

atholic Truth League

10 Februarv 2017

Ineffable Creator, who from the treasures of your wisdom, have established three hierarchies of angels, have arrayed them in marvelous order above the fiery Heávens, and háve marshaled the regions of the universe with such artful skill, You are proclaimed the True Font of Light and Wisdom, and the primal origin raised high beyond all things.

Pour forth a ray of your brightness into the darkened places of my mind; disperse from my soul the twofold darkness into which I was born: sin and ignorance. You make eloquent the tongues of infants. Refine my speech, and pour forth upon my lips the goodness of your blessings. Grant to me keenness of mind, capacity to remember, skill in learning, subtlety to interpret and eloquence in speech.

May you guide the beginning of my work, direct its progress, and bring it to completion. You who are True God and True Man, who live and reign world without end. Amen. (St. Thomas Aguinas)

Our Lady of Fatima, Pray for Us!

Announcements

CTL T-shirts

We are accepting any shirt designs tonight! Stay tuned for more details regarding shirts and send any designs you have.

Next Meeting: 7 pm Friday, 2/17, room 3

Topic: What is virtue/What is truth?

Ask-a-Catholic: 11:30-3:30 Monday, 3/6 A link is now available to sign up for timeslots, available via Flocknote, Facebook and our website.



General Information

President: David Schena Vice President: Mick Krane

Secretary/Webmaster: Christine Mintert

Treasurer: John Redding

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This Week in CTL

Topic: Theology of the Body

Subtopics

- 1. What does it mean to be in the image and likeness of God?
- 2. What is the spiritual significance of the body?
- 3. What is the difference between love and lust?
- 4. The complementarity of man and woman

Brief Background

Before his papacy, John Paul II was working on a book called Love and Responsibility, which would form the basis for Theology of the Body. The Theology of the Body is derived from John Paul II's Wednesday General Audiences from September 5, 1979 to November 28, 1984, which were then compiled and expanded upon. This was his first major distinctive teaching as pope.

The Image and Likeness of God

The Christian partakes in the divine nature, not owning it but made by God for our own sake and given unique qualities that enable us to live.

- According to the Catechism, "the divine image is present in every man. It shines forth in the communion of persons, in the likeness of the unity of the divine persons among themselves."
- "Endowed with 'a spiritual and immortal' soul, the human person is 'the only creature that God has willed for its own sake.' From his conception, he is destined for eternal beatitude.
- By reason, the human being is capable of understanding the divine order of things and by free will is "capable of directing himself toward his true good."

This Week in CTL (continued)

 "...man is endowed with freedom, an 'outstanding manifestation of the divine image" (CCC 1702-1705).

Spiritual Significance of the Body

"I urge you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God, your spiritual worship" (Rom 12:1).

The body and soul are integral:

- Bodies are not neutral instruments or tools to be used by the soul
- Our bodies give us perception and knowledge of the world around us

Love vs. Lust

Love: willing the good of another; giving of oneself for the good of the beloved; an act of the will as opposed to a feeling or emotion Lust: a form of covetousness; desiring a person for the satisfaction they can give or for the purpose of pleasure

- Lust tends to be associated more with the body, while love is associated more with the soul
 - A more accurate understanding is that lust is a disire of the body at the expense or indifference of the soul, while love involves the whole person, body and soul
- This does not mean that all conjugal acts are lustful
 - Sex is a good thing, as it is part of God's design of the human person and family
 - In fact, the family reflects the union of the Trinity - the fruitful union of two persons, through whose love another person is begotten
 - The misuse of sex is lustful, as it places desire for another person's body before the good of their soul
 - whereas sex within the context of a committed marital union strengthens the bond between man and wife and solidifies a relationship into which children can be born and raised

Resources and Further Reading

Full transcripts of all Theology of the Body Wednesday General Audiences can be found at www.ewtn.com/library/PAPALDOC/JP2TBIND. HTM

Catechism of the Catholic Church, no. 355-384 - creation of man in the divine image, male and female, body and soul

Catechism of the Catholic Church, no. 1701-1715 - meaning of man as the image and likeness of God

www.theologyofthebody.net - website by Christopher West with various resources on Theology of the Body

