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People listen to Catholic scholars release a statement reaffirming Blessed Paul VI's 1968 "Humanae Vitae" encyclical on human sexuality at The Catholic University of America in Washington Sept. 20. (CNS/Tyler Orsburn)

by NCR Staff

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Released by Pope Paul VI in 1968, *Humanae Vitae*, or "Of Human Life," established church teaching on family planning and artificial contraceptives. In the past several decades, this teaching has shaped the church — and the world.

On the show today:

- [Jamie Manson](#), NCR columnist and books editor
- Todd Salzman, Amelia and Emil Graff Professor of Catholic Theology at Creighton University and co-author with Michael Lawler of *The Sexual Person*.

Background reading:

- *Humanae Vitae* [further fueled the post-World War II culture wars over the meaning of sexuality](#), argue Todd Salzman and Michael Lawler.
- In commentary for NCR, [Joseph Selling writes](#) that what was being put forth to save traditional conclusions to *Humanae Vitae* is anything but traditional reasoning.
- [Follow the rest of NCR's coverage](#) of *Humanae Vitae* at 50.

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