

## Outstanding Catholic Reader Program at St. Margaret Mary

It is my pleasure to announce the roll out of a new reading achievement challenge that will be offered to students at St. Margaret Mary. This year, we are launching the Outstanding Catholic Reader Achievement Program. This is an *optional* reading challenge for students in all grade levels, K-8. Students who complete the reading challenge will receive a certificate of achievement at the end of the school year. The purpose of this program is to provide students with opportunities to read wholesome books, which focus on Catholic themes and values. Please see the information below for more details. I have also attached a copy of the list for each grade level. The PTO has so generously donated many of the titles to our school library. However, we only have one copy of each, so some students may need to utilize the public library or find the books from other vendors.

### What is it?

The professional community of Librarians in the Archdiocese of Louisville have created a program called "Outstanding Catholic Reader." This program is designed to provide our students with reading challenges that support and encourage Catholic values. The Librarians have chosen several titles, including a variety of fiction and non-fiction, for students enjoy at each grade level. Each title has been chosen according to specific Catholic teaching pillars and is appropriate to age and grade level. Many of the titles are included in the Accelerated Reader program, as well.

### How does it work?

This program is optional for students. Students can choose from the list of books for each grade level and read the required number of books falling under each pillar (faith, hope, love, justice, service, etc...) When a student finishes the book, he/she will take an AR test on the book. Additionally, the student will submit a short book review (tailored for each grade level), in which they respond to core questions about the theme of the book and it's alignment with the Catholic value under which it is categorized. Students can get the book review forms from Mrs. Wicke. Upon completion of the program in May, students will receive a special certificate from the Archdiocese of Louisville, and a mark of achievement on their academic record.

### How will it benefit my child and my family?

Many of these titles can be read together as a family. The stories can be used to encourage conversations about Catholic values. This program may give some students a meaningful incentive to develop strong family or independent reading habits.

**How do I sign up my child for the program?** If you and your child are interested in signing up, please return the bottom of this page to your child's homeroom teacher anytime throughout the school year. You can also email Mrs. Wicke with the information below. The program ends May 1st.

---

I would like to sign up for the Outstanding Catholic Reader program.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Homeroom \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_