

Summer Reading 2022

WHY READ DURING THE SUMMER?

To keep your skills sharp... It's good for you!

University of Tennessee, Knoxville, faculty members Richard Allington and Anne McGill-Franzen completed in 2010 a three-year study showing a significantly higher level of reading achievement in students who did summer reading. They found that children who do not read in the summer lose two to three months of reading development while kids who do read tend to gain a month of reading proficiency.

Research shows that reading just twenty minutes a day drastically improves school performance, vocabulary, thinking skills and reading skills. Research also demonstrates that choice makes a very important contribution to achievement, so we will allow you a choice within a limited range of books.

Below you will find the necessary information for your summer reading assignment. This summer, the Theology Department is leading the program.

For this assignment, students in grades 9 will obtain the book listed below, ***Carry On*, by Lisa Fenn**. Next, students will write a reflection essay connecting the content of the book to one of the spiritual values described below.

Please note that students enrolled in AP History also have an additional assignment below.

1. OBTAIN A COPY OF THE BOOK

Grade 9 Book for Summer 2022:

- [Carry On](#) by Lisa Fenn

2. IDENTIFY A SPIRITUAL VALUE AS A THEME IN THE BOOK

A theme is a central, unifying idea that that helps the reader to understand something about themselves and their world through the reading experience. This year, we are asking you to choose **one** of the Five Spiritual Values of Malden Catholic High School and the Xaverian Brothers and think about how that value is demonstrated as a theme in this book.

The Five Spiritual Values you may choose from are:

Simplicity – simplicity calls us to focus on what truly matters most in our lives: family, faith, friends, and the common good of humanity. Simplicity frees our hearts and minds to choose good and work for justice.

Humility – humility is the recognition that God is the source of all good things in our lives. When we are humble, we adopt a selfless attitude and recognize that our brothers and sisters are all made in God's image. In humility, we recognize that we are not perfect, and do not always have all the answers. Humility inspires us to be connected to each other and calls us to affirm each other's gifts, learn from each other, and work together in harmony.

Compassion – compassion means having a tender heart capable of seeing and hearing the needs of all. Simply put, it means seeing people how Jesus saw them. In compassion, we are called to stand with one another in difficulties, especially with the poor, vulnerable, and

oppressed, recognizing that all of us are called to experience and share God's love. Compassion allows us to be the eyes, the ears, and the hands of God in the world today.

Trust – trust is total confidence in our God and our brothers and sisters. Trust is where our minds meet our hearts, and it calls us to act with faith and courage. Trust allows us to persevere in the faith of life's difficulties and draws us more closely to our brothers and sisters as we live out God's desires for our lives.

Zeal – zeal is a joyful and enthusiastic embrace of the life that God has given us. It means to give ourselves over to our good work wholeheartedly and without reservation. Zeal empowers us to have an intense passion for bringing about the more abundant life that Jesus proclaimed. The value of zeal helps us to recognize that special things are only achieved with hard work, effort, and commitment.

3. WRITE A REFLECTION PAPER

- At least two typed full pages. You do not need a cover page, just a three-line heading with your Name, Date Completed, and Theology Teacher (when you receive this).
- Essays should be double spaced, one-inch margins, standard 11 or 12 point font.
- You must include the following:
 - **Provide** an overview of the book's content, which includes the main characters, the main conflict, and the resolution to the problem faced by the main characters (no more than 1-2 paragraphs).
 - **Select** one of the Five Spiritual Values listed and described above and **explain** how the book illustrates the spiritual value that you selected. **Make clear** which value you choose, and use at least 4 direct quotations or examples, with the page numbers from the text, to support your choice.
 - Finish your essay by **briefly explaining how** this book has helped you better understand the spiritual value you chose, *and* how you are looking forward to living out this value at Malden Catholic this year.

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- Your Reflection Essay is due on the Friday of the first week of school to your Theology teacher.
- Your grade for the summer reading assignment will go into the gradebook as a Quarter 1 test grade for your Theology class.

ESSAY RUBRIC – 50 POINTS

	5	3	1	0
IDEAS/ CONTENT (x3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engages the reader with a clear purpose Information is clearly related to the topic Relevant evidence and details are strong and used to support thesis or purpose 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engages the reader with a purpose Information stated is related to the topic Relevant evidence and details support purpose 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attempts to engage the reader with a purpose Information stated is limited in relationship to the topic Relevant evidence and details are weak and don't always support the purpose 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Little attempt to engage the reader; no purpose Information stated does not relate to the topic Relevant evidence and details are lacking
ORGANIZATION (x2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organization is clear including comparing or organizing by categories and transitional expressions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organization is clear and may include comparing or organizing by category, or transitional expressions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organization may be hampered by minimal details and weak transitional expressions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organization is lacking and interferes with understanding
SPIRITUAL VALUE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Writing shows a strong analysis of the spiritual value which fits the content of the work 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Writing shows a good analysis of the spiritual value which fits the content of the work 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Writing shows little analysis of spiritual value and/or does not fit the content of the book 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Writing shows no analysis of a spiritual value
BOOK OVERVIEW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrates throughout understanding of the plot of the work, the summary is complete and accurate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrates good understanding of the plot of the work, the summary is mostly complete and accurate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrates a limited understanding of the plot of the work, the summary is incomplete and/or inaccurate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No book overview is included to summarize the work
STUDYING THEOLOGY (x2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The reflection connecting the work to spiritual life at MC is well thought, articulate, and strong 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The reflection connecting the work to spiritual life at MC is solidly attempted 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The reflection connecting the work to spiritual life at MC weak with more development needed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The essay does not include how the work connects to spiritual life at MC
SYNTAX	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spelling, capitalization, punctuation, paraphrasing, and grammar are effective and make the paper easy to read and understand Contains few if any errors in conventions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spelling, capitalization, punctuation, paraphrasing, and grammar are mostly correct Errors don't make writing difficult to read and don't interfere with the meaning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spelling, capitalization, punctuation, paraphrasing, and grammar create problems that slow the reader or cause confusion Contains frequent convention errors that are noticeable 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spelling, capitalization, punctuation, paraphrasing, and grammar errors are so numerous that they make writing difficult to follow