



# Eclipse of the Body

How we lost the meaning of sex, gender, marriage and family – and how to reclaim it

## Part 2: Incarnating Divine Love

### Read: Pages 40 – 47

- ❖ God’s profound love for us is expressed in the marital embrace. Why have we lost sight of the beauty and deep meaning of sex?
- ❖ Pope St. John Paul II shows the theological reason for the immorality of contraception. What do you think he means by ‘the ethics of the sign’?
- ❖ What does Pope St. John Paul II mean when he calls intercourse between within a sacramental marriage “the sign language of God’s love”?
- ❖ Read *Humanae Vitae* 13 and consider how it expresses the sign language of God’s love.
- ❖ Measuring our love against Christ’s love is a powerful path to holiness.
  - ✚ *Freely* – “no one takes My life; I lay it down.” [John 10:18]
  - ✚ *Totally* – “He loved them to the end.” [John 13:1]
  - ✚ *Faithfully* - “I am with you always, unto the end.” [Matthew 28:20]
  - ✚ *Fruitfully* – “I came that you might have life.” [John 10:10]
- ❖ Consider that Catholic wedding vows reflect Christ’s love.
- ❖ Why is consent crucial to a valid marriage?
- ❖ Why does consummation of the marriage complete the wedding vows?
- ❖ Do you have a new appreciation for the beauty of the Church’s teaching on marriage, sex, and contraception?
- ❖ Read *Humanae Vitae* 14 – 20
  - ✚ What is the difference between use of contraception to prevent a pregnancy and therapeutic use of contraception?
  - ✚ Why is it licit for a couple to use “infertile periods”?
  - ✚ How does Natural Family Planning remind man of his relationship to God?
  - ✚ Why is the Church concerned with marital relations?