

# Summer Reading For 5th Graders 2025

St John the Beloved Academy



## Greetings Parents and Students

Dear Parents,

The books, stories and poems have been carefully selected to foster an enjoyable and thoughtful reading experience. Enjoy this special time with your child. These assignments are meant to be enriching and meaningful. Be sure to balance the assignments with lots of fun, enjoyable time outside with family and friends.

Best to you and your family,

Mr. Jeffrey P. Presberg  
Headmaster

House of Alpha



Love

House of Blue



Contemplation

House of Eagle



Inspiration

House of Omega



Wisdom

## Core Elements for Rising 5th Graders

### Journal & Books

- You will need a writing journal (a leather journal that you may keep and reuse over time).
- Choose 3 books to read from the list below or from the recommended reading list.
- You are encouraged to read as many as you like.
- For each book draw a picture of something interesting or an image that strikes you and illuminates something important to the story. Think about the characters, the setting and the sequence of events as you draw. Sketch the picture and then color it.
- Write 1-2 paragraph(s) describing each picture inside of your journal (pictures may be drawn and placed inside journal if you would like).

The Magician's Nephew or A Horse and His Boy - C.S. Lewis

Swallows and Amazons - Arthur Ransome

The Jungle Book - Rudyard Kipling

A Single Shard or A Long Walk to Water - Linda Sue Park

James and the Giant Peach or Charlie and the Chocolate Factory - Roald Dahl

Sign of the Beaver - Elizabeth Speare

Kidnapped - Robert Louis Stevenson

The Little Prince - Antoine de Saint-Exupery

Emily of New Moon - L.M. Montgomery or another book in the Emily Series

A Night Divided - Jennifer Neilsen

Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief - Rick Riordan





*Kidnapped* illustration by NC Wyeth

### **Poems**

- **Read all four recommended poems, copy one in your journal and memorize, reciting it at home (at the dinner table or some other spontaneous moment). This will also be recited at school.**

"A Psalm of Life" by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

"Shiloh: A Requiem" by Herman Melville

"The Charge of the Light Brigade" by Alfred, Lord Tennyson

"The Lake Isle of Innisfree" by W. B. Yeats

### **Spiritual**

- **Read a couple Gospel narratives of *The Good Shepherd*: Luke 15: 1-7 and John 10: 1-18**

Please view (and ponder) H.O. Tanner's painting and NC Wyeth's illustration of "The Good Shepherd" to help you enter the scene of those moments.

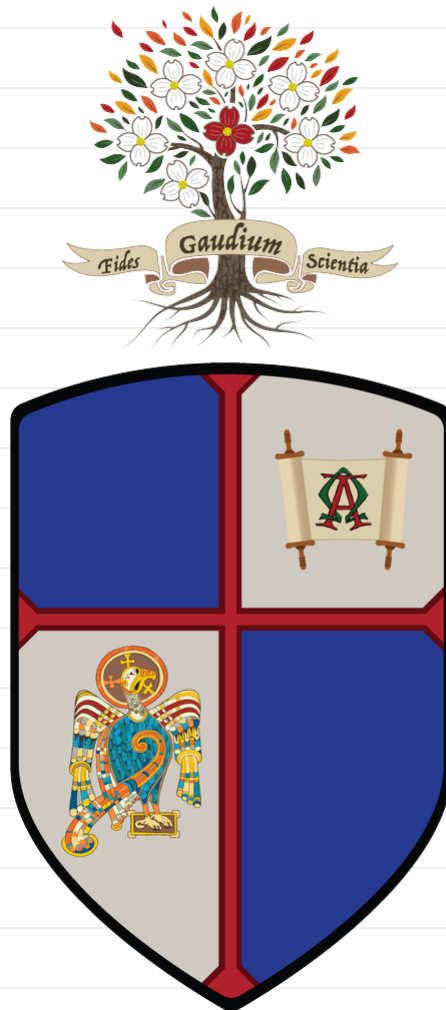
- **Imagine you are a sheep or a wolf (or another animal) at night and the "Good Shepherd" goes out to look for the lost sheep, describe the scene and tell it like a story. (in your journal)**





*"You can make anything by writing."* C.S. Lewis

**Donate to our Annual Fund**



## St John the Beloved Academy

Saint John the Beloved Academy was founded in 1954 to offer quality Catholic education to parish children. Saint John the Beloved Academy continues to provide children in preschool through eighth grade with a Catholic liberal arts education rooted in rich tradition of academic excellence and spiritual formation, captured by the school's motto, "*Fides, Scientia, et Gaudium.*" By Faith, children are led beyond themselves to entrust their formation to God. By forming the entire child, we impart the Knowledge for both intellectual and spiritual growth. The Mission of Saint John the Beloved Academy is manifested in genuine Christian Joy—rooted in the Sacraments, self-sacrifice, charity, and service to others.

Top painting: *The Jolly Flatboatmen* by George Caleb Bingham.



Christine White



