



God, Sex and the Meaning of Life

JAN 2019

VOLUME 65

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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 am - 11:30 am at St. Bernadette's Parish Hall, 21



We are now booking into Fall of 2018.

Bayly St. E. Ajax

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

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

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

Contact: Rose and Pat Heron at roseheron@gmail.com

We have held over

Toronto's Cardinal, Thomas Collins stated: "One crucial area is the Catechesis of Human Love, or Theology of the Body, developed by Blessed Pope John Paul II which, when widely offered, can greatly strengthen Christian family life, and the life of discipleship." – Archdiocese of Toronto: Pastoral Plan, 2013

To read the full article [click here](#)

GSML News

If you would like to have your Theology of the Body event published in this Newsletter, please remember the publishing dates of January, March, May, July, September and November. Please give us the information prior to these months.

Our Programs

Teachers!!! Pastors!!! Youth Group Leaders!!!

Now is the time to arrange a Theology of the Body course for your students or youth or young adults.

Let us facilitate the program, while you study the various aspects to increase your proficiency to present all or parts in the future.

Invite us in for 10 weeks and you will be surprised by the results.

Identity. Gender. Love. Chastity. *The world is a difficult place for teens, and it has become increasingly hard for parents and educators to help teens discover the truth about their bodies, their sexuality, and their unique call to love.*

We can do this together.

Contact Rose Heron at 905-683-9055 or roseheron@gmail.com to find out

23 Theology of the Body for Teens Workshops and Classroom Sessions

the details. It is presented at a very minimal cost.

Theology of the Body Study Group

At the present time we are studying the ***Catechism of the Catholic Church***, with an eye towards the **Theology of the Body**. Take this opportunity to learn about your faith. Bring your questions and we will find the answers together.

Please join us on Monday mornings, from 9:30 am to 11:30 am. in St Bernadette's church hall 21 Bayly St. E. Ajax. Hope to see you there.

Monday mornings from 9:30 to 11:30

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

Contact: Tom or Susan Kennedy 905-427-6137
gsmlministry@gmail.com

Bible Study

Mary: A Biblical Walk with the Blessed Mother– Starting January 2019
An Eight-Part Bible Study Featuring Dr. Edward Sri

St. Bernadette's will be hosting *Mary: A Biblical Walk with the Blessed Mother* Bible study beginning Wednesday, January 9, at 9:30 am to 11:30 am, or Friday, January 12, at 7:00 pm to 9:00, pm and continuing every Wednesday or Friday until Wednesday February 27, 2019, or Friday, March 1. 2019. This is an 8 week course. Please join us.

Filmed on location in the Holy Land, *Mary: A Biblical Walk with the Blessed Mother* will place you in the midst of the powerful drama of Mary's earthly life, taking you through her joys and her sorrows. You will learn how she works in our lives today, drawing us ever closer to her divine Son. Seeing Mary in this way will change you forever. She will become a part of your daily life and help you to become more like Christ.

In Mary you will:

- Visit the grotto of Mary's home, the cave where Christ was born, and other rarely seen places in the Holy Land.
- See the significance of Mary as you explore the Biblical roots of our beliefs about her.
- Deepen your devotion to Mary as you discover our Blessed Mother in a uniquely personal way.

Start Dates: Wednesday, January 9, **OR** Friday, January 12, 2019.

Wednesday mornings from 9:30 am – 11:30 am

OR

Friday evenings from 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Purchase of the Study Guide is optional, at a cost of \$35.

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

Contact: gsmlministry@gmail.com

For more information about the program [click here](#)

Join the New Evangelization

We offer various workshops for **Every Body** including:

- *God, Sex and the Meaning of Life*—for adults
- Theology of the Body for Young Adults
- *Theology of the Body for Teens*—in school program or in the Parish
- *Theology of the Body for Grade School*—Gr 6-8
- *Guiding Your Child Through the Sexual Minefield*
- *Theology of the Body and Confirmation*
- *Girl Talk*
- *Marriage Preparation and Theology of the Body*
- *Theology of the Body in the Classroom*
- *Training on the Theology of the Body*
- *Retreats on the Theology of the Body*

We can custom tailor any Workshop for your Group.

"This brief overview of "the good news about the body" (the Gospel for today's culture) is for anyone and everyone! Those involved in family life, youth ministry, catechesis, adult faith formation, education, pastoral work, counseling, etc., would benefit greatly from John Paul II's holistic

Theology of the Body Certificate with Sr. Helena

Cost: \$150.00 for students in the Theology of the Body Basics Certificate Program (book included)

\$75.00 for students auditing the Theology of the Body Basics Program

Last day for late registration: February 1st, 2019.

Textbook: Students registered in the Certificate program will receive a textbook in pdf. format.

approach to understanding the whole person, body and soul, in the image of God -- what he also calls "full realism." Theology of the Body provides many "whys" behind the teaching of the Bible, Jesus and the Church."

When: The course will run Jan 5, 12, 19, 26 and Feb 2 & 16 2019
Pre-registration and pre-payment are required.

Where: Sr. Helena will be presenting LIVE at Pauline Books & Media, 3022 Dufferin St., Toronto, ON M6B 3T5 CANADA, 10-4pm (doors open at 9:30). The basement hall holds only 80 students, so first come, first serve! (After 80 register for the LIVE classes, there will be a waiting list for any more **IN-PERSON** students, and of course students can simply switch to the ONLINE classes only.)
For **ONLINE students**, the classes are pre-filmed and you can watch them at your own pace. The online classes will also be available to IN-PERSON students.

Auditing students do not receive a Certificate (even for attendance) and are not required to do any readings or take exam.

Please refer all questions to office@sacredheartcollege.com

REGISTER [HERE](#):

Same-Sex Attraction And Gender Identity: Welcoming and Accompanying with the Heart of Christ

Presenter: Father Kevin Belgrave

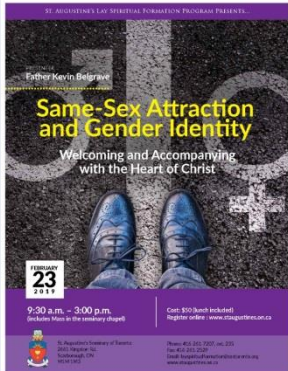
Saturday February 23, 2019

9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. (including Mass).

St. Augustine's Seminary of Toronto
2661 Kingston Rd, Scarborough

Cost is \$50 including lunch.

Registration: [Click here](#)



"Pires said Theology of the Body has given her the perspective she needs to respond to both these normalized evils and typical teenage situations"

Pembroke diocese expands Theology of the Body program for students

BY GABRIELA PARISEAU, YOUTH SPEAK NEWS

BARRY'S BAY, Ont. – Every week, Kayla Pires travels 70 kilometres to St. Hedwig's Parish in Barry's Bay, Ont., so she can learn more about her faith. Toronto, Ontario

St. Hedwig's is hosting a **Theology of the Body for Teens** program until Nov. 27 and Pires' parents make the one-hour drive from their home in Bancroft so their daughter can attend the weekly evening sessions. For Pires, the drive is totally worth it because it allows her to be with peers who have a

passion for her faith.

To read more [click here](#)

"Where do we start to rebuild?"

This rebuilding starts with men — with fathers in particular."

Fathers, sons, and the sexual revolution we really need

Fathers, take back your sons

The fundamental correction involves all fathers taking back from everyone else the sexual education of their sons. Mothers need to do the same for their daughters. However, the sine qua non is that fathers become the sexual tutors of their sons, because, given the nature of males, men have much greater and difficult task to achieve bringing their sexual impulses under total control.

The program is simple. Every father worthy of the title, wants his son to end up happily married to the girl of his dreams and wants to show him the way to pull that off. This is what fathers do: make men out of their boys.

To read more [click here](#)

Some of the speakers:

- Archbishop Salvatore Cordileone
- Janet E. Smith, PhD
- Deacon William V. Williams, MD
- Christopher Kaczor, PhD
- George Weigel
- Christopher West
- Patrick Coffin
- Steve Mosher
- Patricia Sandoval
- Thomas Hilgers, MD
- Fr. Paul Check

The HV50 Conference Videos are Live

on [YOU Tube](#) and at
[CelebrateHV50.com](#)
View and share freely!

Video Recordings of the HV50 National Celebration:
Faithful to God's Design
Celebrate the 50th Anniversary of Humanae Vitae

What does the Catholic Church teach about the meaning of love and life? What does it mean to be Faithful to God's Design? What can we learn by revisiting the teachings articulated in *Humanae Vitae*, arguably the most controversial encyclical in the history of the Catholic Church, with the hindsight and experience of these last 50 years, that can inspire and inform us now? Over forty experts explore the meaning of sex, examine the effects of contraception / abortion / sterilization, review the development of methods of natural family planning, and link the concepts of the theology of the body — *"Since man cannot find true happiness for which he yearns with his whole being, unless he respects the laws inscribed in his nature by God."* Pope Paul VI, *Humanae Vitae*.

- HV50 Conference Videos [HERE](#)
- HV50 Clergy Day videos [HERE](#)
- HV50 Spanish Session Videos [HERE](#)

More resources available on this site and www.canfp.org.

This week long course is amazing.

Theology of the Body: Head and Heart Immersion

March 17, 2019 – March 22, 2019
Black Rock Retreat Center,
Quarryville, PA

The Theology of the Body I Head and Heart Immersion Course examines the main themes of Pope Saint John Paul II's Theology of the Body. Focused themes include: creation in the image of God, fall and redemption, Christian ethics and ethos, freedom and person, gender and vocation.

All our week-long retreats include:

- Five days of learning & interactive lecture (30 hours of master's level instruction)
- Fantastic workbook so you can focus on receiving vs. note-taking
- Daily Mass, adoration, and confession
- Accommodations & delicious meals
- Time for relaxation and networking
- Gorgeous grounds to soak in God's natural beauty
- Optional round trip shuttle from Philadelphia International Airport

All-Inclusive,
(accommodations, meals, workbook & materials, etc.)

[Click here](#) to register

“Each Sunday evening more than 30 young people meet for a meal and a session of the You: Love, Life and Theology of the Body course.”

Youth blown away by Theology of the Body

Young people crave authentic Catholic spirituality and Ivica Kovač can prove it. The head of the pastoral council at the St Anthony's Croatian Catholic Centre at Summer Hill has introduced a Theology of the Body course to its youth group with spectacular results.

To read more [click here](#)

"John Paul writes in his Theology of the Body that "Christ is God's final word on this subject; in fact, the covenant established with him and through him between God and humanity opens an infinite prospect of Life: and access to the tree of Life—according to the original plan of God of the covenant—is revealed to every man in its definitive fullness" (TOB 65:6)

Homily For The Solemnity Of The Immaculate Conception Of The Blessed Virgin Mary

On this feast in which we celebrate the purity in which Mary was conceived we are invited to meditate on the favor of redemption given to her from the moment of her creation. The angel Gabriel is sent to her to declare "the Lord is with [her]" and that she has "found favor with God." However, the Church also invites us to reflect on the fact that this gift of favor (which in its "ever-perfect" form has been bestowed exclusively upon Mary) has, nevertheless, been offered to the rest of us as well. St. Paul relates in the second reading that God "has chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, to be holy and without blemish before him." This too is a gift as Paul relates, "In love he destined us for adoption for himself through Jesus Christ, in accord with the favor of his will."

To read more [click here](#)



The Miraculous Journey, by Damien Hirst, in Qatar's capital, Doha

Damien Hirst's theology of the body

Tim Stanley 29 November, 2018

Writing in The Guardian, Hannah Clugston welcomed the sculptures as an antidote to unrealistic images of childbearing, much of which, she implies, are a legacy of Catholic theology: "It doesn't help that the most iconic pregnant woman is the Virgin Mary, and we very rarely get a glimpse of her with a rounded belly." Cut to Jacques Daret's Nativity scene, with a serene Madonna looking at a happy baby lying, incongruously, on the floor – all calm, too clean and not even a hint of an epidural. No wonder that generations of young girls thought they arrived by stork.

To read more [click here](#)

Receptivity – Theology of the Body

In this podcast:

Redeemer Radio's executive director, Cindy Black returns for Theology of the Body Thursday. Today we discuss the theology of receptivity and how be open

To listen [click here](#)

EVIL NEVER SLEEPS, NEVER GIVES UP

Why Theology Of The Body Is The Answer To The Clergy Sex Abuse Crisis

PROCLAIMING THE BAD NEWS

Until 2002, I had no idea that any kind of sexual abuse was being perpetrated by Catholic clergy--it was that clandestine and successfully buried. However, when the bad news broke back then and I began rabidly researching and reading about the roots of the crisis, I learned that clergy sex abuse was

nothing new in the Church. In one form or another, it went all the way back to at least the beginning of the second millennium, to the times of St. Peter Damian, who, in his "Book of Gomorrah," railed against sexual crimes and sins in the clergy, particularly priests having sex with boys and young men (which, is, incidentally, an ancient pagan Roman and Greek custom). Intentional disciplining, clean-ups and purifications would transpire through the ages, but somehow, persistent, systematic, often incestuous patterns would rear their ugly heads over and over.

I told myself in 2002: This isn't over. A subculture of evil and perversion fortified by an ironclad code of silence and absolute authority does not just roll over and give up the ghost. The wagons will be re-circled and eradication of the malaise will be an ongoing battle. But little did I realize that CSA 2002 was just the tip of the iceberg--no, glacier. Little did I (or anyone else not deep "in the know") realize that the code of silence was backed up by fear and intimidation employed by powerful cloak-and-dagger hierarchs over their own, those lower in the ranking system, or those not really or fully part of the good old boys club. The Clergy Sex Abuse Crisis.

To read more [click here](#)

Bridging the Gap: Science and the Theology of the Body

Written by Jo Kroeker

On registration day, Theology of the Body fills up in minutes. It is one of the most popular classes on campus and the brainchild of Professor of Philosophy and Religion Nathan Schlueter.

Back in 2014, Dr. Schlueter told an interested student he would only teach the class if fifteen students signed up. Sixty people expressed interest. Now he offers it each semester, attracting students from every discipline at Hillsdale College.

Despite its 400-level listing, dense readings, and frequent quizzes, science students pull themselves from the deep waters of upper-level labs to contemplate the Catholic understanding of the body, sexuality, marriage, and morality. In combination, the biological and chemical, the philosophical and theological paint a more perfect picture of personhood: one that informs the ethical approaches of students pursuing medicine and scientific research.

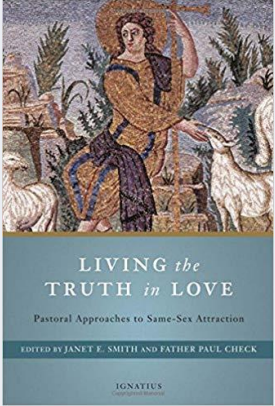
To read more [click here](#)

Recommended Reading

Living the Truth in Love: Pastoral Approaches to Same Sex Attraction

By Janet Smith

In August 2015, a conference titled "Welcoming and Accompanying Our

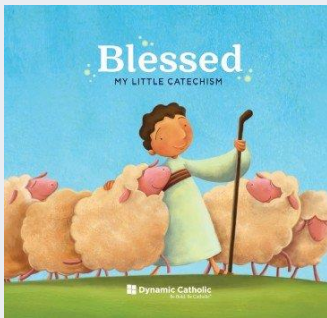


Brothers and Sisters with Same-Sex Attraction” was held in Plymouth, Michigan. The conference was sponsored by the Archdiocese of Detroit and Courage International, with support from Our Sunday Visitor and the Catholic Medical Association. Janet Smith, one of the organizers, explained that the goal was to help Catholics find appropriate ways to show their love for those living with same-sex attraction (SSA).

The book *Living the Truth in Love: Pastoral Approaches to Same-Sex Attraction* contains essays by some of the conference speakers along with others. It was designed to spread the message of the conference. This collection of essays presents theoretical, testimonial, and pastoral approaches to the question of SSA. As I read this book, I thought we needed this twenty years ago. We should not have started our political defense of marriage before we established a comprehensive pastoral approach to care for persons with SSA and their families, but better late than never.

To read more on the book [click here](#)

What a good idea!



Donate Catholic Books to Catholic School Libraries

Blessed: My Little Catechism

A great gift for young Catholics, this little Catechism is full of answers to children’s questions about God and the faith—and the captivating illustrations bring it to life.

Check out ordering if from Dynamic Catholics – [click here](#)

Or you might try Sunrise Marian – call, 1-800-884-1171. They probably can order it for you.

<https://www.sunrisemarian.com/>

St. Clare Church, 1118
St. Clair Av. West, Toronto.
(one block E. of Dufferin).
Initial Presentation 2nd
Tuesday of each Month
starting at 8pm in Padre
Pio's Room, basement
room in the Church.

**St. 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 for*

The Marriage Preparation Program

Overview

Our goal is to educate engaged couples about the scientific aspects of natural family planning; to provide information on a wide range of family planning issues, including the health and fertility risks of contraceptive technology; to examine the positive dynamics for relationship with the use of natural family planning.

Options for Marriage Preparation Course

- Parishes close to an Billings Ovulation Method™ Clinic are invited to send their engaged couples to the regular clinic night as one of the evenings in their marriage preparation course. Even when the clinic night falls on a different weekday evening from the parish course night, couples do not seem to have any difficulty in making the adjustment provided they are alerted to this at the beginning of the course.

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

The advantage of this system is that those couples who are interested can receive instruction in charting so that they can begin to learn the method without any further delays. Other couples who may wish to consider this option at a later date will know where to go for further instructions. Feedback from the parish courses indicate that the couples enjoy the change of venue and some feel that natural family planning acquires greater credibility in a clinic environment.

- In some circumstances, the Natural Family Planning Association is able to supply couples to give a presentation on the Ovulation Method and speak of their reasons for choosing natural family planning for their marriage.

For more information contact Natural Family Planning Association at toronto.naturalfamilyplanning.ca



*Natural Family
Planning Association*

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.

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 Saint 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 subject line of your email.