Date

Dear Parents,

Today I am very happy to inform you that the students in \_\_\_\_\_grade will begin studying *Theology of the Body for Teens: Discovering God’s Plan for Love and Life, Middle School Edition* on \_\_\_\_\_\_ (date). This compelling program will help to form your son or daughter in the proper understanding of identity and sexuality. A one-page summary of each session is being provided to you so that you and your children can walk through this life-changing program together. The conversations you have with your son or daughter about the topics discussed will enrich and deepen their experience, as well as be an opportunity for you to continue to deepen your relationship with them.

The one-page summary of each session is meant to condense, session by session, the commentary in the Parent’s Guide you have received. That brief guide is excellent, and I recommend you take the time to read it for a fuller discussion of what is contained in the one-page summary.

*Theology of the Body for Teens: Discovering God’s Plan for Love and Life* deals with an essential and sensitive topic – what it means to be a human person made in the image and likeness of God. This will not be a health, biology or anatomy class. The content and terms that will be used are based upon Catholic teaching.

The “Theology of the Body” is the popular title given to 129 of Pope St. John Paul II’s Wednesday talks. With these talks, this great saint gifted us with a roadmap for answering such fundamental questions as, “Who am I? What is love? What do my attractions have to do with my identity? What am I supposed to do with my life?” Pope John Paul II’s answers to these questions also provide the keys to understanding married love and sexual ethics.

I wish to stress how central you are in shaping the lives of your children. They are watching and listening to you, even if it does not appear that way. Studies show again and again that parents have the largest influence on their children. Not peers, sports, video games, social media, etc. – but parents!

Children may shy away from saying this out loud, but they actually want their parents to be lovingly engaged in their lives. I hope you will take the opportunity to discuss the Theology of the Body with your son or daughter. They might not verbalize a thank-you, but those thoughts will be in their hearts.

You are welcome to call me at any time as we study the Theology of the Body, especially if there is any issue or concern that arises. I can be reached at (*555)-555-5555*. Please do not hesitate to be in touch.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Religion Teacher