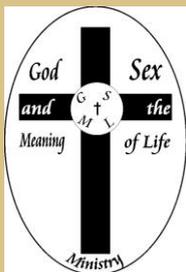


If you received this twice, please accept our apologies. If the Newsletter does not appear as it should please go to our Website at <http://www.godsexandthemeaningoflife.com/Newsletters.html> - click on Volume 36 - to view the document. If you would prefer to receive this email as a PDF attachment please let us know.



God, Sex and the Meaning of Life

MAR 2014

VOLUME 36

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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](#)

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



**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

Let's give our teens an
opportunity to
discover the truths.

Contact: Rose and Pat
Heron at
roseheron@gmail.com
or 905-683-9055

We are now booking into 2014.

Consider booking a Theology of the Body Workshop for Lent.

GSML News

Theology of the Body Spring Bazaar and Garage Sale

Save the date: **Spring Bazaar and Garage Sale**,
April 27, 9 am to 2 pm.

At St. Bernadette's Parish Hall, 21 Bayly St. E., Ajax

This is a great time to spring clean for the White Elephant table or re-gift Christmas gifts to the raffles.

Drop off good quality items, books and baked goods on April 26 from 2-8 pm.

Bake goods, prizes, food, children's games, and more... A good time for all.

All proceeds go to Theology of the Body programs in the schools and community. Contact Susan 905-427-6137 or Rosemarie 647-291-8842

Recently, GSML Ministry / Theology of the Body Ministry ran these program for St. Bernadette's Parish:

- *Theology of the Body Study Group – Monday mornings*
- *Went into the parish schools to teach the Grade 2 & Grade 8's to make Virtue Beads*
- *Went into the parish schools to teach the Grade 3's about the various materials used to say the Mass*
- *Theology of the Body & Confirmation for the Public School Confirmation Class at the Church*
- *Facilitated the Catholicism Series for the Year of Faith*
- *The Theology of the Body for Grade School once a month for the Youth Group.*
- *The 8 talk Theology of the Body at both the morning and evening Bible Study*
- *The 16 – talk Theology of the Body at the morning Bible Study*
- *Now running the evening Bible Study*
- *Facilitating at the Apologetics*

Outside the Parish we ran:

The word **apologetics** comes from the Greek word *apologia* found in **1 Peter 3:15** and means "defense." The Bible says that we're to always be ready (thus the name of this ministry) to give a "defense" (an *apologia*) to people who ask us about the hope we have as Christians.

"But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defence to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear;" 1 Peter 3:15

Theology of the Body touches all aspects of our Catholic faith and is deeply rooted in the Bible. It is part of the New Evangelization. Drop

- *Two Theology of the Body for Teens*
- *A talk at a High School in Toronto*
- *Weekend ToB Workshop in Ancaster, ON*
- *Bi-monthly Newsletter*

Apologetics

We are now facilitating the Apologetics at St. Bernadette's Parish in Ajax. Sessions are held the fourth Saturday of the month after the 9 a.m. Mass – start 10:00 a.m.

March 22 ***Contraception: A Second Look***

April 26 ***Exorcism: Be Not Afraid***

May 24 ***Great Catholic Faith Quiz***

For more information contact [Click Here](#)

ToB for Teens Ancaster – Weekend Retreat

The recent *Theology of the Body for Teens* weekend program at St. Ann's Parish in Ancaster report.

There were 15 youth at the program. The weekend went well, we did the program on Friday evening and then on Saturday all day from 9:00am until 4:30pm, as Mass was 5pm. Then on Sunday from 10am to 4pm. The teens had a great time and were enthusiastic, especially when doing the activities.

One Sister from the Sisters of Our Lady Immaculate gave her vocation talk, early Sunday afternoon. The Sisters of Our Lady Immaculate are a contemplative-active community of religious women founded in Guelph, Ontario. Here is their website: www.solisisters.ca/ The SOLI Sisters have a You tube page - The main video is vocations and then they have frequently asked Questions. http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lczvV_xnMGg&list=PLFXdivpEsrqv3gsnrF2Ugbl_tBny0HpSU&index=1

Book a Theology of the Body for Teens Workshop in 2014

Theology of the Body Study Group

Freedom, truth, gift, communion, dignity, love, person, meaning: these are all themes which are continually found throughout the writings of Pope John Paul II.

We not only image God through the gift of free-will, but also through being in communion with others. "To be human means to be called to interpersonal communion." Why? Because God himself is a communion of persons in the Trinity.

in and see what it is all about.

JPII explains,

"Man became the "image and likeness" of God not only through his own humanity, but also through the communion of persons which man and woman form right from the beginning." (TOB, Nov. 14, 1979)

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.

Contact us at gsmlministry@gmail.com

Everyone welcome. Also bring your Catholic Faith questions as we delve into many topics.

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.

March 1, 2014 Hope & Future: Daily Living Out the Language of the Body

April. 5, 2014 Dating

If you are interested in this new program, please contact us at gsmlministry@gmail.com

Theology of the Body and Marriage Preparation

Our Facilitators are ready to speak about Theology of the Body and Marriage Preparation.

As Pope Benedict XVI said, The Theology of the Body is a way to find true love.

Let's make use of this wonderful tool to help strengthen marriages.

Contact us to arrange this talk at your parish Marriage Preparation Course.
Contact Rose Heron at: roseheron@gmail.com or 905-683-9055



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

Original Unity Of Man And Woman

Pope John Paul II

Summary of Audience Eight - by Tom Kennedy

The words, "it is not good for man two be alone", take us from "original

**GENERAL
AUDIENCE OF
WEDNESDAY, 7
NOVEMBER**

At the General Audience in St Peter's Square on 7 November, John Paul II continued his cycle of catechesis on marriage.

"Perhaps, therefore, the analogy of sleep indicates here not so much a passing from consciousness to subconsciousness, as a specific return to non-being (sleep contains an element of annihilation of man's conscious existence), that is, to the moment preceding the creation, in order that, through God's creative initiative, solitary "man" may emerge from it again in his double unity as male and female."

To read the Audience [click here](#)

solitude" to what the Pope calls "original unity" When Christ was talking to the Pharisees about a man leaving his parents to be joined to his wife, and the two becoming one flesh, he started with the words "in the beginning". This calls us to look at the importance of "original unity", which starts with the creation of man as male and female.

Genesis 1 does not show "original solitude", as man is both "male and female" ("God created [man](#) in the image of himself, in the image of [God](#) he created him, male and female he created them."), but Genesis 2 makes us think of man (meaning humanity) by means of the body, and how he lives in the world but goes beyond it, then 2 makes us think of the same man, but through the male and female aspect.

The physical and sexual are not completely shown. Although the physical body has stamped in it the sign of sex which is either male or female, the fact that man is a "body" belongs more to the physical aspect of man than it does to the fact of being male and female. In other words, being male and female has a deeper meaning than just the physical aspects of the body. Therefore original solitude, which applied to "man", came before original unity. "Original Unity" is based on masculinity and femininity as if it was two separate unions of God and the "body", two ways of the human being created in the image and likeness of God.

Although Genesis 2 describes the creation of man and woman as two separate acts, both Books of Genesis tell the same story. Genesis is written in the language and way of speaking of the times in which it was written. Scholars call it "mythical", but not in the sense of a fairy tale, but in the real meaning of the word myth which is an old word meaning a way of telling a story with more meaning.

Genesis 2 is like a discussion between God and man. This is shown best at the stage where man is specifically created as male and female. This seems to take place in two dimensions at the same time – the actions of God as the Creator happens in a way that cannot be attributed simply to chance, at the same time as man becomes aware of himself. First, God says man should not be alone. Next as we can see, man now knows he is alone, and then God creates woman after putting man to sleep.

In this case, sleep is not as we know it, but more like man is taken into a state of non-existence at a time when he is looking for another being like himself, and when he awakes, man is now male and female, and has moved into a state of original unity.

Woman is made from Adam's rib, which makes it clear that the man and woman have the same characteristics ("bone of my bone, flesh of my flesh"), and she is called "a helper fit for him". In a way, woman is created in the same physical state as man, despite their sexual differences because "she was taken out of man". On seeing a being like himself, Adam is overjoyed with the person he sees as a second "self". This establishes what the Pope calls "original unity" – woman, a second self, a helper fit for him – they all describe unity.

"People need to study the teachings of John Paul 2 on the Theology of the Body. It's very important...that the intense writings of the Holy Father are made more accessible to everyone." -Cardinal Thomas Collins

Join the "Theology of the Body" Revolution!

Interested in knowing more about John Paul II's life-changing teaching, "The Theology of the Body"? Pauline Books & Media are holding a "Theology of the Body" presentation on the first two Saturdays of April 2014.

Date: April 5 & April 12

Time: 2:00 – 4:00 pm

Presenter: Sr. Helena Burns, fsp

Cost: \$5.00 at the door

For more information contact: HBurns@paulinemediacom

Sr. Helena Burns, fsp is a member of the Daughters of St. Paul. She is finishing her M.A. in Media Literacy Education; has a B.A. in theology and philosophy from St. John's University among many other achievements.

Seven Stages of True Love:

1. Attraction
2. Desire
3. Sympathy
4. Friendship
5. Goodwill
6. True Love
7. Betrothed Love

From Sr. Helena Burns

"Betrothed love"—is totally integrated love (body and soul). It is the highest form of love. It is the highest virtue, lived according to the primary elements of the human spirit: freedom and truth.

[Cohabiting couples STILL NEED to CONSUMMATE their MARRIAGE once they get married!! (No matter how much sex they've already had.) It IS new for them. It is ontologically different. This is a way to put it in a positive light!]

Living together is NOT a total gift. [I think those living together would be the first to admit this, also.] Living together is often out of fear of wanting to forecast the future. There is no way to "try" marriage. [No test drive! You "buy the car" sight unseen.] Young people actually think they are being responsible by "trying" marriage, because we have given them nothing else, no religious instruction on this issue at all.

[There are now "stayovers"—just living together 3 or 4 days a week because the "couple" still wants their solitude, their own apartments, bank accounts, "separate life," and are not necessarily heading toward living together or marriage at all.]

In the media, the steamiest, most enjoyable sex scenes are almost always between non-married people. We have to make MARRIAGE attractive and desirable (as it is)—it's just not easy!!!

Women accept all this stuff more than men because they know they will

benefit the most!!! Unless they have bought the lie that to benefit the most they must be like a man. OR take care of themselves without any reference to any man. But both men and women are interdependent.

Why did Satan go for woman? Our receptivity, our centrality to love and life. [And our lust for male power. "Eve saw that the fruit was beautiful and good for knowledge."]

To read more [click here](#)



www.tobinstitute.org

Theology of the Body Institute

April 27 - May 2, 2014

Theology of the Body I: Head & Heart Immersion Course
with Christopher West
Rosaryville Spirit Life Center - Ponchatoula, Louisiana

[Click Here](#) to register online

The Dynamic Women of Faith Conference

Saturday, April 12, 2014

This is our 5th Annual Dynamic Women of Faith conference and we are pulling out all the stops to make it extra special this year!

This year, not only will you experience all the same great hallmarks of our events including; gifts for the ten first women who register, door prizes, a fantastic music ministry, dynamic Catholic talks, but we are hosting a special mother daughter evening the night before!

For more information [click here](#)

Calling ALL Girls

Friday, April 11, 2014

This program has been created especially for girls(14-18 years) and their moms! The program runs from 7pm-10pm. It will feature a series of high powered dynamic talks, intended to revitalize both the faith and fun that is meant to exist in mother daughter relationship! [Raising girls](#) in this culture is tough and we are here to help! We have a panel of speakers lined up that evening that is guaranteed to motivate and inspire!

For copies of our conference brochure, please call us at **905 279-7702**, or email us with a request to dynamicwomenfaith2014@yahoo.com

www.catholicchapterhouse.com

Put On The Armour Of God - Understanding & Defending the Faith

Steve Ray in Toronto

"Put you on the armour of God, that you may be able to stand against the deceits of the devil." (Ephesians 6:11)

You are invited to join us in what is going to be another amazing day filled with prayer, faith and fellowship. It is a great opportunity to check out a variety of excellent faith-based organizations and *meet hundreds of other amazing Catholics* while being nourished and educated in the faith.

Be inspired by world renowned Catholic apologist, author and filmmaker [Steve Ray](#) who will be giving **three** different [talks](#). Also, we will have Catholic radio host and Executive Director of the Sheen Foundation of Canada [Allan Smith](#) who will be giving a [talk](#).

Featuring: Guest Speakers [Steve Ray](#) and [Allan Smith](#).

The event's theme is "*Put On The Armour of God - Understanding & Defending The Faith*". [Steve Ray](#) will be doing **3 talks** and [Allan Smith](#) will be doing one.

Location: Canada Christian College, 50 Gervais Drive, Toronto (Don Mills & Eglinton)

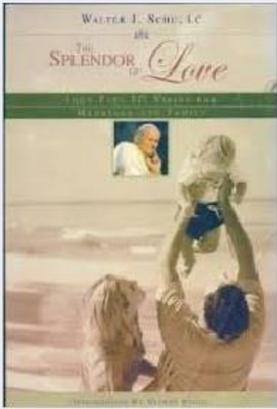
Date: Saturday April 12, 2014

Schedule: **Doors Open** 9:30am, **Event:** 10:00am – 4:00pm

Parking is FREE on site (first come first served). Lunch is available for \$5.75.

Recommended Reading

The Splendor of Love: John Paul II's vision for marriage and family



by [Walter J. Schu](#)

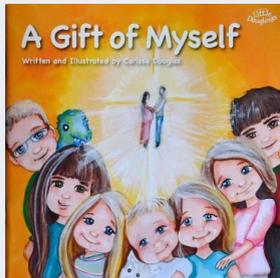
Contents:

Part I. Mankind and the family

Part II. Defending marriage and family : John Paul II's theology of the body

Part III. Natural family planning vs. contraception : two irreconcilable views of the human person.

What a good idea!



Only \$10.00

Carissa Douglas is a Canadian Catholic Speaker . Author . Illustrator

Donate Catholic Books to Catholic School Libraries

A Gift of Myself by Carissa Douglas

The new book is called "A Gift of Myself" and is basically a beginner's guide for children to Bl. Pope John Paul II's Theology of the Body. The endorsements for this book are GREAT (Matt Fradd, Katrina Zeno, Patrick Sullivan). The book can be ordered here:

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

"It is a joy for me to see one of St. John Paul II's most cherished teachings fill every page of this book - "man...cannot fully find himself except through a sincere gift of self." (GS 24) No child (or parent!) is ever too young (or too old!) to be introduced to this truth. Learning how to make a gift of self is our lifelong foundation for chastity, discipleship, and vocation. May you and your children always know that you are a gift!"
Katrina Zeno, International Speaker and Catechist on Theology of the Body

"There are few books that are loved by adults as well as children, are as deep as they are silly, and inspire us all to do great things. A Gift of Myself is just that

Patrick Sullivan, Catholic Speaker, Writer and Catechist

Theology of the Body and the New Evangelization

By Andrew Reinhart

Director, Theology of the Body Advocates

"The Theology of the Body is itself an expression of the New Evangelization. For those that are wondering "what is the New Evangelization?" It is a movement developed by JP II in his writings around the turn of the new millennium to center the focus and energy of

the Church to sharing the Gospel with everyone: those who have not heard it, those that have not heard it fully, and those that have rejected it. What is new about the New Evangelization is not a new Gospel or dogma. The Church's teaching is and will remain grounded in Christ's teaching. What is new is the approach to communicating the Gospel in the context of contemporary society. Or, if you like images, think of the Gospel as the ingredients to a fine meal (still the same ingredients as always). The New Evangelization proposes discovering new recipes for preparing those ingredients so that modern pallets will be attracted to eating them.

The Theology of the Body is not a change in Catholic teaching. Rather it's a new expression of timeless Gospel truths. While, JPII does definitely make some theological developments in the Theology of the Body, it is largely a re-proclamation of the Gospel in a way that speaks to the human heart. In a sense, our vision has changed, and the Pope is like an optometrist. The Theology of the Body is like a new prescription that enables us to focus on revelation and rediscover the original energy of the Gospel message." To read the whole article [click here](#).

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

Achieving Your Pregnancy Naturally

Capacity to conceive

Fertility reaches its peak at about the age of 24 in both men and women.



In women, the ability to conceive declines between 30 and 40, then rapidly as the menopause approaches. In men, fertility gradually diminishes from about the age of 50, although a man has the potential for fatherhood into old age.

Of those couples trying to conceive, fewer than a third will succeed within the first month, only 50% by 6 months and 80-90% by 18 months.

Infertility is usually defined as the inability to conceive after 12-18 months of sexual intercourse without contraception. Approximately 15% of couples trying to have a child are

for married couples, but all women can use it to monitor their health.

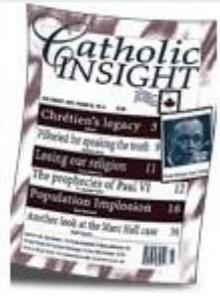
unable to do so. To read more [click here](#)



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

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

www.godsexandthmeaningoflife.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 with unsubscribe in the body of your email.