

## Saint Mary High School Summer Reading 2021

Our summer reading program provides students with the opportunity to maintain and sharpen their reading and thinking skills. All students are required to participate in our schoolwide program by reading the book for the class level they are entering in the fall. The novels will be integrated into the curriculum throughout the academic year.

The students do not need to complete worksheets but are asked to contemplate the themes, connections, characters, and social questions for their assigned book. The novels coincide with literature and units that are studied during the academic year and address many present issues. These novels will be a backdrop to activities that will be incorporated and student input from their novel is expected.

**All students entering Freshmen Year are to read:**

*The House on Mango Street* by Sandra Cisneros

**All students entering Sophomore Year are to read:**

*The Absolute True Diary of a Part-Time Indian* by Sherman Alexie

**All Students entering Junior Year are to pick one of the following novels:**

*The Help* by Kathryn Stockett

*Mexican White Boy* by Matt de la Pena

**All Students entering Senior Year are to pick one of the following novels:**

*Clap When You Land* by Elizabeth Acevedo

*A Thousand Splendid Suns* by Khaled Hosseini

Below are some questions that will guide our class discussions and activities.

**1. Connections:** text to text, text to self, text to the world. Compare and contrast your book to others previously read, situations or people in your own life, and to events in history or the news.

**2. Characters:** Do you like the main characters or not? Why?

**3. Social Questions:** Look for race, gender, or class inequalities and injustices. Who has the power in the story and how is it used? What do you think? Does it make you think or feel differently about those of another race or gender than your own?