Guiding Your Child \(Intro\)](#)

[Light Weigh](#)

[Upcoming Theology of the Body Workshops](#)

[New Workshops/Retreats](#)

[Monthly Conference on JPPI's Teaching](#)

[Theology of the Body Talk](#) - TOB Institute

[Love & Responsibility](#) - Dr. Janet Smith

[Contraceptives Kill People](#)

[Peter's Points to Ponder](#)

[Catholic TV](#)

[Recommended Reading](#) - Biblical Walk Through the Mass

[Wojtyla Summer Institute](#)

[Natural Family Planning](#)

[Please sign the Petition](#)

[Donate Catholic Books to Catholic School Libraries](#)

[GSML Ministry on FaceBook](#)

[GSML Ministry Information](#)



GSML News

Important Announcement:

We have been getting so many queries about holding Workshops and teaching on the Theology of the Body, we would like to form another team who are willing to help spread this teaching. With that in mind, we are going to form a Theology of the Body Interest/Discussion group with the purpose to meet, learn, discuss and pray together with the hope that some of the group might be lead to help spread the Theology of the Body.

If you are interested please get in touch with us at gsmlvolunteers@gmail.com

Some of the topics will include:

- *The Human Person in the Midst of a Culture of Death & JPPI's Response* by Dr. Michael Waldstein
- *The Neurology & Psychology of Gender* by Dr. Philip Mango
- *The Sun Has Scorched Me: The Mystery of Man* by Eric Scheidler
- *From Love & Responsibility to the Theology of the Body* by Fr. Roger Landry
- *A Garden Enclosed: The Mystery of Woman* by Katrina Zeno
- *Theology of the Body and Art? The Naked Truth* by Fr. Thomas Loya

More information will follow in the next newsletter.

Recent Workshops or Teachings:

Theology of the Body for Teens Study Group

We are both blessed and pleased to have been invited into one of our local area Catholic high schools to present Theology of The Body for Teens for twelve weeks to grades 9 through 12. What an opportunity! We thank the religion department in the school for their enthusiasm and support, but we mostly thank the students who, during the first six weeks, are showing an interest, as well as a healthy curiosity regarding the teachings.

A Biblical Walk Through the Mass

We were honoured to be asked by Father Morosco Lett of Holy Redeemer Church in Pickering to facilitate our workshop "***A Biblical Walk Through the Mass***" in his parish over a five week period, which started on October 22, and will continue on the next four consecutive Thursdays. The workshop includes all of the upcoming changes in the Mass and also "takes participants on an exciting tour of the liturgy. They will see, perhaps for the first time, why they say what they say, and do what they do every week at Mass. The words and gestures will be seen in a new light, giving new life to their liturgical experience."

If you would like to attend but are unable to attend right now, Fr. Jim Bussanich and Fr. Michael Holmes of St. Bernadette Parish in Ajax have also asked us to present the same five evening course in their parish hall in February of next year. For more information on this see below.

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.

Contact:

gsmlministry@gmail.com



**Starting Again
Why don't you join
us.**

*Grow in your Catholic
Spirituality while you
lose weight.*

*"Chastity: the virtue
that directs all our
sexual desires,
emotions, and
attractions toward
the dignity of the
person and the real
meaning of love. It
falls under the
cardinal virtue of
temperance.
Chastity is saying
"yes" to the
demands of
authentic love."*

*- Theology of the
Body for Teens*

"Educating children

Guiding Your Child (Intro) at St. Philip Neri

Our group was honoured to be invited to participate in St. Philip Neri Church's 60th anniversary celebration events. Our first workshop, Guiding Your Child Through the Sexual Minefield, was held on Monday Oct. 17. This first session was very well received by participants, many of whom, after the introductory session, signed up for the second session at St. Philip Neri. This will be the full day in-depth presentation of the same workshop and will be held on Saturday Nov. 12 from 9:30 am to 4:30 pm with a \$5.00 charge which will include lunch.

Please join us - contact: stbreg@gmail.com

Some comments about the Guiding Your Child Workshop were:

- I loved it. It was very interesting
- Very informative. As a grandparent, two things really helped me.
- Great tool in teaching our growing children
- You whetted my appetite, but I know there's much more to learn

Light Weigh

Our third session of Light Weigh has been going great. We have learned quite a lot about our Catholic faith and how to have a sacrifice focus.

The Light Weigh is a 12 week Video Series - Bible Study where you will learn a new approach to eating and to prayer. Light Weigh members learn to eat the foods they enjoy in moderation. **A Weight Loss program written from the Catholic perspective.**

If you are interested in joining us, please contact gsmlministry@gmail.com

An orientation day will be held on Dec. 13 starting at 9:30 am at St. Bernadette's Parish Hall at 21 Bayly St. E in Ajax.

Theology of the Body Workshops in the Fall:

We are conducting several workshops on the Theology of the Body in the Fall of 2011 and early 2012.

We will be holding a Full Day workshop. The topic includes toddlers, Pre-Teens, the Teenage Years and Creating a Recipe for Successful Dating.

This is a presentation for parents, grandparents, teachers and all those who work with children, and is based on John Paul II's writing on how to counteract the false messages about love and sex in our culture. It provides advice and tools for raising children from the very young in a loving, chaste and pure manner.

Guiding Your Child Through the Sexual Minefield: Theology of the Body for Toddlers to Teens and Beyond!

St. Philip Neri Parish

Address: 2100 Jane Street, North York ON

Intersection: Just north of the 401

for chastity strives to achieve three objectives; (a) to maintain in the family a positive atmosphere of love, virtue and respect for the gifts of God, in particular the gift of life; (b) to help children to understand the value of sexuality and chastity in stages, sustaining their growth through enlightening word, example and prayer; (c) to help them understand and discover their own vocation to marriage or to consecrated virginity for the sake of the Kingdom of Heaven in harmony with and respecting their attitudes and inclinations and the gifts of the Spirit."

- The Truth and Meaning of Human Sexuality: Guidelines for Education within the family.

Dates: Sat. Nov. 12, 2011
Time: **9:30 am - 4:30 pm (full day)**
Cost: \$5.00 (includes lunch)
Register: stbreg@gmail.com

God, Sex and the Meaning of Life

At St. Philip Neri Parish

Address: 2100 Jane Street, North York ON
Intersection: Just north of the 401
Dates: Monday Dec.12,2011 - Session 1
Monday Jan 16, 2012 - Session 2
Monday Feb. 13, 2012 - Session 3
Monday Mar. 19. 2012 - Session 4
Time: **7:00 pm to 9:00 pm**
Register: stbreg@gmail.com
Admission: Free (Optional Study Guide is \$10.00)

A Biblical Walk Through the Mass
Sponsored by St Bernadette's Knights of Columbus

Address: 21 Bayly St. Ajax
Intersection: Harwood and Bayly
Dates: Saturday Feb. 18, 2012 - Session 1
Saturday Feb. 25, 2012 - Session 2
Saturday Mar. 3, 2012 - Session 3
Saturday Mar. 10. 2012 - Session 4
Saturday Mar. 17, 2012 - Session 5
Time: **10:30 am to 12:30 pm**
Register: stbreg@gmail.com
Admission: Free (Optional Study Guide & Book are \$25 (aprox.))

For more information or to register [click here](#) or email: stbreg@gmail.com

Some New Workshops / Retreats:

Confirmation & Theology of the Body Retreat

- We will be offering a Confirmation Workshop/Retreat on the Theology of the Body, Please contact us to book one.

Theology of the Body for Grade 7 & 8

- A new program, which would augment the *Fully Alive* program.

Theology of the Body in the Classroom

- Short introduction to the Theology of the Body for Teens of 1 period length.

Due to the importance of BL John Paul II to the whole Church, St. Augustine Parish has dedicated the year May 1st, 2011 – 2012, as "**The Year of Blessed John Paul II**". They have scheduled special events, including monthly presentations of his teachings and main documents.

Monthly Conference on Bl. JPII Teachings

Spirituality & Devotions:

Speakers: Sr. Maria Parousia (English)
Sr. Maria Regina Pacis (Spanish)

Where: St. Augustine of Canterbury Parish
80 Shoreham Dr., Toronto, ON

When: Thursday Nov. 17, 2011
Following Votive Mass at 7:00 pm

Website: johnpaulthegreatfamilycentre.org

Jesus & Catholicism:

Speakers: Fr. Mario Salvadori (English)
Fr. Andres Ayala, IVE (Spanish)

Where: St. Augustine of Canterbury Parish
80 Shoreham Dr., Toronto, ON

When: Thursday Dec. 15, 2011
Following Votive Mass at 7:00 pm

Website: johnpaulthegreatfamilycentre.org

Other Talks:

Morality & Sexuality - Jan. 19, 2012

Mystery of Suffering - Feb. 16, 2012

Dignity of Women - Mar. 15, 2012

Art & Culture - April 19, 2012

Theology of the Body Talk

Date: January 12th, 2012

Location: Kings University College, 266 Epworth Ave, London, N6A Canada

Presenter: Damon Owens

Contact: Sister Susan Glaab, CSJ

Email: sqlaab@uwo.ca

Description: 7:30-9pm This talk introduces a new "vision for life" designed for young adults! Many will come to see, perhaps for the first time, who they really are and who they are called to be. God's plan for us is stamped right into our bodies, and understanding this plan will give attendees a new lens through which to see their lives, relationships, and the world around them. Damon Owens will address and answers some of the most fundamental questions of human existence.



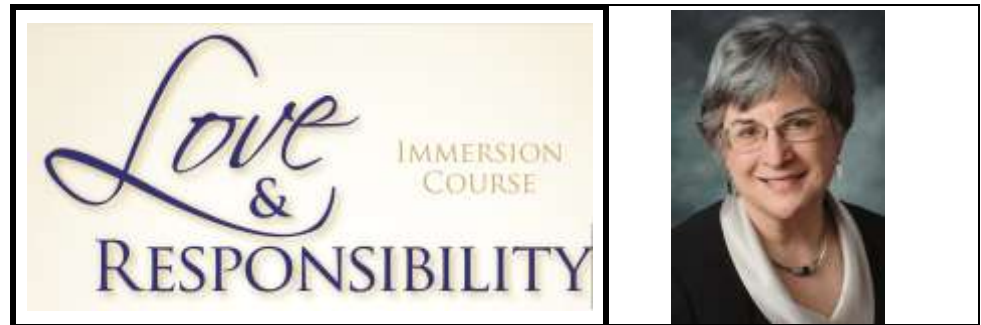
Theology of the Body
Institute



www.tobinstitute.org

"Chastity is a difficult, long-term matter; one must wait patiently for it to bear fruit, for the happiness of loving kindness which it must bring. But at the same time, chastity is the sure way to happiness."

- Pope John Paul 11



Taught by Dr. Janet Smith - January 1-6, 2012

Karol Wojtyla's classic book *Love and Responsibility* is his philosophic treatment of sexual attraction. In this text he explains how to transform the sexual urge from a desire for selfish pleasure to a means for expressing love. This course will examine the philosophy of the human person and human sexuality that undergirds John Paul II's theology of the body. Among themes that will be covered are the meaning of the personalistic norm, sexual attraction as the raw material of love, male and female differences, conscious parenthood, shame, and the true nature of chastity as a virtue.

Janet E. Smith holds the Father Michael J. McGivney Chair of Life Ethics at Sacred Heart Major Seminary in Detroit. She speaks nationally and internationally on the Catholic teachings on sexuality and on bioethics. con sulter to the Pontifical Council on the Family.

Over a million copies of her talk, *Contraception: Why Not*, have been distributed. Registration deadline is December 8, 2011. Contact Tess at 215-302-8200 ext. 102 or takre@tobinstitute.org

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Contraceptives Kill People, Harm the Environment, and Bankrupt the Economy

by Matthew Archbold Tuesday, October 11, 2011

Contraception is popularly heralded as a great societal advancement while the Catholic Church's stance against it has been viewed by many as, at best, counter cultural and, at worst, indicative of a Church whose time has passed.

The truth is, however, that the mainstreaming of contraception may be one of the most calamitous events of the past century. While it's been shown that the availability of contraception has led to increases in illegitimacy, abortion, broken families, and helped to create an epidemic of single motherhood there are other consequences as well. Contraceptives are responsible for an increase in HIV cases in Africa, harming the environment, and bankrupting the worldwide economy....

Read more: [Click Here](#)

*"The greater the feeling of responsibility for the person the more true love there is."
- Pope John Paul II*

Peter's Points to Ponder

The church places a great deal of significance on the raising of children, and procreation. One of the 3 questions asked by the priest or deacon presiding over the wedding service is "Will you accept lovingly children from God, and bring them up according to the law of Christ and His Church?" So what about couples that learn after marriage that they are infertile, or those who become infertile after marriage? What does the Church or bible teach Catholics about this?

The answer can be found in Luke 23:29 "For behold, the days will arrive in which they will say, Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that have not borne, and the breasts that have not nursed." What is most interesting (and not coincidental) is the context of the text surrounding this poignant statement. Luke 23 is the biblical narrative that forms the 'Stations of the Cross'. This biblical passage presents one of Jesus' darkest, and certainly most painful time.

From personal experience, I can attest that this is one of the most painful things a couple must deal with, and at times it does feel like the couple must suffer a burden equal to the weight of the cross. This is also an area where couples often suffer in silence because they are ashamed to admit that they have fertility issues.

What would others think of them, is it my fault, is there something I could have done differently to prevent this from happening? Even worse, and very painful, does my spouse blame me for what's happened and can he/she still love me now that we have a fertility issue?

In my case, my wife was diagnosed with cancer less than 1 year after our wedding, and the cancer treatment required surgery that would render her infertile. Our marriage was a short one (less than 5 years). Unfortunately for us I did not learn about this particular biblical passage until recently, during a bereavement support program that was offered through my local parish.

For those couples that are suffering the weight of this painful cross I pray that prayer and deeper meditation upon this biblical passage will bring you some comfort. It brought me a great deal of comfort, and has helped me deal with this, especially in light of my wife's recent passing.

Catholic TV on the Theology of the Body



www.catholicTV.com

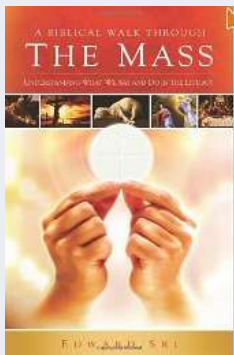
From the CatholicTV living room with hosts Jay Fadden and Kevin Nelson. Guest: Bill Donaghy.

Bill Donaghy's interview starts at 15:11 minutes into the talk

www.catholicTV.com/videos/videos.aspx?videoID=133

Bill has worked in the fields of mission and evangelization in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia since 1999. Through his work with the Pontifical Mission Societies, Bill has given hundreds of talks on the spirituality of mission to young people throughout the greater Philadelphia area and beyond. He has experienced the love of Christ in the missions of Haiti, El Salvador, and the Dominican Republic as well as within the realms of Young Adult and Parish ministry in Philadelphia.

Recommended Reading



A Biblical Walk Through the Mass Book

by Edward Sri

As Catholics, the Mass is the center of our Faith. We celebrate it every day. We know all the responses. We know all the gestures. But do we know what it all means?

In *A Biblical Walk Through the Mass*, Dr. Edward Sri takes us on a unique tour of the Liturgy. Based on the revised translation of the Mass which goes into effect Advent, 2011, this book explores the biblical roots of the words and gestures we experience in the Liturgy and explains their profound significance. This intriguing look at the Mass is sure to renew your faith and deepen your devotion to the Eucharist.

To help prepare for the New Translation and to see how connected the Bible is to the Mass

This book is used as the text for the Adult Faith Formation Program, but may also be purchased separately at steep bulk discounts. For parishes not doing a study, this is a perfect resource for catechizing adults on the true meaning of the Mass, and why it is so central to our faith.

Dr. Edward Sri is a nationally- known Catholic speaker and the author of several best-selling books. He is provost and professor of Theology and Scripture at the Augustine Institute and founding leader with Curtis Martin of FOCUS (Fellowship of Catholic University Students). Dr. Sri holds a doctorate from the Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas in Rome. He resides with his wife, Elizabeth, and their six children in Littleton, Colorado.



Our Lady Seat of Wisdom Academy

Wojtyla Summer Institute A Success

From August 4-7 Our Lady Seat of Wisdom Academy (OLSWA) hosted its first annual Wojtyla Summer Institute for Catholic high school teachers. The theme of this inaugural institute was The Theology of the Body (TOB) and how to teach it in schools. Attendees from school boards and communities across Ontario were welcomed to OLSWA and the Madawaska Valley for this weekend conference.

The mission of the Wojtyla Summer Institute is to advance OLSWA's mission of serving the Church by offering programs focusing on aspects of the Faith and Catholic social teaching which will be available to groups or individuals interested in further developing their understanding of Catholicism.

[Read more....](#) or <http://seatofwisdom.org/>



Natural Family Planning Association

Programs offered:

- The School Program
- The Mother Daughter Program
- The Marriage Preparation Program
- The Clinic Program
- Teacher Training Program
- The Seminarian Program

For more information about the Natural Family Planning Association Toronto - [click here](#) or <http://www.naturalfamilyplanning.ca/toronto/>

Please sign the Petition

*** Please join the petition campaign to the Attorney General of Canada (AG).** We are urging the AG to do whatever is possible to prevent the legalization euthanasia and assisted suicide.

Download the English petition at:
www.euthanasiaprevention.on.ca/Petition_to_AG_Canada_English.pdf

What a good idea!

Items to help teachers and parents teach young children and teens about the Mass.

"Why do Catholics need new books to go over the same ground? Saint Augustine addressed God as a truth "ever ancient and ever new." The prayers and signs do come to us from venerable antiquity, and they remain basically the same. Yet some details change, as the rites make their home in different times and cultures. We've changed, and so our experience of Mass has changed. It's time for us to take a fresh look, from where we sit now -- and from where we stand and kneel."

- *The Mass: The Glory, The Mystery, The Traditions* by Cardinal Donald Wuerl & Mike Aquilina

Donate Catholic Books to Catholic School Libraries

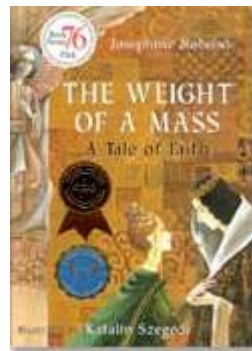


My Mass Kit™

Award winning My Mass Kit™ offers 12 child-friendly, soft sculpture replicas of items used by the priest during the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

The kit includes 12 cleanable pieces: Crucifix, Chalice, Thurible, Finger Bowl, 2 Cruets, 2 Candles, Paten (cotton/polyester blend), Corporal & Purificator (cotton cloth), and play Hosts (foam). A colorful 24-page spiral booklet makes this an excellent teaching tool for a religious education class or at home.

Designed to be taken everywhere, My Mass Kit™ comes in an attractive briefcase with luggage tag for personalization, and both a shoulder strap and a handle

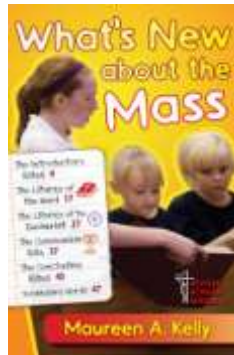


The Weight of a Mass: A Tale of Faith By Josephine Nobisso's

Kindergarten-Grade 3-This gentle tale celebrates the power of the Mass in the Roman Catholic faith. A shabby, penniless old woman enters the baker's shop as he is preparing luscious creations for the king's wedding, which is about to take place in the city cathedral.

Few are expected to attend, however, because the populace has grown cold and neglectful about their faith. When the baker refuses to give the old woman even a crust of stale bread, she offers to say a Mass for him, in exchange for food. Scoffing, he writes "One Mass" on a tiny piece of paper, places it on his scale, and tries to overbalance it with heaps of his finest pastries, but to no avail. The Mass outweighs them all. Chastened, he and his customers hurry to the cathedral to renew the practice of their beliefs at their monarch's marriage. The text, which

was inspired by an actual event recounted by a priest in Luxembourg, is written in a lilting, storytelling style and teaches its lesson sweetly. Double-page spreads of warm-toned watercolors are filled with swirling action and show charming, doll-like people in Victorian dress.



What's New about the Mass

By Maureen A. Kelly

Based in part on Paul Turner's book for adults, *Understanding the Revised Mass Texts*, this resource explains the changes in the Mass texts at a very simple level so that children who have already learned the parts of the Mass, the prayers and responses, and have received first Holy Communion will understand the changes in the texts and be able to respond at Mass.

What's New about the Mass Teaching Edition: Handbook for Teachers and Catechists by Maureen A. Kelly

This resource is the companion teaching edition to *What's New about the Mass*.

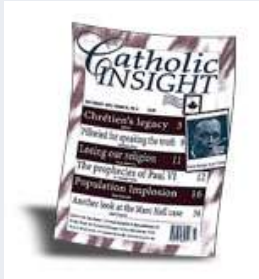
What's New about the Mass for Teens - Maureen A. Kelly

This booklet is for teenagers in seventh through twelfth grades. It is the perfect resource to help teens understand the changes in the Mass texts. Based in part on Paul Turner's *Understanding the Revised Mass Texts*, this booklet includes:

- reasons for the changes,
- new prayers and responses,
- explanations of the new words and the parts of the Mass,
- emphasis on the scriptural roots of our prayers,
- activities,
- full-color photos.

What's New about the Mass for Teens Teaching Edition: Handbook for Teachers and Catechists by Maureen A. Kelly

This resource is the companion teaching edition to *What's New about the Mass for Teens*.



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

GSML Ministry is on FaceBook

If you have a question or would like to start a discussion - look us up at www.facebook.com/pages/GSML-Ministry/142788839095476

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 twenty Workshops on Pope John Paul II's Theology of the Body in Parishes in the Toronto and Hamilton Archdioceses. 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 four Theology of the Body for Teens workshops and have been invited into three high schools to provide a session on the Theology of the Body in the Classroom. We have also held workshops for Parents.

Please keep GSML Ministry in your prayers

Contact information: gsmlministry@gmail.com

www.godsexandthmeaningoflife.com/

God, Sex and the Meaning of Life Ministry has Toronto Archdiocesan approval

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