



## Students entering 8th Grade in Fall of 2023

### Reading:

**Students entering 8th Grade in Fall of 2023~Required 2 books plus assignment at the end of this document.**

**REQUIRED:** *Ablaze: Stories of Daring Teen Saints* by Colleen Swaim

### **SECOND BOOK of literary merit selected from the lists below**

- [The Michael L. Printz Award for Excellence in Young Adult Literature](#)
- [The Lone Star List 2023](#) (Be aware, this has some mature content)
- [The Morris Award](#)
- [The Belpre Award](#)
- [The Schneider Family Book Award](#)
- [The Coretta Scott King Award](#)
- [The Award for Excellence in Nonfiction for Young Adults](#)
- [The National Book Award for Young People](#)
- [The Scott O'Dell Award for Historical Fiction](#)
- [The William Morris Debut Award](#)

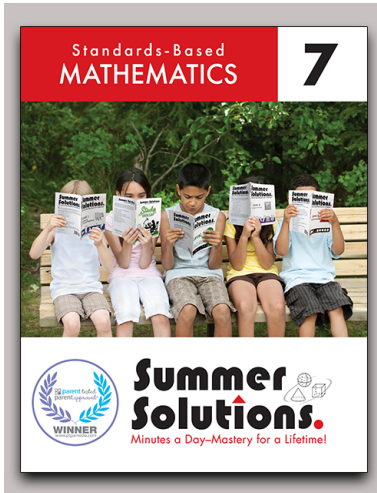
After you have read *Ablaze Stories of Daring Teen Saints*, please complete two short activities.

Choose ONE of the activities (1-4) listed below:

1. Create a mini-dictionary of at least 10 specialized words or phrases that pertain to the life of ONE of the saints in the book.
2. Create a cartoon strip of the life of your favorite saint from the book.
3. Create a timeline of the life of one of the saints in the book. Provide at least 5 events in the life of your saint AND at least 5 events that occurred in history at the same time that your chosen saint was alive.
4. Follow one of the recipes at the back of the book and share it with your family. Write a short paragraph (about 100 words) explaining who you cooked for, what they thought of the food, and how the food is connected to one of the saints in the book. Include pictures if you can!

AND...

On pages 118-125, you will find excerpts from the Catechism that help connect our faith to the lives of these young saints. Choose one page to read and reflect on. Answer the questions connecting your life and faith, one of the saints you've read about, and the teachings of the Church. Your reflection should be about 100 words in length.



## Math:

Please have your student complete the [Summer Solutions Math Standards-Based Mathematics 7](#), it is for students who are entering 8th grade. The book should be completed and turned into your child's teacher on the first day of school.

# OPTIONAL READING RESOURCES

## Book Lists

Students in intermediate and middle school grades may need assistance with book choices. Parents are always the first teachers and can use the information on this document to aid in selections. Summer reading should be books that are close to the reading level of the child and are intended to maintain and challenge skills while providing conversation starters. As you select a book, please understand that every book is not the best choice for every student. If a book is unappealing or offensive to you in any way, please choose another book.

<http://haisln.org/reading-lists.html>

**Houston Area Independent School Library Network** - Link with book lists for all ages through high school level. These lists have both girl and boy stories, poetry and assorted genres of reading. This list is created annually by local school librarians of which St.JPII is a member. There are numerous previous year links on the site too.

<http://www.ala.org/alsc/awardsgrants/bookmedia/newberymedal/newberymedal>

**Newbery Award** - Newbery books (both winner and honor) are selected for their literary merit by a select committee of librarians and educators. This award home page from American Library Association has the newest winner and runner up books as well as those lists back to the origins of the list in 1922. This group of books is ideal for intermediate and older students since most are chapter books with some length.

<http://www.ala.org/alsc/awardsgrants/bookmedia/caldecottmedal/caldecottmedal>

**Caldecott Award** - Caldecott book winners and honors are chosen for the beautiful illustrations by committee as well. The beautiful books have been awarded since 1938. These books, though written for youth, are endearing for any age for their remarkable pictures.

<http://www.ala.org/alsc/awardsgrants/bookmedia/belpremedal>

**Pura Belpre Award** - This award was created in 1996 to honor the latino life experiences related in literature for children and adolescents. Celebrate this culture with the winner and honor books are listed on the link.

<http://www.ala.org/rt/emiert/cskbookawards>

**Coretta Scott King Award** - This award, created in 1969, is celebrating "African American Culture and universal human values" from African American authors. The award is given for writing, others for illustration, new authors, and honor books.

**Mrs. Drewes, Mrs. Perkins and Mrs. Festa are using the list below as good starting places for literature in Middle School**

1. Overdrive
  - a. If you have a public library card, you sign up for the Libby app, which lets you check out e-books and audiobooks.
  - b. <https://www.overdrive.com/>
  
2. Epic
  - a. A digital library that will let you read books for free. Your parents can sign you up for a 30-day free trial.
  - b. <https://www.getepic.com/>
  
3. Audible
  - a. Free audiobooks for kids
  - b. <https://stories.audible.com/start-listen>
  
4. Abdo Books
  - a. This educational publisher is providing free access to its online books. If you like history and/or science, you might find something here that you'll enjoy.
  - b. <https://abdobooks.com/covid-19-resources>
  
5. Open Library
  - a. Free e-books (just create an account)
  - b. <https://openlibrary.org/>
  
6. Barnes & Noble
  - a. Free books for kids ages 9 - 12:  
[https://www.barnesandnoble.com/b/free-ebooks/kids/\\_/N-aZry0Ztu1;jsessionid=EB0685CF5A5FE6E440F481A9E45E8C86.prodny\\_store01-atgap10](https://www.barnesandnoble.com/b/free-ebooks/kids/_/N-aZry0Ztu1;jsessionid=EB0685CF5A5FE6E440F481A9E45E8C86.prodny_store01-atgap10)
  - b. Free books for teens:  
[https://www.barnesandnoble.com/b/free-ebooks/kids/\\_/N-bZry0Ztu1;jsessionid=EB0685CF5A5FE6E440F481A9E45E8C86.prodny\\_store01-atgap10](https://www.barnesandnoble.com/b/free-ebooks/kids/_/N-bZry0Ztu1;jsessionid=EB0685CF5A5FE6E440F481A9E45E8C86.prodny_store01-atgap10)

Other Resources

[Kindle Unlimited - 2 months free](#)

[Overdrive/ Libby](#) - library application which allows you to check out books to the Overdrive app.

[Prime Reading](#) - For those who have an Amazon Prime subscription, there are free books through Prime books.

[Epic!](#) - This digital library is offering a 30 day free trial.

# **PUBLIC LIBRARIES**

**offer Digital libraries and audio libraries**

**Houston Public Library website <https://houstonlibrary.org/>**

Go to Get a My Link Card a the top of the webpage

**Fort Bend Public Library Website <https://www.fortbend.lib.tx.us/>**

click on How do I... for help

**Harris County Public Library Website <https://www.hcpl.net/>**

click on SERVICES for help

## **Books at a VERY low Price!**

[Book Outlet](#) - This online outlet sells new books (with small defects) for very good prices. Most of my classroom library books come from this online store. I've been very impressed with the quality of the books I've received. - Mrs. Perkins Ms. Lamb uses this company for library books too!