

Summer Reading For 7th 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 and 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 7th Graders

Journal & Books

- You will need a writing journal (a leather journal that you can keep and use over time).
- Read 3 books from the list below or a book from the recommended 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).
- Draw a picture of your house emblem on a sheet of clean paper ready to share. House emblems are included above.

Rabble in Arms - Kenneth Roberts (counts as 2 books)

Where the Red Fern Grows - Wilson Rawls

Tom Sawyer - Mark Twain

King Solomon's Mines - H. Rider Haggard

Lee and Grant at Appomattox - Mackinlay Kantor

The Last Crusader: Don John of Austria - Louis de Wohl

The Mouse that Roared - Leonard Wibberley

The Once and Future King - T. H. White

True Grit - Charles Portis

Black Beauty - Anna Sewall

The Black Stallion - Walter Farley

The Wind in the Willows - Kenneth Grahame

Little Women or Little Men - Louisa May Alcott

The Boys Who Challenged Hitler - Phillip Hoose (non-fiction)

To Kill A Mockingbird - Harper Lee

Story of a Soul - St. Terese of Liseux

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.**

"After Apple-Picking" by Robert Frost

"Before a Statue of Achilles" by George Santayana

"Spring and Fall" by Gerard Manley Hopkins

"The Solitary Reaper" by William Wordsworth

Spiritual

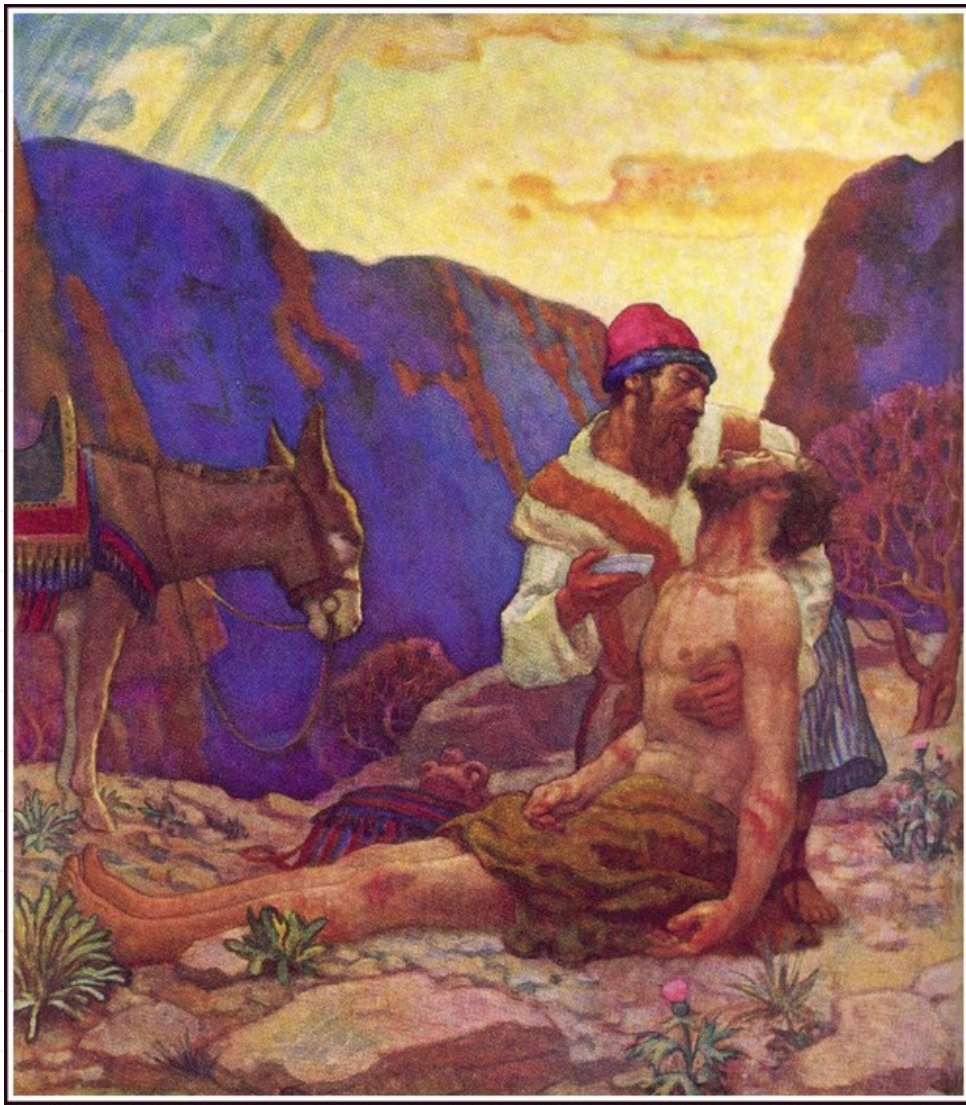
- **Read the following Gospel selections focused on the story of the Good Samaritan and Jesus' conversation with the Samaritan woman at the well.**

Luke 10: 25-37

John 4: 4-42

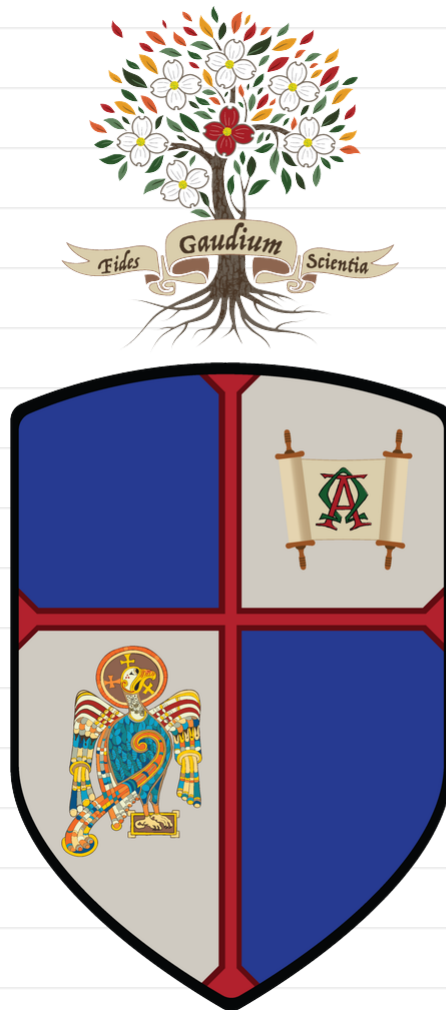
Please view (and ponder) N.C. Wyeth's "The Good Samaritan", and the icon of the Samaritan woman and Jesus (*below*) to help you enter the scene of those moments.

- Choose one of the Gospel passages to reflect on, such as the conversation of the Samaritan woman and Jesus. What was unusual about the conversation? What was Jesus' "style" of conversation? Why did the woman change? Why did the village change?
- Write a paragraph about the other Gospel passage imagining you are a servant or creature observing what is going on. Tell it like a story.



"There are far, far better things ahead than any we leave behind." 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.



Christine White