

Saint Joseph's Collegiate Institute
Summer Reading Program 2008

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The goal of the Saint Joseph's Collegiate Institute Summer Reading Program is to encourage students to read and improve their reading skills. Students who read are better academic achievers and for that reason summer reading is essential.

- 1. All students are required to participate in the Summer Reading Program.**
- 2. The reading selections for each grade level are outlined in this newsletter.**
- 3. During the first week of school, students will take objective tests on their summer reading selections during a special schedule period.**
- 4. In order to be eligible to take the summer reading test, all students must turn in their signed parent response form to their homeroom teachers during orientation.**
- 5. Students who do not turn in their signed parent response form will be issued a grade of F and be required to make-up their grade.**
- 6. All students will receive a letter grade for summer reading (A+ to F) on their first report card. This grade will also be a part of the student's permanent record.**
- 7. All students must pass their summer reading tests in order to return to and graduate from Saint Joseph's Collegiate Institute.**
- 8. The make-up work for students who receive a letter grade of F is based on a new set of reading assignments. Until the failing grade is made up, the F will count towards academic probation as well as eligibility for co-curricular activities.**

Additional summer reading lists are also available for upperclassmen who would like to work with a specific teacher who has offered an alternative option.

The alternative options are posted on the library windows and students must sign up with the sponsoring teacher by contacting them directly.

Please see the section on "Additional Information Regarding Alternative Options for Upperclassmen" for more details.

Freshmen Class of 2012

Required:

- *Embracing the Past, Envisioning the Future: The History of St. Joseph's Collegiate Institute, Buffalo, New York* compiled by F. J. Kramer

Saint Joseph's Collegiate Institute, the oldest Catholic school for boys in Western New York. Find out about the changes the school has undergone in 145 years.

- *I, John Baptist De La Salle* by Brother Leo Kirby, FSC

The patron saint of all teachers, John Baptist De La Salle is the founder of the Brothers of the Christian schools, who have built schools throughout the world, including Saint Joseph's Collegiate Institute.

These requirements are both thin booklets that have to be special ordered and may not be available in bookstores until the end of June. They are best read closer to the start of the school year.

Select two (2) of the following eight choices:

1. *20,000 Leagues Under the Sea* by Jules Verne

"A huge sea monster has attacked and wrecked several ships from beneath the sea. Professor Arronax bravely joins a mission to hunt down the beast" (B&N).

2. *Code Orange* by Caroline B. Cooney

"While conducting research for a school paper on smallpox, the protagonist finds an envelope containing 100-year-old smallpox scabs and fears that he has infected himself and all of New York City" (B&N).

3. *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens: The Ultimate Teenage Success Guide* by Sean Covey

"Covey applies the timeless principles of the 7 Habits to teens as well as to the tough issues and life-changing decisions they face" (B&N). This book is highly recommended for any student enrolled in one of Mr. Deiotte's vocal classes. See section on "Additional Suggestion for ALL Vocal Students" for more information.

4. *The Chosen* by Chaim Potok

"*The Chosen* chronicles the friendship between Danny Saunders, a boy from a Hasidic family, and the more assimilated Reuven Malter, as they come of age in Williamsburg, Brooklyn" (B&N).

5. *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* by Mark Haddon

"Despite his overwhelming fear of interacting with people, Christopher, a mathematically-gifted, autistic fifteen-year-old boy, decides to investigate the murder of a neighbor's dog and uncovers secret information about his mother" (B&N).

6. *The Hound of the Baskervilles* by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

"When a second member of the Baskerville family dies, Sherlock Holmes investigates and finds murderous greed behind the supposed curse" (B&N).

7. *Touching Spirit Bear* by Ben Mikaelson

"After his anger erupts into violence, Cole, in order to avoid going to prison, agrees to participate in a sentencing alternative based on the Native American Circle Justice, and he is sent to a remote Alaskan Island where an encounter with a huge Spirit Bear changes his life" (B&N).

8. *Winterdance: The Fine Madness of Running the Iditarod* by Gary Paulsen

"In the tradition of Jack London, Gary Paulsen presents an unforgettable account of his participation in the 1,100-mile-long dogsled race called the "Iditarod" (B&N).

Sophomore Class of 2011

Select three (3) of the following nine choices:

1. *A Man of the Beatitudes: Pier Giorgio Frassati* by Luciana Frassati

'Pier Giorgio Frassati was a handsome, fun-loving, athletic, courageous and devout Catholic born into a prominent Italian family. He died at the young age of 24 and has since become the model for young people all over the world. Beatified in 1990 by Pope John Paul II and named "The Man of the Eight Beatitudes," Pier Giorgio teaches us that holiness is for everyone' (frassatiusa.org).

2. *Animal Farm* by George Orwell

"[The] 1945 satire on the perils of Stalinism has proved magnificently long-lived as a parable about totalitarianism anywhere-and has given the world at least one immortal phrase: "Everyone is equal, but some are more equal than others" (B&N).

3. *Dr. No* by Ian Fleming

"M called this case a soft option. Bond can't quite agree. The tropical island is luxurious, the seductive Honey Rider is beautiful and willing, but they are both part of the empire of Dr. No...The doctor is a worthy adversary, with a mind as hard and cold as his solid steel hands. Dr. No's obsession is power. His only gifts are strictly pain-shaped" (B&N).

4. *Ishmael* by Daniel Quinn

"This book offers solutions to global problems. When a man in search of truth answers an ad in a local newspaper from a teacher looking for serious students, he finds himself alone in an abandoned office with a gorilla named Ishmael" (B&N).

5. *Jailbird* by Kurt Vonnegut

"This wry tale follows bumbling bureaucrat Walter F. Starbuck from Harvard to the Nixon White House to the penitentiary as Watergate's least known co-conspirator" (B&N).

6. *Men Against the Sea* by Charles Nordhoff and James Norman Hall

"The epic story of the 19 loyal men who, with Captain Bligh at the helm, were set adrift in a 23-foot open launch" (B&N).

7. *The Alchemist* by Paulo Coelho

"With the help of several enchanted strangers, an Andalusian shepherd boy learns to listen to himself" (B&N).

8. *The Color of Water* by James McBride

"[McBride] writes of the inner confusions he felt as a black child of a white mother and of the love and faith with which his mother surrounded their large family. The result is a powerful portrait of growing up, a meditation on race and identity" (B&N).

9. *The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers* by J.R.R. Tolkien

Part of Tolkien's trilogy, "Frodo and his Companions of the Ring have been beset by danger during their quest to prevent the Ruling Ring from falling into the hands of the Dark Lord by destroying it in the Cracks of Doom" (B&N).

Junior Class of 2010

Additional Requirement for ALL Advanced Placement American History students:

ALL AP American History students are required to read *Founding Brothers* for a total of four (4) required books. This includes AP students participating in an alternative summer reading option.

- *Founding Brothers: The Revolutionary Generation* by Joseph J. Ellis

"An illuminating study of the intertwined lives of the founders of the American republic - John Adams, Aaron Burr, Benjamin Franklin, Alexander Hamilton, Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, and George Washington" (B&N).

Select three (3) of the following nine choices:

1. *Beowulf* translated by Seamus Haney

"This is an exhilarating, deeply moving story of humankind's struggle with the monstrous" (B&N).

2. *From Russia with Love* by Ian Fleming

"Tatiana Romanova lures 007 to Istanbul promising the top-secret Spektor cipher machine" (B&N).

3. *It's Not About the Bike: A Journey Back to Life* by Lance Armstrong

"Told in Armstrong's down-to-earth Texas style, it's an unforgettable story about tragedy, transformation and ultimate triumph" (B&N).

4. *Johnny Got His Gun* by Dalton Trumbo

"This work continues to rivet readers with its story of an American youth who survives World War I as an armless, legless, and faceless basket case with his mind intact" (B&N).

5. *Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini

"This is a novel about friendship and betrayal, and about the price of loyalty. It is about the bonds between fathers and sons, and the power of fathers over sons — their love, their sacrifices, and their lies" (B&N).

6. *My Ishmael* by Dan Quinn

"In this sequel to Quinn's controversial best seller, *Ishmael*, the telepathic gorilla has another pupil intent on saving the world: 12-year-old Julie Gerchak" (B&N).

7. *The Book Thief* by Marcus Zusak

"It's just a small story really, about among other things: a girl, some words, an accordionist, some fanatical Germans, a Jewish fist-fighter, and quite a lot of thievery" (B&N).

8. *The Jungle* by Upton Sinclair

"A muckraking masterpiece *centered* on Jurgis Rudkus, a Lithuanian immigrant working in Chicago's infamous Packingtown. Instead of finding the American Dream, Rudkus and his family inhabit a brutal, soul-crushing urban jungle dominated by greedy bosses, pitiless con-men, and corrupt politicians" (B&N).

9. *The Physics of Star Trek* by Lawrence Krauss and Stephen Hawking

"What warps when you're traveling at warp speed? What is the difference between a wormhole and a black hole? Are time loops really possible, and can I kill my grandmother before I am born? Anyone who has ever wondered "could this really happen?" will gain useful insights into the *Star Trek* universe (and, incidentally, the real world of physics) in this charming and accessible guide" (B&N).

Senior Class of 2009

Requirement for ALL Seniors:

ALL Seniors are required to read *Radical Gratitude* for a total of three (3) required books. This includes seniors participating in an alternative summer reading option.

- *Radical Gratitude and Other Life Lessons Learned in Siberia* by Andrew Bienkowski and Mary Akers

"An illuminating melding of narrative and inspiring practical guidance, this is both the extraordinary true story of a family's survival in Stalinist Siberia and a guide to becoming a person who can give to others" (allenandunwin.com). See "Getting Your Books" for important details.

Select two (2) of the following nine choices:

1. *A Man of the Beatitudes: Pier Giorgio Frassati* by Luciana Frassati

A handsome, fun-loving, athletic, courageous and devout Catholic born into a prominent Italian family, Pier Frassati died at the young age of 24 and has since become the model for young people all over the world. Beatified in 1990 by Pope John Paul II and named "The Man of the Eight Beatitudes," [he] teaches us that holiness is for everyone' (frassatiusa.org).

2. *A Year with the Producers* by Jeffrey Denman

"What's it like to work in the biggest hit Broadway has seen in years? In this delightful book based on his almost daily notes, Jeffrey Denman, [a St. Joseph's Collegiate Graduate], tells the story of a year in one performer's life" (B&N).

3. *Catcher in the Rye* by J.D. Salinger

"[Caulfield's] funny and poignant experiences with life, love, and sex [are portrayed in this classic coming-of-age]" (B&N).

4. *Manhunt: The 12-Day Chase for Lincoln's Killer* by James L. Swanson

"The murder of Abraham Lincoln set off the greatest manhunt in American history -- the pursuit and capture of John Wilkes Booth" (B&N).

5. *Newjack: Guarding Sing Sing* by Ted Conover

"The intrepid author of *Coyotes*, about the world of illegal Mexican immigrants, spent a year as a prison guard at Sing Sing" (B&N).

6. *No Country for Old Men* by Cormac McCarthy

"[Set in our own time, this] blistering novel returns to the Texas-Mexico border [where] rustlers have given way to drug-runners and small towns have become free-fire zones" (B&N).

7. *Scales, Intervals, Keys, Triads, Rhythm, and Meter: A Programmed Course in Elementary Music Theory, with an Introduction to Partwriting* by John Clough, Joyce Conley and Claire Louise Boge

"In the footsteps of its successful predecessor, this edition introduces the basic tenets of music theory and partwriting skills. Numerous examples from the music literature reinforce the theoretical concepts covered in each set" (B&N). Recommended for Varsity Singers, this option is open to any student interested in music.

8. *The Grapes of Wrath* by John Steinbeck

"This is an epic saga of a family driven West by Oklahoma dust storms [and the Depression] during the 1930s" (B&N).

9. *Velocity* by Dean Koontz

"This latest suspense masterpiece pits one man against the ultimate deadline."

Additional Suggestion for ALL Vocal Students:

The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens by Sean Covey

Due to the daily group and community work that is expected in a Vocal Ensemble - as well as the balance and management of concerts, masses, assignments and so forth - Mr. Deiotte strongly urges ALL of his singers to read this book. He encourages parents to skim through it for their approval as well as for a common language to use with adolescents. The book reveals useful ways of keeping things authentic, positive and directive, and is a helpful guide for the many, many wonderful opportunities that the students are going to have at St. Joseph's Collegiate Institute. He requests that all vocal students have *The 7 Habits* on hand for assignments and references.

Additional Information Regarding Alternative Options for Upperclassmen:

Alternative Options are made available to upperclassmen in June. Any upperclassman who prefers to participate in an alternative option must contact the sponsoring teacher directly for permission.

The alternative options are posted on the library windows and are offered by teachers who have agreed to put together a selection of books that they feel would be of interest to students. Each sponsoring teacher determines his or her own assessment, which offers students opportunities to reflect on their reading in different and creative ways.

Students, who choose to participate in an alternative option, are still responsible for reading any books that are required for their grade level. The alternative option replaces the obligation to read additional books from the traditional list.

Reminder Regarding Requirement for ALL Seniors:

All Seniors are required to read *Radical Gratitude and Other Life Lessons Learned in Siberia* by Andrew Bienkowski and Mary Akers for a total of three (3) summer reading books. This includes Seniors participating in an alternative summer reading option.

Students will need to have *Radical Gratitude* for Deacon Pijacki's Religion class in the Fall.

This book is not yet available in the United States. See information on "Getting Your Books" for further details.

Reminder Regarding Requirement for ALL AP American History students ONLY:

ALL AP American History students are required to read *Founding Brothers: The Revolutionary Generation* by Joseph J. Ellis for a total of four (4) summer reading books. This includes AP American History students participating in an alternative summer reading option.

Getting Your Books:

Special arrangements have been made with both Barnes & Noble and Talking Leaves.

Barnes & Noble Bookfair Voucher Supporting

**Saint Joseph's
Collegiate Institute**

Simply present this voucher at
the cash register at the time of purchase.
A percentage of the net sale
will be donated to your organization.*

OFFICE USE ONLY

Register #: Transaction #:
Amount of sale before tax less purchase
of Gift Cards, Membership Cards,
and Café consumables.
\$

* THE FOLLOWING TRANSACTIONS ARE NOT INCLUDED IN BOOKFAIR TOTALS: THE
PURCHASE OF GIFT CARDS, MEMBERSHIP CARDS, AND CAFÉ CONSUMABLES.
NON-PROFIT AND BUSINESS ACCOUNT DISCOUNTS MAY NOT BE APPLIED TO
BOOKFAIR PURCHASES.



Detach here and bring to the bookfair.

The Freshmen requirements need to be special ordered and may not be available at the very beginning of the summer.

Embracing the Past, Envisioning the Future: The History of St. Joseph's Collegiate Institute, Buffalo, New York compiled by F. J. Kramer

I, John Baptist De La Salle by Brother Leo Kirby, FSC

The Senior requirement is not yet available in the United States.

Radical Gratitude and Other Life Lessons Learned in Siberia by Andrew Bienkowski and Mary Akers

You may get this book in the following ways:

1. Through Deacon Pijacki,
2. On-line through the author's blog: <http://maryakers.blogspot.com>,
3. Through regular mail by sending \$23.00 (\$3 is for shipping) to Mary Akers, 72 Woodbury Drive, Lockport, NY 14094, and
4. Limited copies are available at Inspiration Point located at 483 Elmwood Avenue in Buffalo. The phone number is 883-8670.

Barnes & Noble Booksellers
1565 Niagara Falls Blvd
(716) 837-7209

Talking Leaves
951 Elmwood Ave.
(716) 884-9524

Barnes & Noble Booksellers
4401 Transit Rd.
(716) 634-1011

Talking Leaves
3158 Main St.
(716) 837-8554

**Talking Leaves
will offer a
15% discount to
students who
bring their
summer reading
list into the
bookstore.**

DO NOT LOSE THIS FORM!

Summer Reading Parent Response Form

ALL STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO SUBMIT COMPLETED PARENT RESPONSE FORM
This includes students participating in an alternative reading program.

By signing and initializing below, I certify that I have personal knowledge that my son,
_____, has completed the required reading approved for his grade level, as
indicated below, during the summer of 2008.

I am aware that this form must be submitted to my son's homeroom teacher during orientation week of school as an
official acknowledgement of his participation in the summer reading program.

I also understand that my son will not be able to participate in the summer reading assessment if this form is not turned in
during orientation. I understand that he will receive a zero and have to participate in a make-up reading program for a
passing grade that requires him to read a different group of books.

Book #1 Title:	Completion Date:	Parent Initials:
Book #2 Title:	Completion Date:	Parent Initials:
Book #3 Title:	Completion Date:	Parent Initials:
Freshmen ONLY: <i>Embracing the Past, Envisioning the Future: The History of St. Joseph's Collegiate Institute, Buffalo, New York</i> compiled by F. J. Kramer.	Completion Date:	Parent Initials:
Freshman ONLY: <i>I, John Baptist De La Salle</i> by Brother Leo Kirby, FSC	Completion Date:	Parent Initials:
AP American History Students ONLY: <i>Founding Brothers: The Revolutionary Generation</i> All AP American History students are required to read <i>Founding Brothers</i>, including AP students participating in an alternative summer reading option.	Completion Date:	Parent Initials:
Seniors ONLY: <i>Radical Gratitude and Other Life Lessons Learned in Siberia</i> by Andrew Bienkowski and Mary Akers All Seniors are required to read <i>Radical Gratitude</i>, including seniors participating in an alternative summer reading option.	Completion Date:	Parent Initials:

Student's Name (Please Print) _____ Grade _____

Student's Homeroom Teacher: _____ Room # _____

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

Parent Name (Please Print) and Phone Number: _____

Alternative Option Students: Name of Sponsoring Teacher: _____

DO NOT LOSE THIS FORM. IT IS REQUIRED FOR PERMISSION TO TAKE THE TEST.