

Holy Spirit Catholic Middle/High School
Summer Reading Program
Summer 2026

Rationale:

The goal of the Summer Reading Program is to encourage independent reading, nourish intellectual analysis, enhance reading comprehension, supplement academic reading across the curriculum, and generate discussion and activities based on shared experience and inquiry.

Instructions:

Students are to read each text assigned to courses in which they are enrolled for the upcoming year. Students are expected to arrive at school on the first day having read the assigned texts —carefully, analytically, and entirely. Appropriate assignments and assessments will be given in English language arts. Students will be required to participate in a variety of written and oral assessments. Books may be purchased as print or digital texts.

6th Grade:

Johnny Tremain by Esther Forbes

7th Grade:

The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane by Kate DiCamillo

8th Grade:

Fever 1793 by Laurie Halse Anderson

9th Grade:

English I: 1) *The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak

Honors English I: 1) *Murder On the Orient Express: The Graphic Novel* by Agatha Christie
2) *The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak

10th Grade:

English II: *Unbroken* by Laura Hillenbrand (can be young adult version)

Honors English II: 1) *Unbroken* by Laura Hillenbrand (can be young adult version)
2) *Bartleby, the Scrivener* by Herman Melville

11th Grade:

English III: *Just Mercy* (young adult version) by Bryan Stevenson

Honors English III: 1) *Their Eyes Were Watching God* by Zora Neale Hurston
2) *Just Mercy* (young adult version) by Bryan Stevenson

AP Language and Composition: 1) *Much Ado About Nothing* by William Shakespeare
2) *The Screwtape Letters* by C.S. Lewis
3) *1984* by George Orwell

12th Grade:

English IV: 1) *Eaters of the Dead* by Michael Crichton
2) *Educated* by Tara Westover

Honors English IV: 1) "Battle of Maldon"
2) *Beowulf*
3) *Educated* by Tara Westover

AP Literature and Composition: 1) *Macbeth* by William Shakespeare
2) *Death of A Salesman* by Arthur Miller
3) One book of choice from the AP Lit list below

Crime and Punishment by Fyodor Dostoyevski
Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man by James Joyce
Ceremony by Leslie Marmon Silko
Anna Karenina by Leo Tolstoy
Bless Me, Ultima by Rudolfo Anaya
Candide by Voltaire
Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead by Tom Stoppard
Waiting for Godot by Samuel Beckett
Madame Bovary by Gustave Flaubert
Oedipus Rex by Sophocles
A Doll's House by Henrik Ibsen
An Enemy of the People by Henrik Ibsen
Gulliver's Travels by Jonathan Swift
Hedda Gabler by Henrik Ibsen
Major Barbara by George Bernard Shaw
Medea by Euripides
Obasan by Joy Kogawa
Things Fall Apart by Chinua Achebe
The Cherry Orchard by Anton Chekhov
Mrs. Warren's Profession by George Bernard Shaw