

THEME: FINAL VICTORY OVER DEATH: RESURRECTION OF THE BODY

SOW THE SEED

Dear Parents,

In this Theology of the Body (TOB) unit, your child will gain an understanding into the theme **Final Victory Over Death: Resurrection of the Body**.

Sin introduced death into the world resulting in the separation of the soul from the body upon death. Christ overcame the power of death ensuring that this separation is only temporary. Though dead and buried, our bodies will one day be resurrected and reunited with our souls for all eternity. At Christ's Second Coming, all those who have died will be reunited with their bodies in a new and transformed way for eternity.

In this unit, your child will read Romans 8:11, which describes the power of Christ's Resurrection. Pope St. John Paul II affirms that our human bodies will be recovered and renewed in the life to come. We no longer need to fear death, because Christ has won the final battle against death, and He gives us a share in this victory in the resurrection of our bodies. This is why we must take special care of the dignity of our bodies on earth and why the Church venerates the relics of the Saints.

As the lessons build, your child will participate in an activity introducing the idea that "happily ever after" endings are actually symbolic of our final end in heaven. Through Jesus' Death and Resurrection, he has given us an eternal happily-ever-after, the destiny we were created to obtain. For in heaven, the human person will have a new and perfect integration of body and soul that will allow him/her to live the gift-of-self with God and others in a deeper way.

S GERMINATE THE SEED

FAMILY DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

Since our bodies will be resurrected, glorified, and reunited with our souls upon the Second Coming of Jesus, how can we treat our bodies and others' bodies with more reverence and care? What do you think our glorified bodies will be like? *(*Note to parents:* After the Resurrection Jesus ate fish, walked through walls, and yet still had scars from his wounds).



SGROW THE SEED

FAMILY ACTIVITY:

Daily Mass — Prior to mass, pray together and ask for the Holy Spirit to prepare your bodies to receive the living Body of Jesus in Holy Communion. Focus on the mystery of "Transubstantiation" (when the bread and wine become Jesus' body, blood, soul and divinity, yet retain the physical properties of bread and wine) at mass.

FAMILY PRAYER:

Pray "The Apostles' Creed" together — Pause and reflect when you come to the part, "I believe in the Resurrection of the body" (say it 3x).

Apostles' Creed:

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, **the resurrection of the body**, and life everlasting.

Amen. Pope St. John Paul II, thank you for the gift of Theology of the Body. Pray for us!

Want to learn more? Visit **RuahWoodsInstitute.org/parents** to view a TOB parent presentation.

