



God, Sex and the Meaning of Life

MARCH 15, 2010

VOLUME 12

Join the new evangelization

Learn Presentation And Training Techniques

A presentation is an effective method of conducting a seminar or workshop. As a public speaker, you will be able to communicate effectively using a variety of tools and media. Participants will learn presentation techniques such as how to use visual aids in presentations, how to maintain audience attention, and how to conduct a workgroup. This two-day session will allow participants the opportunity to practice these skills with other attendees. Personal and private feedback will be provided by a facilitator.

Where: St. Bernadette's Church, 21 Bayly Street East, Ajax.

When: Saturday March 27 and Saturday May 29, 2010

Time: 9:30 am – 4:00 pm

Cost: \$25 which includes material handouts and a cold lunch.

The sessions will use *Theology of the Body for Teens* and Katrina Zeno's *Theology of the Body from Toddlers to Teens* as a basis for the training.

Register by email: stbreg@gmail.com or by phone: Rose Heron 905-683-9055 or Jan Noonan 905-420-8696 or go online at www.godsexandthmeaningoflife.com/

Please prayerfully consider attending. It will be a blessing upon you and all whom you share it with. We look forward to seeing you.

Email
gsmlministry@gmail.com
to book a Workshop in
your Parish or Group

GSML Workshops

The next GSML Workshop is to be held at:

- St. Dunstan's Parish at 3150 Danforth Ave., Scarborough - Tuesdays April 20, April 27, May 4 & May 11 from 7:30 pm - 9:30 pm
- Guardian Angels Parish, Orillia all day Saturday May 15 from 9:30 to 4:30. Cost \$5.00 (for lunch)

Doors open half an hour early at both Workshops. Open to everyone. Bring a friend
Register at: stbreg@gmail.com

Respect for Life Week – May 10 – 14

If you are a teacher, consider holding our **Theology of the Body in the Classroom** session for your students. This introductory Theology of the Body presentation on Pope John Paul II's teachings will be in DVD format with discussion following the short video (i.e., question/answer period) and handouts will also be provided.

Length: One classroom period, but the timing can be adjusted. The session will provide a perfect opportunity to experience a small portion of this program.

‘I have set before you life and death...choose life so that you and your descendants may live.’-- Deut 30:19

God Sex and Christopher West

Wednesday, March 17, 7:05pm and 11:05pm ET
Catholic Focus

Salt + Light will be showing clips and an interview with Christopher West filmed at the **Theology of the Body: Discovering the Master Plan for Your Life Conference** which was held on Oct. 16 & 17, 2009, sponsored by God, Sex and the Meaning of life Ministry in partnership with Natural Family Planning Toronto. It also includes brief interviews with other conference participants.



The Christopher West interview was filmed at the conference on October 16th, and the show includes brief interviews with other conference participants

S+L Program Info

In the wake of a sensationalized TV interview, Christopher West was thrust into a debate about his teaching on John Paul II's Theology of the Body. The popular author and speaker responds to the controversy in a candid discussion with host Kris Dmytrenko. Also interviewed are authors Brett Salkeld and Leah Perrault, who consider whether Catholic audiences are ready for frank discussions of faith and sexuality. (Salt & Light Promotions)

ToB Teens Workshop

On Feb. 13, GSML Ministry was pleased to conduct a ToB for Teens Workshop for the Malankara Catholics Youth Conference in Toronto. Youth came from as far away as Chicago, Detroit & Philadelphia. A copy of the report in their Newsletter can be found opposite:

Malankara Catholic Mission 2010 St. Mary's Newsletter

"The 2010 MCYM-NA Mid-west Regional Conference was held in Toronto from February 12 to 14. A Regional conference is conducted every year to bring the Malankara youth of the region together. Midwest region includes the youth from Chicago, Detroit, and Toronto, a total of around 40 youth attended this conference as well as Saji Achen (Vicar of the Chicago Mission), and Koshy Achen (Vicar of the Detroit Mission). The conference was also blessed with the presence of His Excellency Most Rev. Dr. Joseph Mar Thomas. The conference began with a prayer meeting on Friday at Mr. John Thomas's residence. Most of the Toronto youth attended the prayer and it was a great start for the 2010 regional conference.

The theme of this conference was Theology of the Body. The topic was covered extensively by the GSML ministry on Saturday and they were effective in conveying the message. Theology of the Body is based on the series of 129 lectures given by Pope John Paul II. GSML Ministry provided a condensed version of the Pope's teachings. Throughout the day, the youth were involved in various discussions and activities that helped them understand the different issues that were brought up. In the evening, the Holy Mass was celebrated by His Excellency Most Rev. Dr. Joseph Mar Thomas.

The conference came to an end on Sunday with the Holy Mass, celebrated by Koshy Achen. After lunch, the youth from Chicago and Detroit started their journey back home with a greater understanding of the Theology of the Body. The conference was made a success through the efforts of the youth, parents and especially Daiju Achen. It was wonderful to see the community come together to help organize the 2010 regional conference."

[www.stmarysmalankaracatholicchurchtoronto.ca/St.Mary's%20Malankara%20Catholic%20Church%20Newsletter March%202010.pdf](http://www.stmarysmalankaracatholicchurchtoronto.ca/St.Mary's%20Malankara%20Catholic%20Church%20Newsletter%20March%202010.pdf)



Christopher West is going to Ottawa

After successful experiences in Edmonton (2007) and Quebec (2008), COLF has decided to organize the 3rd National Symposium on the Theology of the Body in Ottawa, October 20-22, 2011. This event will reach out particularly to the young and the young at heart. Two major Theology of the Body experts will unite to offer an introduction to the prophetic teachings of Pope John Paul II on the meaning of life and God's plan for human love and sexuality: Christopher West (USA) and Yves Semen (France). Archbishop Terrence Prendergast, of Ottawa, is happy to welcome this event to his diocese.

Christopher West is coming to Toronto again with a new talk

Freedom to Love: Called to Fullness of Life in Christ

May 8, 2010 from 8 am - 5 pm.

Canada Christian College 50 Gervais Dr.

Cost: \$30 before March 31 \$40 after

We are caught in the grip of a sexual revolution. Promulgated in everything from film to literature, from music to advertising, sex is an industry pushing relentlessly forward – and leaving a wide path of broken hearts, broken relationships, and broken souls in its wake. Deeply wounded by misguided ideas of sex and the human body and aching with a desire that can't be named, the human heart cries out for answers: What do I live for? What is this burning desire inside? Is there healing? Can I find satisfaction? Will I ever find what I'm looking for?

As the first major teaching of his pontificate, Pope John Paul II sought to answer these questions in a series of 129 papal audiences given from September 1979 to November 1984, which he entitled Theology of the Body. These short talks were the nucleus of a new sexual revolution – reorienting the human desire for love, redefining what it means to be created male and female in the image and likeness of God, and placing our understanding of the body and sexual union into the perspective of the Gospel, the Bible, and the whole of Christ's mission on earth. Papal biographer George Weigel called Theology of the Body a "theological time bomb set to go off with dramatic consequences, sometime in the third millennium of the Church".

If the Theology of the Body is a theological time bomb, then Christopher West – internationally-renowned lecturer, prolific writer, research fellow at the Theology of the Body Institute, and devoted family man – is lighting the fuse. Dynamic, engaging, and deeply moving, West combines a profound reverence for the faith, an infectious enthusiasm, a deep knowledge of pop culture, and his own experiences as a husband and father to convey the richness of John Paul II's study of human sexuality to a level that is exciting, easy to understand, and that strikes home – intellectually, emotionally, and spiritually.

Join us as we explore the deepest desires of our hearts – and discover what it means to truly answer the call to fullness of life in Christ! Register now: cfc-canada.org/cfcalbum/
- brought to you by: *Couples for Christ Toronto Pro-life Ministry*

Theology of the Body Articles on the Internet

"Toward a Theology of the Suffering Body - by José Granados

There is a chapter of John Paul II's *Theology of the Body* that is still waiting to be written. This claim might be borne out by way of a statement from the author himself, who mentioned at least one aspect of his work that would be worthy of development: "These reflections do not include multiple problems which, with regard to their object, belong to the theology of the body (as, for example, the problem of suffering and death, so important in the biblical message)."¹ Suffering and death are especially important when we try to understand the redemption of the body brought about by Christ. Now, let us remember that the catecheses are arranged according to a temporal pattern: from creation, to historical man (fallen and redeemed), to the resurrection of the body, that is, the last stage of history. This means that the missing chapter in question is the one that would make the transition between the fallen and redeemed states of mankind: the very life and death of Christ, the exact moment and way in which the redemption of the body—and its renewed access to the original experiences of Paradise—took place. ... *to read the rest of the article go to* www.communio-icr.com/articles/PDF/granados33-4.pdf

What is Marriage?

Can a man marry a man? Can a woman marry a woman? Can a man simultaneously marry several women, or a woman several men? Can a man simultaneously marry several men, or a woman several women? Can a man marry his sister or his mother? His brother or his father? Can a woman marry her brother or father? Her sister or mother?

Read more at: tobinstitute.org/newsItem.asp?NewsID=54

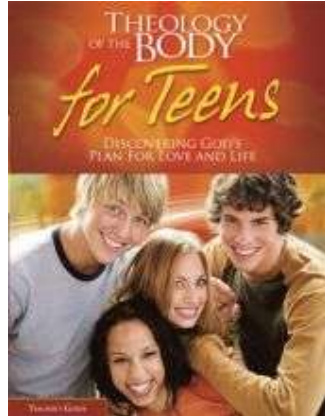
Book Review

Theology of the Body: Some Thoughts & Reflections by Karen Doyle

"In *Theology of the Body: Some Thoughts and Reflections*, Karen Doyle Presents significant insights on key ideas of Pope John Paul II's Theology of the Body. The author's accessible writing style opens the door to further exploration of the Pope's groundbreaking work, which offers hope to people hungry for the truth about the human person and the truth about human and divine love." - from the back cover (pg. 90- Pauline Books & Media

Theology of the Body for Teens Resources

Every day, students are thinking about their sexuality as they are searching for meaning in their lives. Young people today need a curriculum that helps them understand the significance of their sexuality and the purpose of their lives. *Theology of the Body for Teens: Discovering God's Plan For Love & Life* is the program you've been waiting for! Pope John Paul II's revolutionary *Theology of the Body* is changing lives around the world through its positive portrayal of our sexuality as a good and essential part of love and life.



Theology of the Body for Teens brings this exciting teaching into a practical format of 12 lessons that teenagers will enjoy and understand. This program takes the two hottest topics on the planet God and sex and marries them through Pope John Paul II's compelling vision for love and life. The Leader's Guide offers the facilitator the ability to easily implement and run a TOB for Teens study in the home, parish, school, or youth group. The Leader's Guide is essential to the success of the study. *The TOB for Teens Study Guide is designed to be used in conjunction with the Leader's Guide. In order to run a study, the leader(s) must have the Leader's Guide to navigate themselves, and the students through the program.

Where to buy Theology of the Body Resources

The first two are Catholic Canadian Book sellers. Our group deals with both sellers;

- Sunrise Marian - www.sunrisemarian.com/ - Please mention us
- Joseph's Inspirational - www.josephsinspirational.ca/
- Our Father's Will Communications - www.ourfatherswillcommunications.com/

Our Father's Will Communications has the best selection on the ToB. As they are American you might want to order through either Sunrise Marian or Joseph's Inspirational

Other Study Groups?

Does anyone know of other study groups in the Toronto area? We have had requests for study groups in different areas. Is there anyone interested in starting one? We will help in any way we can. Please contact gsmlministry@gmail.com.

Presently, we are running two at St. Bernadette's Parish at 21 Bayly St Ajax

- Monday Morning from 9:30-11:30
- Every 2nd & 4th Monday evening from 7:-9:00.

Comments on the Theology of the Body

GSML Workshop - February

We completed a GSML Workshop on Saturday Feb. 13 at Epiphany of Our Lord Parish in Scarborough. It was a full day Workshop and over 40 people attended. The evaluations were very positive. Some of the comments:

- It was an excellent introduction to the teachings of Pope John Paul. Although condensed, it brought forth clarity to the teachings of the Church
- Excellent. It was very interesting & educational.
- It was so educational. Thank you for giving us the opportunity to learn about it.
- Very informative. Good format. Presenters are excellent.

Email gsmlministry@gmail.com to arrange a GSML Workshop for your Parish or group

TOB Opens a New Meaning of Love

Submitted from Renee Ardiente's blog Fri, 01/22/2010 - 03:08

"Attending the Theology of the Body Conference opened my eyes and my heart to a whole new meaning of love. By understanding that God's love is free, total, faithful and fruitful, I have become more aware of how I am able to give love back, not only to God but also to others. I found myself falling in love with God all over again and was inspired even more to share His love with everyone that I came across. I believe that God used Christopher West very powerfully that weekend through his dynamic approach and as he shared his relevant testimonies with everyone. May God bless us all abundantly and may this message of love continue to reign in all our hearts!"

~ Grace Parillas, YFC Full Time Worker, Mississauga, ON

cfcqta.org/prolife/?q=node/18

Theology of the Body Congress

The Theology of the Body Institute announces the first annual National Theology of the Body Congress — what organizers hope will be the most expansive gathering of Theology of the Body experts and enthusiasts ever assembled.

The Congress will be held at Normandy Farm Hotel and Conference Center outside Philadelphia from July 28- 30, 2010 with the theme "Receiving and Proclaiming the Gift." Registration is now open at www.TOBCongress.com.

Featured speakers include: Justin Cardinal Rigali, Fr. Richard Hogan, Dr. Michael Waldstein, Fr. Brian Bransfield, Dr. Janet Smith, Helen Alvare, Christopher West and many more.



Points to Ponder

Who can forget the days that followed April 2, 2005? There was the outpouring of emotion the world over for Pope John Paul II with cries of "SANTO SABITO!" (Sainthood Now!).

The Holy Father often spoke of a "Culture of Death", a culture that looks to death for resolution to life's problems. For John Paul II, this wasn't a philosophical or abstract idea, this was a reality for him growing up in Poland. As a young man, he would have witnessed his friends being taken away to the Concentration Camps, and no doubt would have lived in fear that the same thing could have happened to him had his clandestine priestly studies ever been revealed to the German authorities. After all of this, he lived through Communism in Poland until being elected to the Papacy on October 16, 1978. The tragedies that shaped Pope John Paul II's life taught him about the dignity of the human person, something he preached about throughout his papacy.

Now, almost 5 years later, the cries for sainthood continue throughout the Church. The true 'Miracle' of John Paul II's life would be if everyone who cried for sainthood at his funeral also cried out for the dignity of man, and cried out for a "Culture of Life". The cries would include, the cries to end abortion, cries to end the abuse caused by the use of artificial contraception, and cries to respect the God given differences in the sexes.

The "Theology of the Body" portrays John Paul II's vision of the human person, and the dignity that comes along with being created in the image and likeness of God! Let us pray for the canonization of our beloved Holy Father, but let us also pray for what he wanted the most, a "Culture of Life"!

Familia's Event

MARRIAGE: Free, Fruitful, Faithful, Forever

Familia invites you to spend a romantic evening celebrating marriage at:
Le Dome Banquet Hall, Caterina's Room
May 15th at 5:00 p.m. 1173 North Service Road, Oakville ON

Event includes:

- Buffet Dinner
- Guest Speakers:
 - Allan and Nicole Cruz
 - Fr. Kenneth Leblanc, LC
- Live entertainment by:
 - Charlie Graci and Paul Chesla

Cost: \$100/per couple

Registration Deadline: May 5, 2010

**Contact: David & Fatima Borges,
Local Directors of FAMILIA-Toronto**

E-mail: borgest@sympatico.ca

Phone: 647-227-0697

Visit our website for news, and resources for:

- Teachers
- Parents
- Teens
- Articles
- Books
- Websites
- And more

Please keep GSML Ministry in your prayers

Contact information

gsmlministry@gmail.com

<http://www.godsexandthmeaningoflife.com/>

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