



June, 2010

Dear Sophomores, Juniors, Seniors, and Parents,

We have an exciting year planned for you this fall. This year sophomores, juniors, and seniors will be studying Medieval Literature. The curriculum committee has chosen an ambitious reading list that includes many of the greatest epics, poems, and plays our Western literary tradition has to offer. I am confident that this introduction to the classics will deepen students' appreciation of literature and will help them become better writers.

English Summer Reading

To get a jump on the year, the curriculum committee has assigned *The Song of Roland*. It is the oldest extant French epic poem and it tells the story of the defeat of Charlemagne's rearguard in the year 778. I'm sure students will enjoy this inspiring work, which has been translated into English by the great Dorothy Sayers. There are several editions of this book, so be sure you get one translated by Dorothy Sayers.

History Summer Reading

For your Medieval History class, the curriculum committee has assigned *Joan of Arc* by Mark Twain. This is the story of one of the Church's best-known saints, told in the words of one of America's greatest writers. Students may purchase any edition of this book or listen to it as a book on tape. Students must have completed both *The Song of Roland* and *Joan of Arc* by the first day of class. Students should be prepared to discuss these works during the first few weeks of the school year. There is no written assignment over the summer, so just read and enjoy!

Books to Purchase

All works of literature must be purchased by each student by the beginning of the school year. Siblings may not share books because each student needs to have his own book in hand every class. Many of these books are available at major book stores, but I suggest ordering them all online because it is usually cheaper. They can all be found at www.amazon.com. The prices I have listed here are for brand-new books, but most of them can be found used for less on the Amazon website. Used books can take longer to ship to your house, so don't wait until a week before school starts to order!

Students are required to use the particular editions listed below. For example, you must purchase the version of *Purgatory* that is translated by Dorothy Sayers and not another version.

Students may not use abridged editions of any of these books.

SMA owns used copies of some of these books. They will be sold on a first-come, first-serve basis for \$7.00 each. The office summer hours are 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday through

Thursday for the months of June and August. The office is closed in July and on Fridays in June and August.

Song of Roland
Translated by Dorothy Sayers
Penguin Classics
ISBN 0140440755 \$11.00

Gunnar's Daughter by Sigrid Undset
Translated by Arthur Chater
Penguin Classics
ISBN 014118020X \$12.00

Sir Gawain and the Green Knight
Translated by Tolkien
Mass Market Publisher
ISBN 0345277600 \$8.00

Purgatory by Dante
Translated by Dorothy Sayers
Penguin Classics
ISBN 0140440461 \$9.00

Richard III by Shakespeare
Folger Shakespeare Library Edition
ISBN 0743482840 \$6.00

In addition to the works of fiction listed above, each St. Monica Academy high school student must own a copy of the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*. This book must be purchased at the beginning of a student's high school career. It will be used all four years of high school, and most likely in college as well. If you do not already have a copy of the MLA Handbook, you must purchase one for the upcoming year.

*MLA Handbook for Writers
Of Research Papers*, 6th Edition
by Joseph Gibaldi
Modern Language Association of
America
ISBN 9780873529860 \$16.00

I look forward to seeing familiar faces again in the fall, and to meeting all our new students. A short list of recommended books for summer reading is included in this packet. Enjoy your summer and be sure to read!

Mrs. Halpin

LATIN IV SUMMER READING

The Aeneid by Virgil
Translated by Sarah Ruden
Yale University Press
ISBN 978-0300151411 \$11.53

Mr. Selmeczy

ST. MONICA ACADEMY
SUMMER READING RECOMMENDATIONS 2010

High School

Title	Author
Pius X, A Country Priest	Giordani, Igino
That Hideous Strength	Lewis, C.S.
All Quiet on the Western Front	Remarque, Erich Maria
Song of Bernadette	Werfel, Franz
War of the Worlds	Well, H. G.
Bridges at Toko-Ri	Michener, James
When Hell Was in Session	Denton, Jeremiah
The Prince and the Pauper	Twain, Mark
Narrative Life of Frederick Douglass	Douglass, Frederick
Gone With the Wind	Mitchell, Margaret
Bridge of San Luis Rey	Wilder, Thornton
The Three Musketeers	Dumas, Alexander
Song at the Scaffold	Von Le Fort, Gertrud
Murder in the Cathedral	Eliot, T.S.
Wuthering Heights	Bronte, Emily
Story of the Trapp Family Singers	Trapp, Maria Augusta
A Man for All Seasons	Bolt, Robert
John Paul the Great	Noonan, Peggy