

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 29 - 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

JAN 2013

VOLUME 29

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.

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Book a Theology of the Body for Teens Worskhop for the Year of Faith



Pope Benedict XVI proclaimed the Year of Faith, which will began on October 11, 2012, and will continue through November 24, 2013..

A Theology of the Body Workshop would help your parish or group grow in the knowledge of their Faith.

Contact:

gsmlministry@gmail.com

There were so many positive comments that it was hard to choose which ones to include.

We can not stress how important the Theology of the Body for Teens Program really is.

If we care about our teens we would have

GSML News

Theology of the Body Study Group

Every Monday morning at St. Bernadette's Parish Hall, 21 Bayly St. E, Ajax from 9:30 am to 11:30 am.

Everyone welcome.

Theology of the Body for Teens - Response

We recently completed a Theology of the Body for Teens program at a Catholic High School in Whitby. The 12 weeks flew by as we facilitated the program to over 100 students in 4 classes from grade 9 to 10. We really enjoyed the time with the teens and their fresh perspective. We wish them all the best in the years to come and will keep them in our prayers. Here are a few of the many comments the students made:

- I really enjoyed the lesson about dating and how to treat women. I can't thank you enough!
- I especially enjoyed the Dating and Marriage Chapters. I learned a lot about how to act and treat others in the future.
- You taught me so much but the bigger and most important lessons are the difference between loving and using, that dating is really looking for a spouse, and that it is important to find a boy who will love me no matter what, not try to change me, and treat me how I should be treated. ... I shouldn't be dating him if I can't see myself marrying him.
- Without the help and guidance from you, I would not have understood God's call fully... I have perceived life in a new light...
- The chapters that really struck me were, Dating with Purpose and the Language of the Body... The way you related it to our lives as teens really made it hit home.
- What moved me the most during the program were the lectures on marriage and how we were created to love each other. It is a life changing experience.
- I really liked the activities that we played, my favorites were the one

this in every school.

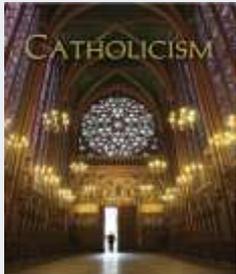
If you are interested in having us present it in your school please contact us.

One of the most important things that came out of this was that one student thought that some things could not be forgiven, but now they know otherwise.

If you want to read the full comments please [click here](#).

where we learned about each other and the one where we are all talking and there was a message trying to get from God.

- So many of my questions have been answered that were burning holes in my mind.
- They really opened my eyes. I am putting God first and I feel a new sense of inner peace.
- Before you came, I was unsure of the consequences of some things, such as premarital sex. I also thought many things could not be forgiven, but you taught me otherwise...
- It gave me hope that true faithful marriage is still out there.
- It taught me to DREAM BIG to achieve my goal in life.
- When we did the activity about God speaking to the Catholic - it taught me that its truly hard to hear him sometimes.
- It told me to DREAM BIG and because of that lesson, I think I will become a nun.
- Chapter 2 & 5 sent me the most powerful messages because I learned the differences love and lust, the values of abstinence and chastity, and a thorough understanding of free will and comparing authentic freedom with the cultural view of freedom.,



Session Two - Jan. 26

Happy Are We - The Teachings of Jesus

Session Three - Feb. 23

Catholicism

**By Fr. Robert Barron
DVD series with discussion**

- DATES:** Every 4th Saturday **next two Jan. 26 & Feb. 23, 2013**
- TIME:** 10:00 am to 11:30 am (doors open at 9:30)
- LOCATION:** St. Bernadette's Parish Hall, 21 Bayly St. E, Ajax
- COST:** Free (please register)
- REGISTRATION:** stbreg@gmail.com

You do not have to attend all sessions to enjoy this series

Catholicism Dates

Jan 26, 2013; Feb. 23, 2013; March 23, 2013; April 27, 2013; May 25, 2013; June 22, 2013; Sept. 28, 2013; Oct. 26, 2013; and Nov. 23, 2013

The Ineffable Mystery of God: That Than Which Nothing Greater Can be Thought

HAPPY ARE WE - THE TEACHINGS OF JESUS - Jan. 26

The revelation of Jesus as God is accompanied by a stunning invitation to a unique new way of life, explained in the teachings of Jesus. To every generation, the words of Jesus have proven fascinating, disorienting, sometimes confounding, deeply transformative, and always unforgettable.

Father Barron highlights the Beatitudes, the path of non-violence and lessons of forgiveness, care for the poor and our relationship with God as presented in the parables. Jesus' teachings are illuminated during Fr. Barron's pilgrimages to Poland, Germany, Spain and New York City.

Commentaries at these sites also show how the Catholic Church is a living culture, which gives witness to the inviolable dignity of the human person.

THE INEFFABLE MYSTERY OF GOD - THAT THAN WHICH NOTHING GREATER CAN BE THOUGHT - Feb. 23

Father Barron considers St. Anselm's description of God as that than which nothing greater can be thought, and goes on to explain St. Thomas Aquinas' arguments which support the claim that God truly exists. He also speaks from the Catholic tradition about the nature of God and the challenging question of evil and the existence of God.

To provide a vision of the ineffable majesty and mystery of God, Father Barron invites us to the heights of the Sinai desert and makes his way to mysterious Istanbul, walks the glittering streets of Paris and then captivates the viewer with the glories of the Sistine Chapel in Rome.

For more information on the series go to: www.catholicismseries.com

NEW

To better understand JP II writings we have decided to include summaries of the ToB.

On 5 September 1979, in the first of his General Audiences on the Theology of the Body, the Holy Father expounded the words of Christ, "In the beginning the Creator made them male and female."

Of The Unity And Indissolubility Of Marriage

Pope John Paul II

Summary of the first Audience by Tom Kennedy

"Pope John Paul starts his entire theology by taking us back to the beginning, by referring to Jesus' discussion with the Pharisees about divorce. They asked him if it was lawful under any circumstance to allow divorce. Jesus' replied that in the beginning God made man male and female, and "for this reason" a man shall leave his parents and be "joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh". Jesus continued "What therefore God has joined together, let no man put asunder." They pointed out to him that Moses had allowed divorce. Christ pointed out that Moses allowed it because of "their hardness of heart", but "in the beginning, it was not so." He did not get into a discussion on the legalities of divorce, but referred twice to "the beginning" to point out that Genesis and scripture contained the laws to be followed, and not the man made legal systems.

When Christ added the words "So they are no longer two but one flesh. What God has joined together, let no man put asunder" to the quotation from Genesis, he is stressing the indissolubility of marriage, and the error of divorce, as the very Word of God as expressed in the earliest scriptures He was also casting new light on "the one flesh union". By stressing "in the beginning" twice, Christ is telling us to look at the way man was created in Genesis as male and female, and how they were created in God's image, to properly understand the words of Genesis."

To read the Audience [click here](#)

Listen to Jason Evert one of authors of the *Theology of the Body for Teens*

Jason Evert on Theology of The Body

Pope John Paul II changed the way Catholics think about sex. Instead of "don't do it", he suggested thinking about sex and the body as good and holy. Jason Evert is a young Catholic speaker who specializes in Theology of the Body teaching.

<http://catholicwine.wordpress.com/2012/07/17/jason-evert-on-theology-of-the-body/>

Contact GSML Ministry to arrange this program for your Grade Eight. gsmlministry@gmail.com

8th-graders to study 'Theology of the Body'

"Eighth-graders attending Catholic schools around the Archdiocese of Louisville will begin using new curriculum next semester that's based on the teachings of Blessed John Paul II known as the Theology of the Body..."

"Theology of the Body is a beautiful synthesis of the church's teaching on being created in the likeness of God, what it means to be called as a man and a woman and how our identity as children of God informs the activity of what we're called to," said co-author Brian Butler during a phone interview last week...

To read more [click here](#)

"The *Theology of the Body* for Grade 8 takes a "positive approach" to human sexuality and the church's teaching on chastity in eight chapters...." - Brian Butler

Peter Kreeft is coming to Toronto

For information on Peter Kreeft [Click here](#)

FYI - Catholic Chapter House



Will be bringing Peter Kreeft to Toronto on May 25, 2013.

Peter Kreeft, Ph.D., is a professor of philosophy at Boston College and at the King's College (Empire State Building), in New York City. He is a regular contributor to

several Christian publications, is in wide demand as a speaker at conferences, and is the author of over 67 books.

Catholic Chapter House seeks to serve Catholics who wish to gain a deeper understanding of their faith, live their lives according to the teachings of the Catholic Church and share their faith with others by making Catholic publications, resources and faith sharing more accessible both online and offline.



If you have an opportunity to attend this Course you should. It is amazing.

Theology of the Body Institute

February 24-March 1, 2013

Theology of the Body II: Into the Deep
with Christopher West
Quarryville, Pennsylvania

*Prerequisite: Theology of the Body I

[CLICK HERE](#) to register online

"Then God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness...so God created man in his own image, an in the image of God he created him." Gen 26-27

Sisters of Life
www.sistersoflife.org

The Pure

From a recent newsletter from the Sisters of Life

"We touch the pure in the fresh sweetness of a Georgian peach, hear it in the extraordinary symphonies of Beethoven, touch it as we hold a new born infant, and see it reflected in the eyes of someone who loves us. It is had in the cold glass of water after a long run or in the little leaves of the green bonsai plant on our desk, breaking the otherwise lifeless gray walls of our cubicle at work.

And what about when we move inward, past the externals and into the inner room of man's heart?" [Click here](#) to read more.

Sign up for their latest Newsletter at <http://www.sistersoflife.org/newsletter-mailing-list>

Keynote presenter:
Fr. Alan Boisclair
NFP: Dr. Maria Wolfs
Pornography as an Obstacle: Msgr. Edward Arsenault

Pro-Life Symposium for Clergy

The Body, Sexuality, and Marriage: "Supporting Lasting Marriages"

Ottawa - April 16-17, 2013

There is a need for supporters to sponsor a priest or deacon to attend. For more information contact Priests For Life at 1.888.300.2007 or email: mail@priestsforlifecanada.com

Also see: www.priestsforlifecanada.com

Worldwide Marriage Encounter – Search for the Longest Married Couple

Worldwide Marriage Encounter has launched a search for the “LONGEST MARRIED COUPLE” provincially and across Canada!

Nominations can be sent to lmc-on@rogers.com or LMC ON, 725 College St. P.O. Box 31005, College Square, Toronto ON M6G 4A7 with names of husband and wife, wedding date, current residence, and contact address of person nominating them.

For Toronto, further information regarding the search can be obtained at 416-964-8694 (English), 905-503-0177 (Spanish), 416-226-2848 (Korean). Submissions are due by Jan.10, with winner celebration to coincide with Marriage Sunday February 10, 2013.

“When we put feeling at the top of our priority list we become selfish.”

Theology of the Body Talk

Mar.16 - Theology of the Body - Charles and Christine

<http://www.salesiansisterscanada.com/Duc-in-Altum--Toronto.html>

E-mail: ducinaltum.toronto@gmail.com

Contact: Sr. Cora, FMA (289)-597-2208/ C: (416) 597-2208

Increase Your Understanding of the Catholic Faith Through CIS Online Courses

The New Evangelization Series

“The New Evangelization Series is a response to Blessed John Paul II’s and Pope Benedict XVI’s call for today’s man and woman to rediscover the “beauty and contemporary relevance of faith - it presents the Catholic understanding of God, the human person, the Church, the Christian’s talk in the world, and eternal life in the light of the love revealed in Jesus Christ, the series helps readers discover the joy that comes from sharing in God’s life.”

- What is the New Evangelization?
- “I Believe in You”: The Question of God in the Modern World
- A God Who is Threefold Love
- The Beauty of Holiness: Sacred Art and the New Evangelization
- Technology and the New Evangelization: Criteria for Discernment

These booklets can be read online or downloaded or you can order a hard copy.

www.kofc.org/un/en/cis/index.html

"Mary offered her very body; she placed her entire being at the disposal of God's will, becoming the "place" of his presence, a "place" of dwelling for the Son of God." - from Pope Benedict XVI

The Importance of Mary's Body in the Year of Faith

By Father Boniface Hicks, OSB

"One week before the beginning of the Year of Faith, Pope Benedict XVI made a pilgrimage to the shrine of our Lady, her Holy House in Loreto, Italy. He did this to entrust the Year of Faith to her intercession.

This physical gesture of pilgrimage and prayer (he even lit a candle!) incarnated his words at the end of his Apostolic Letter *Porta Fidei* for the indiction of the Year of Faith, "Let us entrust this time of grace to the Mother of God, proclaimed 'blessed because she believed' (*Lk1:45*)."
But, stepping back, we might ask, "Why Mary? Why Loreto?" Before answering those questions, first we should ask, "What is the goal of the Year of Faith?"

To read more [click here](#)

"When we act in holy ways, we participate in the work of God, redeeming, refining and beautifying the world. At the same time, our holy actions participate in God's refining us - we participate in our own salvation." - p. 49 *ToB for Every Body* by Leah Perrault

The Fourth Theology of the Body International Symposium



The Fourth Theology of the Body International Symposium will be held in Fatima, Portugal in June 13 - 16, 2013. Information about the Fourth International Symposium will begin to appear on this page in the Fall of 2012

For more information go to tobinternationalsymposia.com

"This Symposium is an answer to the words of His Holiness when, speaking about the Year of Faith, he specifically referred the "whole wealth of documents given to us by Pope John Paul II, still far from being fully explored" as guides to what the

Church believes on the basis of God's word (Pope Benedict XVI, Homily for the Chrism Mass, Holy Thursday, 5 April 2012)."

"The Theology of the Body, is a book about how we live our spirituality in and through our bodies."

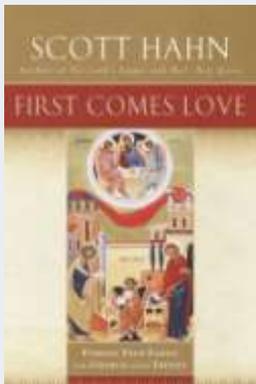
- p. 47 *ToB for Every Body* by Leah Perrault

Mass For The New Evangelization

The **Holy Mass *Pro Nova Evangelizatione*** has been approved by the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments on June, 18th 2012 with the wish that it will be celebrated during this special Year of Faith.

http://www.annusfidei.va/content/dam/novaevangelizatio/documenti/missa/MISSA_Am_ENG.pdf

Truly a book that is filled with the Theology of the Body



Recommended Reading

First Comes Love: Finding Your Family in the Church and the Trinity

By Scott Hahn

"Scott Hahn has the rare ability to explain the essential teachings of Catholicism in a totally accessible manner. Rather than burdening the reader with difficult or arcane references and arguments, he writes of familiar feelings and situations and allows the theology to unfold naturally. In *First Comes Love*, Hahn turns his attention to the search for a sense of belonging, revealing the intimate connection between the families men and women create on earth and the divine family, the Holy Trinity.

Delving into the Gospels, Hahn shows that family terminology--words like *brother, sister, mother, father, and home*--dominates Jesus' speech and the writings of His first followers, and that these very words illuminate Christianity's central ideas. As he explores the fatherhood of God, the marriage of the Church to Christ, and the all-enveloping role of the Holy Spirit, Hahn deepens readers' understanding of the sacraments, teaches them how to create a family life in the image of the Trinity, and demonstrates the ways in which the analogy of the family applies to every aspect of Catholicism and its practices--from the role of "father" embodied by the ancient patriarchs and contemporary parish priests, to the comfort and guidance offered by the brothers and sisters who comprise the Communion of Saints, to the nurturing embrace of Mary, the mother of all Christians.

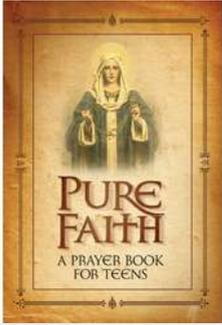
Through real-life examples (both humorous and compassionate) and quotations drawn from the Scriptures, Hahn makes it clear that no matter what sort of family readers come from--no matter what sort of "dysfunction" they have experienced--they can find a family in the Church. Reaching out to newcomers and to lifelong Christians alike, *First Comes*

Love is an invitation to discover a true home in the divine."

From the Hardcover edition.

What a good idea!

Donate Catholic Books to Catholic School Libraries



[Pure Faith - A Prayer Book for Teens](#)

Author: Jason Evert

At Last...A Prayer Guide Just For Teens Who Want to Encounter Christ in a Deeper, More Personal Way

If you know any teenagers who...

- Want to develop a deeper prayer life...
- Have difficulties with prayer...
- Just can't find the time to pray...
- Don't know how to pray... or don't see much value in prayer...

May God have mercy on all of us.

Peter's Points to Ponder

Over the recent days, we have been overwhelmed with stories and images from Sandy Hook Elementary school. Of course the stories are gut-wrenching, and it was a horrific crime that took place, with many innocent lives lost. I believe Blessed Mother Theresa of Calcutta explained, in such succinct way, how such an event is possible, "We must not be surprised when we hear of murders, of killings, of wars, of hatred. If a mother can kill her own child, what is left but for us to kill each other." The sad thing is so many innocent children are being killed every day in the name of "Pro Choice" and it's become legal and so acceptable that it never makes the news coverage. Can you imagine the images and media coverage if every innocent life lost to abortion were covered in the same way that the Sandy Hook tragedy has been? Killing of any sort is wrong, and we must defend the innocent lives, and their futures that will never be witnessed, through our prayers and actions. God Bless the innocent victims of all killings!

St. Joseph's Health Centre 30 The Queensway (Education Centre A, #1B 105A), Toronto - Initial presentation: 1st Tuesday, each month at 8 p.m.

Just Cause and Natural Family Planning

Spacing Children Requires Discernment, Discussion

WASHINGTON, D.C., JUNE 16, 2010 ([Zenit.org](http://www.zenit.org)).- Here is a question on bioethics asked by a ZENIT reader and answered by the fellows of the Culture of Life Foundation.

St. Patrick Church 921
Flagship Dr.,
Mississauga - Initial
presentation: 2nd
Thursday, each month
at 8 p.m.

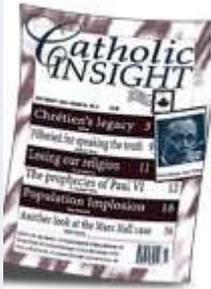
**Mary of the People
Church** 570 Marion
Ave., Oshawa - Initial
presentation: 2nd
Tuesday, each month
at 8 p.m.

Q: Are there any conditions to follow Natural Family Planning (NFP) by a married couple, or is there blanket approval by Catholic Church? Wouldn't NFP be against life if the intention of the couple involved in sexual act is just pleasure and not life, provided they don't have any valid reason to postpone pregnancy? In this case, can NFP be also considered similar to using condoms? Thanks and Regards --
D.R.P, Bangalore, India E. Christian Brugger offers the following response.

To read the answer [click here](#)



<http://www.naturalfamilyplanning.ca/toronto/>



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

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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 sixteen 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

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