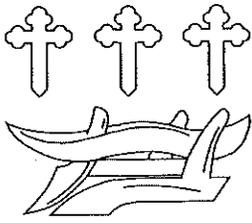


Archdiocese of Cincinnati



March 8, 2019

**Office of  
The Archbishop**

100 East Eighth Street  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

513-421-3131

Greetings,

In the *Apostolic Exhortation on the New Evangelization*, Pope Francis reveals a dream that he has for the Church,

I dream of a “**missionary option**”, that is, a missionary impulse capable of transforming everything, so that the Church’s customs, ways of doing things, times and schedules, language and structures can be suitably channeled for the evangelization of today’s world rather than for her self-preservation (*Evangelii Gaudium* 27).

The seed of this dream for the New Evangelization was planted by St. John Paul II. It is no coincidence that the same mind that conceived the New Evangelization also gave us the rich teaching of the Theology of the Body. The New Evangelization and the *Theology of the Body* go hand in hand.

**I too share this dream for the Archdiocese of Cincinnati.** In an important step in this direction, I promulgated teaching *Theology of the Body* in every grade PK-8 and I have plans for this to be promulgated through grade 12.

The world’s first K-12 *Theology of the Body* curriculum has been developed by *Ruah Woods*, a non-profit education and healing ministry based in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati dedicated to helping men and women live their vocation to love, according to God’s plan, as informed by *Theology of the Body*. I am happy to announce that the entire K-12 curriculum is now available to order.

**In a critical next step in this direction, I am now requiring that every grade school in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati purchase the ROOTED Curriculum produced by *Ruah Woods* so that it can be utilized for the 2019/2020 School Year.**

I know that now is the time schools and parishes consider curriculum purchases for the next school year and am hopeful we are not too late in the budgeting process to accommodate this request. Please review the attached addendum for purchasing information. I recognize that by requiring the purchase of this curriculum that I am asking for a major transformation in “ways of doing things.” I thank you for advancing the New Evangelization.

The Archdiocese and *Ruah Woods* is committed to help each school implement the *ROOTED Curriculum* in your particular school. To that end, *Ruah Woods* will be offering 6 Regional Trainings on the *ROOTED Curriculum* free of charge. I urge every principal and religion teacher to participate in one of these trainings.

Curriculum alone will not be sufficient in creating a culture rooted in the dignity of the human person that permeates the entire parish and school. As Pope

Paul the VI says, "Modern man listens more willingly to witnesses than to teachers, and if he does listen to teachers, it is because they are witnesses" (Evangeliū Nuntiandi, 41). As you begin to implement *Theology of the Body* in your school curriculum, I urge you to consider how you can transform your entire school culture. Here are some considerations to that end:

1. I have already encouraged each and every school to consider working with the *School of Faith*. I am pleased to see the amazing transformation already happening in schools that are working with the *School of Faith*. The *School of Faith* is an important, even critical, partner in helping us achieve this dream for our Archdiocese.
2. Work with *Ruah Woods* to earn the title of a *Theology of the Body Campus*. This honor is given to schools that have worked to change the culture of their school to a place where everyone is seen as a gift from God. For more information visit [www.TOBcampus.com](http://www.TOBcampus.com).
3. Finally, as you develop your Catholic Identity Goal for Accreditation, consider working with the Schools Office and the Office for Evangelization and Discipleship to create a culture-changing plan that builds on the principles of *Theology of the Body*.

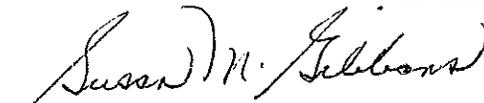
The Archdiocese of Cincinnati and *Ruah Woods* are prepared to work together to support every parish and school as they implement the *Ruah Woods Curriculum* and move toward becoming a culture permeated by respect for the dignity of every person.

The most precious gift we have to pass along in this life is our Catholic faith. *Theology of the Body* resonates solidly in our restless human hearts (CCC #27), bringing forth the beauty of the great gift of our faith. I pray that your one light becomes many, a living testimony to the New Evangelization. This is the essence of faith needed to move a mountain and to turn a tide. May God go with you always in this noble mission.

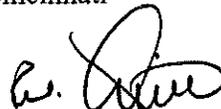
Your Servant in Christ,



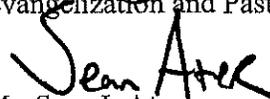
Most Reverend Dennis M. Schnurr  
Archbishop of Cincinnati



Ms. Susan M. Gibbons  
Superintendent of Catholic Schools



Reverend Jan K. Schmidt  
Department Director for  
Evangelization and Pastoral Life



Mr. Sean I. Ater  
Director of the Office for  
Evangelization and Discipleship