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Mrs. Melissa Green | Principal • Mrs. Rachel Schroeder | Assistant Principal

Dear SJGS Families,

As mothers of school-aged children, we know very well how precious summertime is! It is a time to play, explore, and visit with beloved friends and family; a time to enjoy big things like vacations and reunions, as well as little things like sleeping in or going out for ice cream.

As educators, we also know that summer weeks are important for maintaining all of the good things that your children have learned in the past academic year, especially in the areas of mathematics and literacy. Your child's future teachers have designed summer assignments and activities that they feel will best provide that skills maintenance and prevent the "summer slide." Please find these assignments attached.

While it's perfectly ok to take a break from school work for a time, we encourage you to review your child's summer assignments now so that you can ask any clarifying questions you may have before teachers take their vacations, too.

Lastly, we encourage all of our St. Joe Eagles to be sure to devote time this summer to maintaining their prayer lives and practicing their virtues. Here are some ideas:

- Pick a Virtues in Practice home project that you really enjoyed from this year and re-commit to it!
- Pick a Virtues in Practice home project that you tried but didn't quite succeed with and try again!
- Choose a day each week to spend 15 minutes at the Grotto at Notre Dame.
- Download the "Saints Stories for Kids" podcast and listen to an episode each week.
- Download the "3-Minute Retreat" app from Loyola Press and do a 3-minute retreat every day.
- Build your own holy space or grotto in a favorite place in your backyard and spend time in prayer there each week.

It has been a blessing for all of us on our faculty to partner with you over the past year in forming the hearts and minds of your children! We wish you a safe, joyful, and restful summer!

Your Partners in Catholic Education,

Mrs. Green & Mrs. Schroeder



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*Educating hearts and minds in the  
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*My Life with the Saints* by Fr. James Martin, SJ

**8th Grade Summer Reading Assignment**

This summer reading and writing work is intended to help you continue to grow as a reader, a writer, and a person of virtue and prayer. We hope that as you read about Fr. Martin's personal faith journey, you too are inspired to see certain saints as your special patrons and companions, and that you might even read this whole book this summer!

*Please note that the copy of the book provided for you must be returned to SJGS. If you decide that you want to write in your copy or keep it as your own, you will need to reimburse the school \$15.*

**Your requirements are as follows:**

1 - Read the Introduction: "The Saint of the Sock Drawer."

2 - Choose any six of the sixteen chapters about saints to read.

3 - Read the Conclusion: "Holy in a Different Way."

4 - At the back of the book, there is a list of questions — one for each chapter. Answer the questions that pertain to each of the six chapters you chose to read. *These answers should be written in meaningful, well-organized paragraphs of at least five sentences.*

5 - One underlying theme of *My Life with the Saints* is Thomas Merton's adage "for me to be a saint means to be myself." How could Merton's insight be applied in your life? In other words, when you think about the things that make you **you**—your interests and the things in life that excite or intrigue you, what you are good at, your personality traits, as well as your hopes and dreams for your future—how do you think any or all of these elements of how God has created you can help you best know, love, and serve God and those around you?

**Write a reflection that answers this question.** *Your reflection should be at least one double-spaced page long.*

Your responses for #4 and #5 will be graded according to the rubric on the back of this page.

### Rubric for #4 - Short Answers

Writing Trait	Points earned / points possible
<p><b>Ideas:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All six responses answer the questions posed and display sincere depth of thought and honesty. Specific details and relevant examples are included to help articulate answers.</li> </ul>	<p>_____/18 (3 pts each answer)</p>
<p><b>Organization</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Responses are well organized and ideas flow logically from beginning to end of the response</li> </ul>	<p>_____/6</p>
<p><b>Conventions:</b> well edited for spelling, capitalization, punctuation, paragraphing, and usage</p>	<p>_____/6</p>
<p><b>TOTAL: 30 points (Grades will be entered for Language Arts and Religion)</b></p>	<p>_____/30</p>

### Rubric for #5 - Reflection

Writing Trait	Points earned / points possible
<p><b>Ideas:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Student is able to clearly name specific traits, interests, and abilities make them unique</li> <li>Student is clear and specific about ways in which their unique identity can be a path toward holiness and service</li> </ul>	<p>_____/5</p> <p>_____/5</p>
<p><b>Organization:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The journal is well organized with a clear introduction at the beginning and sense of closure at the end</li> <li>The order is logical and makes sense</li> </ul>	<p>_____/5</p>

<b>Conventions:</b> well edited for spelling, capitalization, punctuation, paragraphing, and usage	_____ / 5
<b>Voice:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Point of view is very expressive and engaging throughout the piece</li> <li>● Appropriate tone &amp; voice for purpose and audience</li> <li>● Honest &amp; personal writing</li> </ul>	_____ / 5
<b>Presentation:</b> Work is typed and double spaced with a proper heading	_____ / 5
<b>Word Choice:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Words and phrases are used accurately</li> <li>● Words create vivid images throughout the piece</li> <li>● Repetition is intentional and used for impact</li> </ul>	_____ / 5
<b>Sentence fluency:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Sentences enhance meaning</li> <li>● Vary in length &amp; structure</li> <li>● Varied beginnings</li> <li>● Creative and appropriate connectives</li> <li>● Cadence</li> </ul>	_____ / 5
<b>TOTAL: 20 points in Religion and 20 points in Language Arts</b>	_____ / 40

## Jr. High Math Summer Work 2022

All math summer work will be on Khan Academy. Please log-in using your students' SJGS google log-in. The assignments that should be worked on will be listed under the tab "assignments." These lessons are a review of what we covered this school year. If for any reason your child needs help with a specific topic, there will be videos on the left side of the screen that will provide a lesson to further understand. Each lesson can be done as many times as necessary to score 85% or better. The lesson will be considered incomplete if the score is less than 85%.

These lessons should be completed no later than Friday, August 12.

These lessons are required and will be the first grade of the 1st trimester.

Thank you for your support and please let me know if there are any questions.

Have a great summer!

Mrs. Snavelly