

God, Sex, and the Meaning of Life Newsletter

August 2008 Edition, Volume 2

Website: www.godsexmeaningoflife.homestead.com

Contact us at: stbreg@gmail.com

What's New?

We have renamed our e-mail and newsletter file names to GSML to avoid getting caught by the e-mail SPAM filters (because of the word SEX). The content of our newsletter remains the same.

If you did not receive a copy of our first (June 2008) newsletter and would like a copy please e-mail us at gsmnewsletter@rogers.com.

God, Sex and the Meaning of Life Workshops

We are now booking into 2009. If your Parish is interested please call Susan or Tom Kennedy at 905-427-6137 or e-mail stbreg@gmail.com

Theology of the Body For Teens!

You've asked for it, and we're pleased to remind you that we will be offering a 12 week program on Theology of the Body for teens. The program starts September 25, and runs through December 11 from 7:00 to 9:00 PM.

This is what every parent wishes their teen could learn. Theology of the Body for Teens provides the answers to the confusing message of love from culture and the media.

The program will be held at Holy Redeemer Parish Hall in Pickering at 796 Eyer Dr.. Please encourage any young people you know to attend.

For more information check out our [Teens Website](#).

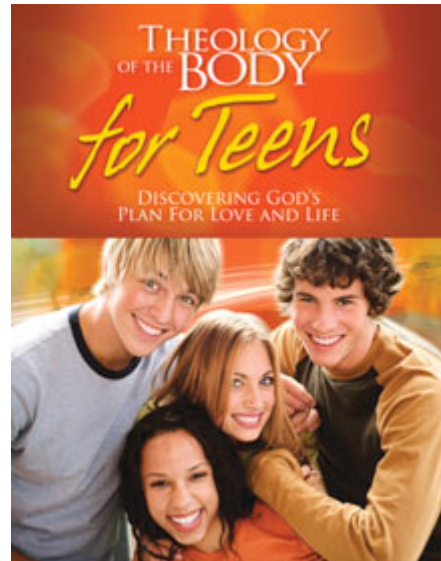
Calling All Youth Leaders

We would like to extend an invitation to all Youth Leaders to attend the Theology of the Body for Teens.

This would a valuable opportunity to study the course with an idea to bring it to your youth group!

Parents Information Night

We will be providing intrested parents with information about the Theology of the Body for Teens program on September 11, 7:30 PM at Holy Redeemer Parish Hall. We pray that you will encourage your teens to attend.



St. Bernadette's Theology of the Body Study Group

The Theology of the Body study group held in St. Bernadette's Parish Hall, (21 Bayly Street East , Ajax) will resume on Monday Septmber 8 from 9:30 – 11:30 AM. The group meets every Monday (except Thanksgiving, October 13). We're always looking for new members, and everyone is welcome to attend!

Women of the Third Millennium

Women of the Third Millennium is a lay organization that promotes the dignity, vocation, and mission of women and men through retreats, talks, articles and books. It was founded in response to Pope John Paul II's call to develop a new feminism.

WTTM draws primarily on the teaching of the Roman Catholic Church and Pope John Paul II's "Theology of the Body". For more information visit their website: <http://wttm.org/>

40th Anniversary of 'Humanae Vitae' Conference

St. Michael's College Alumni Hall (81 Mary Street, Toronto) will be hosting a conference to commemorate the 40th Anniversary of Pope Paul VI's encyclical 'Humanae Vitae' on Saturday November 15, 2008 from approximately 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM with a closing Mass.

The conference will include various speakers including Dr. Maria Kraw and several witnesses using natural family planning (NFP) to show that the Church's teaching on sex is "do-able". We hope to have more information available in our next newsletter.

Online Theology of the Body Course

Notre Dame University is offering an online course on the Theology of the Body running from Monday, October 13, 2008 - Friday, November 21, 2008.

For more information and to register go to please visit their [website](#).

About Our Workshops

In 2006 – 2007 we offered our workshop to 190 participants, 21 who expressed interest in further study. We also provided 21 students with community service hours.

In 2007 – 2008 we were able to expand our workshops to a total of 236 participants, 18 of which expressed interest in further study. We also provided 26 students with community service hours.

Here is a small sample of comments received from participants when asked to describe their reaction or provide highlights about the workshops:

- Hearing the truth and learning the richness of our faith
- I enjoyed being in groups and meeting new parishioners. I found the group discussions interesting.
- The combination of Christopher West's videos and group chats was excellent. Each week offered a new aspect of the course.
- Mr. West's analogies and enthusiasm; being able to discuss theology and morality with fellow believers

Points to Ponder

In the Nicene Creed we profess "We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son...". In other words the Holy Spirit proceeds from the Father and the Son as a result of their continual gift of self to one another (outpouring of love).

During his weekly audiences on March 12, 1980 the Holy Father said "Procreation brings it about that the man and the woman (his wife) know each other reciprocally in the 'third,' sprung from them both." Again we see an outpouring of love resulting in new life.

Drawing from what we profess in the Nicene Creed, and the Holy Father's arguments, we can learn that the marital act provides couples with the opportunity to participate and experience a small taste of the Holy Trinity here on Earth!

For this to be true the marital act needs to be open to new life. As the Nicene Creed says "the Lord the giver of life", and any action to impede new life is contrary to the love of the Trinity.