

## ***SUMMER READING 2017***

Students will complete summer reading for ENGLISH LITERATURE and CATHOLIC THEOLOGY. Please pay attention to the directions and feel free to contact the school office over the summer with any questions.

### **CATHOLIC THEOLOGY READING**

ALL STUDENTS (regardless of CP, Honors, or AP status) are expected to complete the following assignment.

**All students will read *Tattoos on the Heart: The Power of Boundless Compassion*, by Gregory Boyle, SJ.**

The Gospel calls us to open our hearts to everyone - even the most unattractive among us. Fr. Greg takes that mission seriously. His life's work places him in contact each day with men and women who can be quite frightening, and who appear to most of us to be quite unlovable.

Your responses to the following questions should be typed, double-spaced, 12-pt font, in Times New Roman. Each answer should consist of one-two paragraphs minimum. The completed packet of responses is due on the first day of class, Tuesday, August 29th, 2017.

*Before you start to read the book, imagine what your impression of a typical gang member might be.*

- (1) Write a brief character sketch. What does he/she look like? How does she/he spend his/her time? Is he/she happy? You do not have to stick to these questions. Just describe what you think a gang member might be like.

*Once you've read the book answer the following questions.*

- (2) Can you imagine immersing yourself in a gang ridden neighborhood and opening your heart to gang members?
- (3) How would you summarize Fr. Boyle's theme in this book? What do you think was his goal was in writing it? In what ways is Fr. Greg living the Gospel?

*Consider the stories that Fr. Boyle shares in this book.*

- (4) Which is your favorite? Which ones made you sad? Which ones made you laugh?

*Gang members are almost always tattooed. Think about the title of the book.*

- (5) What does it mean or refer to? Why is tattoo removal an important element of Homeboys Ministries?

*Fr. Boyle begins Chapter 1 with "God can get tiny, if we're not careful."*

- (6) What do you think he means by that? Give an example of a time (from the book or from experience) when people made God seem tiny.

*Boyle challenges readers to "stand in awe at what the poor have to carry rather than stand in judgment at how they carry it."*

- (7) Is he successful in challenging you? Did his book change your perspective?

*Reread your character sketch of a gang member.*

- (8) Is there anything you would change now that you have read this book?

## ENGLISH LITERATURE READING

Students in Honors and CP classes will complete the following work over the summer (AP students will receive separate assignments). Each grade level has been assigned a book and an article to read over the summer; both should be completed by the first day of classes.

- On the second day of classes, students will be tested on the book and article. This test will include questions about plot, characters, and/or themes. No time in class will be used to review for this assessment. Students are expected to prepare on their own.
- Following the test, class time will be spent on studying the book that was assigned. Students will be expected to have a **physical copy** of the book (paperback or hardcover) and participate in class discussions and activities. Following the unit of study, an additional assessment will be given.
- Rising sophomores, juniors, and seniors can access a Google Classroom dedicated to Summer Reading 2017 resources for their grade. Freshmen will be given hard copy readings.

### FRESHMEN

*All freshmen are encouraged to attend a **Summer Reading Review Session**. These sessions (approximately one hour long) are designed to help students review the book and article and understand the expectations for our Day Two Assessment. Registration is not required. This year's sessions will be held at **1:00 on Tuesday, August 15th, and Monday, August 21st**.*

**Book:** *The Other Wes Moore* by Wes Moore

**Article:** [What is it like to be poor at an Ivy League school?](#)

### SOPHOMORES

**Google Classroom Code: li6jyn7**

**Book:** *All the Light We Cannot See* by Anthony Doerr

**Article:** [The Science of Fear](#)

### JUNIORS

**Google Classroom Code: mshx3m**

**Book:** *The Color of Water* by James McBride

**Article:** [The Radical Vision of Toni Morrison](#)

### SENIORS

**Google Classroom Code: ru65kg**

**Book:** *When Breath Becomes Air* by Paul Kalanithi

**Article:** [Death, the Prosperity Gospel and Me](#)