

St. Therese Church Presents

**Scuba Diving with
John Paul II:**



**A One-Day Immersion in
*THEOLOGY OF THE BODY***

Saturday, October 6, 2007

9 am – 4:30 pm

(8:00am Mass – optional)

**St. Therese Church
Alhambra, CA**

† About Our Speaker †

KATRINA J. ZENO

is the coordinator of the John Paul II Resource Center for Theology of the Body and Culture. She is also the co-host of a 13-part series on the Theology of the Body for EWTN, an international speaker, and the author of *Every Woman's Journey: Answering "Who am I" for the Feminine Heart*. She received her BA in theology from Franciscan University of Steubenville (summa cum laude), and she enjoys dancing Argentine tango, visiting San Diego, body surfing, and chatting with her college-age son, Michael.

What is *THEOLOGY OF THE BODY* and how does it apply to daily life?

- o *It's about more than sex...it's about original sin, redemption, heaven, celibacy, marriage, and human life (Humanae Vitae).*

Is it primarily for married people or is it for everyone?

- o *EVERYONE!*

How does it apply to parenting, religious ed., the workplace, the single life, youth ministry, priesthood, RCIA, and marriage prep.?

- o *Whether you're single or married, in ministry or just wanting to learn more, *THEOLOGY OF THE BODY* is spiritually rewarding, intellectually enriching, and practical for every aspect of life.*

The cost is \$40 per participant and includes a workbook and lunch.

For more info, call (626) 282-2744

Registration Form for Scuba Diving with John Paul II *(Please print)*

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Tel: _____

Make checks for **\$40** (\$50 at the door) payable to **St. Therese Church**
(write in the memo: THEOLOGY OF THE BODY) and mail by **September 22** to:
Respect Life Ministry, St. Therese Church · 510 N. El Molino St. · Alhambra, CA 91801

What is the Theology of the Body?

"This can radically change the way you look at the world for the rest of your life."

"Life-changing whether you're married, single, or a consecrated celibate"

"For once life makes sense. This material has given me a new foundation to build upon."

"This should have been taught in high school. I would have changed my ways then if I would have heard it put that way."

"This is truth that all people long to hear..."

Pope John Paul II devoted the first major teaching project of his pontificate – 129 short talks between September of 1979 and November of 1984 – to providing a profoundly beautiful vision of human embodiment and erotic love. He gave this project the working title "theology of the body."

George Weigel, author of *Witness to Hope: The Biography of Pope John Paul II*, calls this papal study of human sexuality "one of the boldest reconfigurations of Catholic theology in centuries" – a "theological time-bomb set to go off with dramatic consequences ...perhaps in the twenty-first century." At this point the Pope's vision of sexual love "has barely begun to shape the Church's theology, preaching, and religious education." But when it does, Weigel predicts, "it will compel a dramatic development of thinking about virtually every major theme in the Creed" (pp. 336, 343, 853).

Far from being a footnote in the Christian life, the way we understand the body and the sexual relationship "concerns the entire Bible" (Jan 13, 82). It plunges us into "the perspective of the whole Gospel, of the whole teaching, in fact, of the whole mission of Christ" (Dec 3, 80). Christ's mission, according to the spousal analogy of the Scriptures, is to "marry" us. He invites us to live with him in an eternal life-giving union of love.

This is what the union of the sexes is meant to proclaim and foreshadow – the eternal union of Christ and the Church. As St. Paul says, quoting from Genesis, "'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.' This is a great mystery, and I mean in reference to Christ and the church" (Eph 5:31-32).

By helping us understand this profound interconnection between sex and the Christian mystery, John Paul's theology of the body not only paves the way for lasting renewal of marriage and the family; it enables everyone to rediscover "the meaning of the whole of existence, the meaning of life" (Oct 29, 80).



The "rich patrimony" of John Paul II's teaching "has not yet been assimilated by the Church. My personal mission is not to issue many new documents, but to ensure that his documents are assimilated."

Pope Benedict XVI (Interview on John Paul II's Legacy, October 16, 2005)

Source: www.tobinstitute.org