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15 August 2025

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

All good greetings in the Lord! This comes to introduce Catholic guidance addressing the uncertainties of our time pertaining to gender. The attached document, "The Body Reveals the Person: A Catholic Response to the Challenges of Gender Ideology", is designed to support priests, deacons, consecrated religious, teachers, catechists, families and all the faithful in navigating sensitive questions regarding gender identity in a manner that upholds the Church's teaching on the dignity of the human person.

As shepherd of our diocese, it is my prayer that this resource be used not only as a guide but as a ministry tool—helping each of us respond to our brothers and sisters in both truth and charity. Our pastoral goal is to walk with those who are searching, suffering, or unsure, recognizing that every person is loved by God and called to flourish according to His Will.

I encourage all priests, deacons, seminarians, consecrated religious, teachers in our Catholic schools, parish catechists and those engaged in religious education, parents, and all the faithful to make these truths their own and share them with fidelity, understanding and charity. May this resource strengthen our efforts to foster environments—whether in families, schools, parishes, or ministries—where authentic human dignity is upheld, and where compassion and honesty go hand in hand. With a promise of prayer for you and your intentions and depending on your good prayers, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ Jesus,

Most Reverend Daniel E. Thomas

Bishop of Toledo

Enclosure