7th Grade Summer Reading:
Religion

Required Religion reading: *The Bronze Bow* by Elizabeth George (Amazon link here)

In this Newbery Medal–winning novel, Daniel bar Jamin will stop at nothing to seek revenge for his father's death at the hands of the Roman Empire. After Daniel bar Jamin's father is crucified by the Roman Empire, Daniel wants nothing more than to rid his land of Israel of Roman control once and for all. Yet when David meets Jesus of Nazareth, a traveling carpenter with a gentle message of love and forgiveness, David starts to realize that the hate festering in his heart might be his true enemy after all.

Assignment: In your religion journal, please answer the below questions:

1. Why does Daniel hate the Romans so much at the beginning of the story? How does this hatred shape his choices and relationships?
2. How do Daniel's views of Rosh change throughout the book? What does he come to realize about true leadership?
3. What role does Jesus play in the story? How is He different from the other leaders Daniel follows or admires?
4. Why is the bronze bow such an important symbol in the book? What does it mean to Daniel and his friends?
5. How does Daniel's relationship with his sister Leah change over time? What helps him begin to love and understand her better?
6. What does Thacia believe about Jesus that Daniel struggles to accept? How do their differences show two kinds of strength?
7. How does Daniel's hatred harm him and those around him? What are the consequences of holding onto hate too long?
8. What are some moments in the story when Daniel begins to change? What causes those changes?
9. Why is forgiveness such an important theme in the book? Who learns to forgive—and how?
10. At the end of the story, what does Daniel finally understand about strength and love? How is this different from what he believed at the beginning?

BONUS Reading

- *The 7 Deadly Dragons Series* (Amazon link here) (website link here)
- *Will Wilder* series (Amazon link here)
- *Virtue Chronicles* series (Ignatius link)

Further reading recommendations can be found at https://goodbooksforcatholickids.com/. All books can be found at a reasonable rate at Thriftbooks.com and other online retailers.

Assignments will be collected on the first day of school and will each count as a test grade.