



# ST. JOSEPH'S ACADEMY

## 2022 Summer Reading List

### AMERICAN LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION

*Teachers: Mrs. Kelly Berry, Mrs. Liz Kelley*

*Extraordinary, Ordinary People: A Memoir of Family* by Condoleezza Rice

Publisher : Crown (October 11, 2011)

ISBN-10 : 0307888479

ISBN-13 : 978-0307888471

This is the story of Condoleezza Rice that has never been told, not that of an ultra-accomplished world leader, but of a little girl--and a young woman--trying to find her place in a sometimes hostile world, of two exceptional parents, and an extended family and community that made all the difference. Condoleezza Rice has excelled as a diplomat, political scientist, and concert pianist. Her achievements run the gamut from helping to oversee the collapse of Communism in Europe and the decline of the Soviet Union, to working to protect the country in the aftermath of 9-11, to becoming only the second woman--and the first black woman ever--to serve as Secretary of State. Throughout the 1950's, Birmingham's black middle class largely succeeded in insulating their children from the most corrosive effects of racism, providing multiple support systems to ensure the next generation would live better than the last. But by 1963, Birmingham had become an environment where blacks were expected to keep their head down and do what they were told--or face violent consequences. That spring two bombs exploded in Rice's neighborhood amid a series of chilling Klu Klux Klan attacks. Months later, four young girls lost their lives in a particularly vicious bombing.

So how was Rice able to achieve what she ultimately did? Her father, John, a minister and educator, instilled a love of sports and politics. Her mother, a teacher, developed Condoleezza's passion for piano and exposed her to the fine arts. From both, Rice learned the value of faith in the face of hardship and the importance of giving back to the community. Her parents' fierce unwillingness to set limits propelled her to the venerable halls of Stanford University, where she quickly rose through the ranks to become the university's second-in-command. An expert in Soviet and Eastern European Affairs, she played a leading role in U.S. policy as the Iron Curtain fell and the Soviet Union disintegrated. Less than a decade later, at the apex of the hotly contested 2000 presidential election, she received the exciting news--just shortly before her father's death--that she would go on to the White House as the first female National Security Advisor.

*\*Please be aware this memoir includes violence and derogatory language.*

### ASSIGNMENT:

As you read, chose TWO critical lenses ( gender, race, historical, socio-economic, spiritual) to analyze the book. Consider 2 questions from EACH lens for your analysis of the text.

Review of Critical Lenses:

<https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1BG2rxB9bzc-COEo0Yt1sqtSDvcteuCSgqNX9f5r5FfQ/edit?usp=sharing>

In a Google document, collect at least 3-5 pieces of textual evidence spanning the entire book for EACH lens that support your analysis of them. You will share this doc with your teacher on Orientation Day in August. The textual evidence and your analysis of the novel through the "eyes" of those lenses will be used for an individual project at the start of the 2022-2023 school year.