



Welcome!

**Please grab a snack and take this time to
check in with the people at your table.
How was your week/day? How are your
doing?**

January 21, 2026



ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Pick up February Magnifikids**
- **SPY1 Retreat is Saturday (1/24)**
 - **Arrive before 9:00am**
 - **Pack a snack, lunch, and water bottle.**
 - **Parents arrive for prayer at 1:20pm.**
 - **Please pray for the children and the success of the retreat!**

**I was Made for This:
Living out God's Call for You in Your Vocation**

Christian Anthropology

The background of the image is Michelangelo's famous fresco, "The Creation of Adam," from the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel. It depicts Adam on the left, reclining and reaching out with his right arm, and God on the right, reclining and reaching out with his right arm, with the two fingers just inches apart. The title "Christian Anthropology" is written in a large, white, cursive script across the bottom of the image, with a subtle drop shadow.



THE DIVINE PLAN FOR HUMAN LOVE

A PRESENTATION ON SAINT POPE
JOHN PAUL II'S THEOLOGY OF THE
BODY

I WAS MADE FOR THIS:
LIVING OUT GOD'S CALL FOR YOU
IN YOUR VOCATION

MARRIAGE FOR THE KINGDOM

AMY MINTZ



The redemption of the body is not only a heavenly reality. We await its fulfillment then, but it is already at work in us now.



Spousal meaning of the body.

Original solitude, unity and nakedness.

Original sin, shame and the second discovery of sex.

New Adam, New Eve, Tree of Life.



*For this perishable body must put on
imperishability, and this mortal body must put
on immortality.*

Death is swallowed up in victory.

*Where O death, is thy victory?
Where O death, is thy sting?*

Adultery in the heart

You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery.' But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

- Mt 5:27-28





Freedom from the law and the new *ethos*

I WILL PUT MY LAW WITHIN THEM,
AND I WILL WRITE IT UPON THEIR
HEARTS – JEREMIAH 31:33



Grace and Effort

For freedom Christ has set us free; stand fast therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery....For you were called to freedom, brethren; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love be servants of one another.

- Galatians 5: 1, 13



Three indispensable and infallible means of Grace

Prayer

Confession


Eucharist

I had thought that chastity arose from one's own powers, which I did not recognize in myself. I was foolish enough not to know... that no one can be chaste unless you grant it. For you would surely have granted it if my inner groaning had reached your ears and I with firm faith had cast my cares on you.

— St. Augustine, CCC 2520

What is love?
What does God say
love is?
What does the
culture say is love?



The background of the slide features a classical Greek sculpture depicting four figures, likely representing the Four Loves. The figures are shown from the chest up, with detailed curly hair and beards. They are arranged in a group, with some looking towards the center. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent dark grey filter.

The Four Loves

STORGE (AFFECTION)

PHILIA (FRIENDSHIP)

EROS (LOVE OF DESIRE)

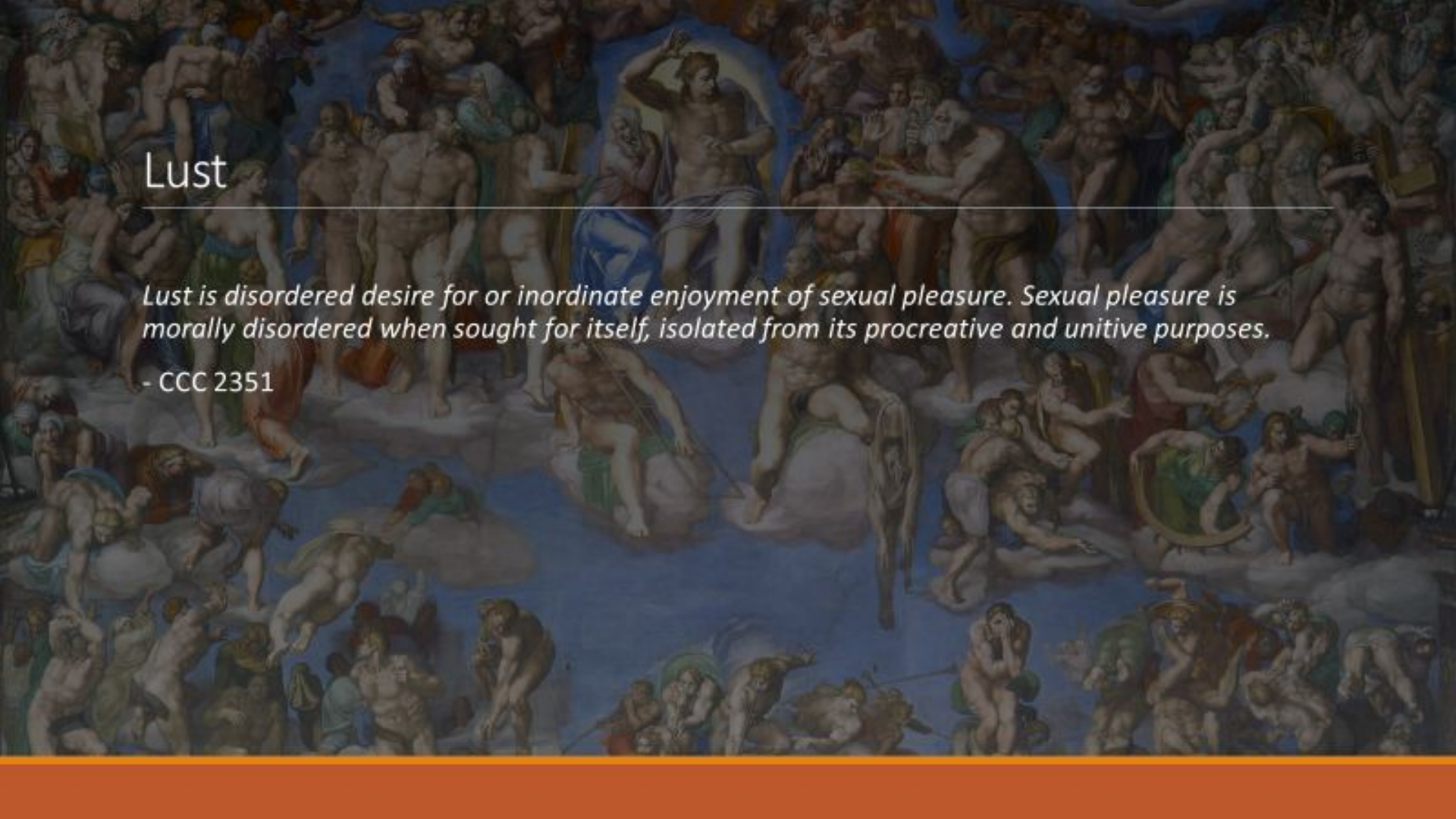
AGAPE (SELF-SACRIFICING)



God's love is both eros and agape.
It is God's eros that embraces the
cross.

*Eros at its deepest level is that inner power that attracts man
to the true, the good, and the beautiful.*

— JPII TOB



Lust

Lust is disordered desire for or inordinate enjoyment of sexual pleasure. Sexual pleasure is morally disordered when sought for itself, isolated from its procreative and unitive purposes.

- CCC 2351



The wedding vow is the only thing that *preserves eros from becoming lust* and it is the only thing that *allows eros to become agape*.

HUSBANDS, LOVE YOUR WIVES, AS CHRIST LOVED THE CHURCH AND GAVE HIMSELF UP FOR HER.

- EPHESIANS 5:25



Four marks of God's Love

Free: No one takes my life from me, I lay it down of my own accord.

- John 10:18

Total: He loved them to the last.

- John 13:1

Faithful: I am with you always.

- Matthew 28:20

Fruitful: I came that the might have life.

- John 10:10

Sincere gift of self is not complete until it is received in the manner in which it is intended.

The Natural Moral Law

Man participates in the wisdom and goodness of the Creator who gives him mastery over his acts and the ability to govern himself with a view to the true and the good.

The natural law expresses the original moral sense which enables man to discern by reason the good and the evil, the truth and the lie:

The natural law is written and engraved in the soul of each and every man, because it is human reason ordaining him to do good and forbidding him to sin . . . But this command of human reason would not have the force of law if it were not the voice and interpreter of a higher reason to which our spirit and our freedom must be submitted.

- CCC 1954



Sexual Honesty: Truth or Lies?

Am I telling the truth with my body, or am I telling lies with my body?

Is it a sign of God's love, or a counter-sign? A Sacrament, or an "anti-sacrament"?



Icon or Idol, authentic love or lust?

Our sexuality is an *icon* of the Holy Trinity, but if we lose sight of that, our sexuality can become an *idol*. Instead of pointing towards our ultimate union with God in Heaven, we point sex inwards, towards ourselves, towards selfishness and pleasure.

This is so *hard*. But God's mercy is infinite. Remember Grace and effort. You are not alone.



So. Much. GRACE.

When spouses unite as husband and wife, they.... Find themselves in the situation in which the powers of good and evil fight against each other. The choices and acts (of men and women) take on the whole weight of human existence in the union of the two.

– JPII TOB



RESOURCES

- **John Paul II Healing Center: <https://jpiihealingcenter.org/>**
 - **Book: Be Restored by Dr. Bob Schuchts**
 - **Book: Be Devoted by Dr. Bob Schuchts**
- **Ascension Presents: The Secret about Sex and Holiness**
- **Ascension Presents: Why God Gave Us Bodies**
- **Book: The Good News About Sex and Marriage by Christopher West**
- **The Catechism in a Year with Fr. Mike Schmitz-Episodes/Days 50-53, 56, 57, 219-227, 232, 304-312, 324, 325**
- **Green Sex: The Case for Natural Family Planning by Jason Evert**
- **Theology of the Body Series talks from Amy Mintz**
 - **Divine Plan for Human Love - In the Beginning, Back to the Garden - Part 1**
 - **Divine Plan for Human Love- I Was made for this - Part 2**
 - **Divine Plan for Human Love- On Human Life - Part 3**



MEMORARE

REMEMBER, O MOST gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help or sought thy intercession was left unaided. Inspired by this confidence, we fly unto thee O Virgin of virgins, our Mother. To thee do we come. Before thee we stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not our petitions, but in your mercy hear and answer us.

AMEN.