

Summer Reading 2025

Incoming 10th Grade Honors

Parents,

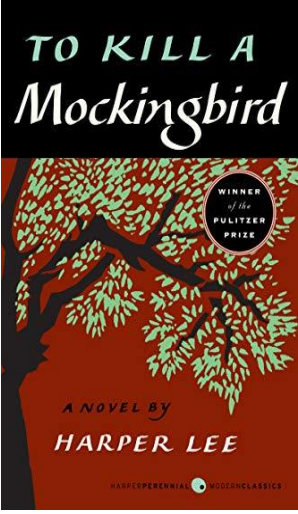
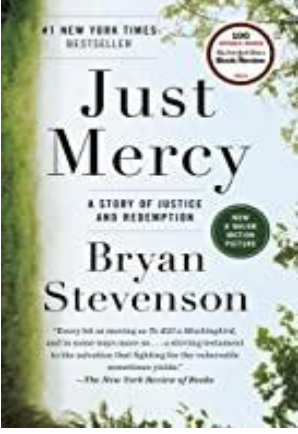
The purpose of summer reading at York Catholic is two-fold. One, we want to encourage reading outside of the classroom. We have chosen texts we believe will be appealing to students. Two, we want to challenge students to read texts outside of their usual teen/YA options.

The texts for the incoming 10th grade honors students frame the theme for the school year. Students should read both texts listed. The creative assignment to accompany the non-fiction text is located at the bottom of this document. We will ask students to respond to a written prompt referencing their title once they are back in the classroom in late August.

Enjoy the summer!

Mrs. Kathy Hand
Principal

Read both of the following books during the summer. When you return to school in August, the books will be the topics of your first writings.

Genre	Title/Author	Summary
<p>Classics</p> <p><i>To Kill a Mockingbird</i></p> <p>Harper Lee</p>		<p>One of the most cherished stories of all time, <i>To Kill a Mockingbird</i> has been translated into more than forty languages, sold more than forty million copies worldwide, served as the basis for an enormously popular motion picture, and was voted one of the best novels of the twentieth century by librarians across the country. A gripping, heart-wrenching, and wholly remarkable tale of coming-of-age in a South poisoned by virulent prejudice, it views a world of great beauty and savage inequities through the eyes of a young girl, as her father—a crusading local lawyer—risks everything to defend a black man unjustly accused of a terrible crime.</p>
<p>Nonfiction/ Memoir</p> <p><i>Just Mercy</i></p> <p>Bryan Stevenson</p>		<p>Bryan Stevenson was a young lawyer when he founded the Equal Justice Initiative, a legal practice dedicated to defending those most desperate and in need: the poor, the wrongly condemned, and women and children trapped in the farthest reaches of our criminal justice system. One of his first cases was that of Walter McMillian, a young man who was sentenced to die for a notorious murder he insisted he didn't commit. The case drew Bryan into a tangle of conspiracy, political machination, and legal brinksmanship—and transformed his understanding of mercy and justice forever.</p>

Non-Fiction Book Assignment

Your assignment for your non-fiction text is to create a museum piece, an artifact of sorts, that speaks for itself to express a complex idea put forth by your text. Maybe it represents a thematic idea, a claim your author is putting forth, an event described by your author, or a character presented.

The choice of idea to represent is yours.

The choice of medium is yours.

It should be accompanied by a reflective piece that deconstructs the artifact/museum piece you created, describing its complex ideas and the intersection of your object/creation and that which you are trying to convey to your audience. It should reference the text itself, whether directly quoted or paraphrased, and appropriately cited in text as well as in a Works Cited at the end of the reflection.

Please keep in mind that this does not require an expensive trip to Michael's or Hobby Lobby. Household supplies (toilet paper and paper towel rolls, dried beans, pasta, rice, sprinkles, candy), old toys (Legos, blocks, etc.), and items from nature are all acceptable building materials. Of course, you can always create the old standby—a collage—but it is preferred for you to get outside of your comfort zone to think in metaphorical ways.

Because this is something that may challenge your comfort in being successful, please feel free to reach out to your teachers this summer to check in. Also keep in mind the following:

1. You must have an artifact that can stand on its own or be hung without falling apart.
2. It must be transportable to school and left behind in your English teacher's classroom.
3. It must be a new creation, not simply an object you locate and then name a symbol of something from your text.
4. It should not be comprised of overwhelming amounts of written word, as the goal is to use a different mode of expression to represent your ideas.