



God, Sex, and the Meaning of Life Newsletter

September 2009 Edition, Volume 9
Website: www.godsexandthemeaningoflife.com
Contact us at: gsmlministry@gmail.com



“Theology of the Body: Discovering the Master Plan for Your Life”

****NEW** Pay Your Conference Registration
Using a Credit Card! **NEW****

Have you paid your conference registration fee yet? If not, we're pleased to announce that the process is even easier!

Click [here](#) to find out how easy it is to pay using your credit card!

**Don't Miss Out!! There are still seats
available!**

It's not too late to register – there are still seats available for the “Theology of the Body: Discovering the Master Plan for your Life” conference. Don't miss out on what many have called a life changing experience.

To register please visit our [website](#), e-mail stbreg@gmail.com or by phoning the Natural Family Planning Office (416-481-5465).

Please make cheques payable to:

Natural Family Planning Association
3050 Yonge Street, Suite 205
Toronto, Ontario. M4N 2K4
ATTENTION: Conference

When: Friday, October 16, 2009 7:00 - 9:30 PM (Doors open at 6:00 PM) and
Saturday, October 17, 2009 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM (Doors open at 7:00 AM)

Where: Canada Christian College
50 Gervais Drive Toronto, Ontario (Don Mills Road & Eglinton Avenue)

Please keep the conference and the God Sex and the Meaning of Life Ministry in your prayers.

Find the Answers to Your Troubling Questions?

Have you ever questioned why females cannot be priests? Ever wondered why priests are not allowed to marry? Have you ever thought the church was 'out of touch' with her teachings on sexuality and contraception?

The answers to these questions, and many other often troubling ones, can be found within Pope John Paul II's “Theology of the Body”, and will be answered during the conference by guest speaker Christopher West.

Thank You!!

We would like to acknowledge our conference sponsors and friends. Please let them know you saw them here!

[Natural Family Planning Association](#)
[Paul O'Connor Funeral Home](#)
[Sunrise Marian Centre](#)
[Interpretation Joseph Blain Inc.](#)
[Haber Blain Insurance Brokers Ltd.](#)
[St. Joseph's Workshop](#)
[Serena Ontario](#)
[Federation of North-American Explorers](#)
[Catholic Youth Studio](#)
[Familia](#)
[Holy Inspiration](#)
[Catholic Insight](#)
[St. Joseph's Workers for Life and Family](#)
[Metro](#)

Priest Luncheon / Seminar Proclaiming the Theology of the Body

Free for all priests and Seminarians.

When: Friday, October 16, 2009 11:30 – 4:30 (Doors open at 11:00 am)

Where: Blessed Trinity Catholic Church
3220 Bayview Ave, Toronto

RSVP: stbreg@gmail.com or 416-481-5465 (NFP)



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Do You Have an Upcoming Event?

Do you have an upcoming event you would like to have included in our newsletter? Submissions for our November newsletter should be received by e-mail no later than October 15, 2009 at gsmlministry@gmail.com

We ask that all submissions are faithful to the Magisterium of The Church.

Points to Ponder

On June 19, 2009, His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI declared the "The Year of The Priest", which concludes on June 19, 2010, (Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus). This year is meant to be a time of prayer for the sanctification and renewal of the clergy. During his announcement, the Holy Father reiterated the church's teachings on the male celibate priesthood.

So why would the Pope call for prayers for the renewal of the clergy, and at the same time remind the faithful that this calling is only for the celibate male? To some this may seem like a contradiction, or Rome simply being 'stuck in its ways'.

In a culture fixated on sex, the celibate vocation in general, not just the priestly vocation, is even more important. The celibate vocation is meant to remind the non-celibate that there is a greater love than the love expressed by man and wife in the 'One Flesh Union'. So what is this love that's greater than the love of man and wife? The Love of God! In other words, the celibate priesthood opposes the MTV culture head-on and boldly proclaims that there is more to life than sex!

There are countless references within Sacred Scripture that refer to the Church as the Bride of Christ. In much the same way, the parish priest devotes his life to Christ's bride, the parish. The all male priesthood ensures that a fruitful love exists between the bridegroom and the bride (Christ and His Church).

Like many of the Church's teachings, a full understanding can be achieved within a few paragraphs. We encourage those interested in these topics to attend the upcoming Theology of the Body conference, during which topics such as the celibate priesthood will be discussed in greater detail by Christopher West.

An Evening with Michael Coren and Nicole Campbell

Spend an evening with Michael Coren (host of the nightly Michael Coren Show on CTS television and weekly newspaper columnist) and Nicole Campbell (National Director of the 40 Days for Life Campaign in Canada), on Thursday September 24 from 7:30 – 9:00 PM. The event is being held in conjunction with 40 Days for Life and Life Chain at Holy Redeemer Parish (796 Eyer Dr. Pickering).

Evangelium Vitae: Study Group

Priests for Life Canada is offering an online study guide on Pope John Paul II's encyclical letter "Evangelium Vitae" (Value and Inviolability of Human Life). Priests for Life Canada will present a new lesson in a six-part series starting October 6. The study group is open to all clergy and lay people. For more information please visit www.priestsforlifecanada.com. Please let them know if you would like to receive a weekly e-mail reminder for each lesson.

Recommended Reading

Called To Love: Approaching John Paul II's Theology of the Body by Carl Anderson, (Supreme Knight of the Knights of Columbus) and Father José Granados (New York Times Bestselling author) is a thoughtful and accessible work on the beauty of love and the splendor of the body inspired by the works and writings of Pope John Paul II.

As they explain, the body speaks of God, it reveals His goodness, and it also speaks of men and women and their vocation to love. *Called to Love* brings to life the tremendous gift that Pope John Paul II bestowed on humanity, and gives readers a new understanding of the Christian way of love and how to embrace it fully in their lives.

**"The world offers you comfort, but you were not made for comfort; you were made for greatness."
– Pope Benedict XVI**

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Symposium 2009: Conscience and the Good of Society

The Catholic Archdiocese of Edmonton, Canadian Catholic Bioethics Institute (Institut canadien catholique de bioéthique), and the Catholic Civil Rights League (Ligue catholique pour les droits de l'homme) host the Symposium 2009: Conscience and the Good of Society on October 3, 2009 in Toronto. The keynote speaker is Iain Benson, BA (Hons.), MA (Cantab.), LLB, and the Executive Director for the Centre for Cultural Renewal. For more information please visit www.ccbi-utoronto.ca.

Culture of Life Conference

The Culture of Life Conference hosted by the Fellowship of Catholic Scholars includes the following topics: Euthanasia, Dead Sea Scrolls, Teaching and Learning in the Post-Catholic University, Political and Legal Discourses.

When: Saturday, October 3, 2009
from 9:00 AM -3:30 PM

Where: Muzzo Family Alumni Hall, Room 100
121 St. Joseph Street, Toronto.

The conference fee is \$20, or \$30 including lunch. For more information, call 905-409-1482. Tickets are available at the door or in advance from afuyarchuk@hotmail.com. Please mail cheques to: Pat Redmond, 270 Fincham Ave, Markham, Ontario, L3P 4E6 (payable to Fellowship of Catholic Scholars).

Everything Under \$10 Sale for Teens

TRENDS, a club dedicated to teenage girls promotes personal style without comprising dignity, is hosting their 2nd Annual "Everything Under \$10 Sale" on September 26, from 2-5 PM. All proceeds support the TRENDS organization.

This event also features a mini introductory session to learn more about TRENDS and the upcoming workshops for the year. It is also a chance to meet new girls over appetizers.

For more information about please call 647-284-5686 or e-mail Melissa.Pagtalunan@CIBC.com.

40 Days for Life

Kick Off Rally & Vigil Schedule!

The Kick Off Rally for 40 Days for Life will include great music, a guest speaker, and a video presentation that will be sure to motivate and inspire you to get involved in the most successful pro life initiative in the history of the pro life movement!

WHEN: Tuesday, September 22 from
7:30 – 8:30 PM.

WHERE: Canada Christian College
50 Gervais Drive Toronto, Ontario (Don Mills Road & Eglinton Avenue).

We have TWO locations this fall! For more information, or to sign up for hours please visit <http://www.40daysforlife.com/toronto/>

Please start praying about how God wants you to be a part of this life changing and life SAVING effort!

Reproductive Decisions and Women's Well Being

"Reproductive Decisions and Women's Well-Being: Current Research and Practical Solutions" includes the latest research on for women's health:

- After an abortion presented by Dr. Deborah Zeni
- What abortion means for women presented by Journalist Andrea Mrozek
- A workshop based on case studies led by Teresa Hartnett
- An expert panel of social service providers

When: Friday October 2nd, 2009
from 9 AM – 4 PM.

Where: University of Toronto, St. Michael's College,
Carr Hall, 100 St. Joseph Street, Toronto.

The cost of the event is \$75, and includes lunch. To register, please call 416-256-0555 or email bioethics@deveber.org.

Additional information is available at www.deveber.org.

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Affirming an Effort of Care: Back to the Future

Providence Healthcare, St. Joseph's Health Centre and St. Michael's Hospital are hosting the "Affirming an Ethic of Care: Back to the Future" conference on Friday September 25 at the Courtyard by Marriott Toronto Downtown hotel (475 Yonge Street).

Martin L. Smith, STD, Director of Clinical Ethics, Department of Bioethics, Cleveland Clinic, Cleveland, Ohio will deliver the opening address "Where Religious Convictions Create Clinical Clashes: Theological and Ethical Considerations" starting at 9:10 AM. For more information please visit:

www.stjosephmoscati-tcdg.com.

Catholic Scripture Study

Catholic Scripture Study (CSS) is ideal for any parish or group looking for an inspiring Bible study that is completely faithful to the teachings of the Catholic Church. The study commentaries are written by leading Scripture scholars and authors, and each study contains references to the Catechism of the Catholic Church, papal encyclicals, the writings of the early Church Fathers and the Saints.

Already in session:

Acts of the Apostles at St. Gregory the Great (Oshawa)

Starting in September 2009:

The Book of Revelation at St. Theresa's Shrine (Scarborough), St. Boniface (Scarborough), and Sts. Martha and Mary (Mississauga)

Acts of the Apostles at St. Paul's (Alliston)

Starting in October 2009:

The Gospel According to Matthew at St. Patrick's (Toronto)

For more information please contact Ray Suryadinata at 1-877-228-7830 ext. 721 or ray.sur@cssprogram.net.

What Others Have Said

From our Theology of the Body Workshops:

- Reinforces the sanctity of the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony and our belief that God created man and woman for his glory.
- It is biblically inspired
- I am very pleased with the teaching today
- Very informative, educational
- These helped to clarify answers about sexuality, the church and God for not only myself but in terms of answering questions posed by my high school students.
- Discovering the true meaning of marriage and the relationship with our God and Church. The workshop covers the whole glimpse of life – single or married
- The theology – too many examples to mention. One of the great blessings is that the more one knows of the Church, the more beautiful the understanding becomes.
- I gained a lot of knowledge about sexuality and the church's teaching.
- Christopher West's presentation provides the clearest explanation of Catholic principles that I have heard or read. Most enlightening. Many thanks
- Christopher West is very passionate and informative on the Pope's message. It makes you question yourself – Are we truly understanding God's purpose for our lives? Each week I learned more about myself and how I looked at the Church's views on sex and Marriage, Celibacy, etc.



"So stand fast with your loins girded in truth..."
- Ephesians 6:14