BEGINNINGS

Your Summer Preparation for Christendom.



Summer Reading

Dear Student,

On behalf of the Department of English Language and Literature, I congratulate you on choosing Christendom College in your pursuit of an authentically Catholic liberal arts education. Within Christendom's core curriculum is a two-year study of the literature of Western Civilization. Our adventure begins with the first great works of Western Literature, Homer's *Iliad* and *Odyssey*, and continues through your sophomore year with literary masterworks of Christian antiquity, the Middle Ages, the Renaissance, and the modem world.

I am sure you are eager to undertake the spiritual, intellectual, and aesthetic journey in pursuit of the knowledge of the true, the good, and the beautiful which is the goal of our

literary study here at Christendom College. Thus, we ask you to begin with the short address to young Christians given by a Doctor of the Church, St. Basil the Great (b. 330, d. 379). As you will see, the address examines the subject of reading classical (pagan) literature as a prelude to reading Christian, and specifically Catholic, works. Please read the address this summer so that you can begin to consider why such literature is part of the curriculum at Christendom. Then be sure to print it out, review it before classes start, and bring it to your first session of English 101: Literature of Western Civilization I. **Here is the link to download and print the reading**.

Before arriving at Christendom, you may also wish to get a head start by reading Homer's Iliad, about "the wrath of Achilles," and perhaps even his Odyssey, about the "man skilled in all ways of contending." In these great books, the virtues of men and women are put to the supreme test. The literature classes at Christendom all use the same assigned editions: Richmond Lattimore's translation of the Iliad and Robert Fitzgerald's translation of the Odyssey.

I hope you will enjoy reading St. Basil's address this summer and—if you choose to do so—Homer's epics. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at **tstanford@christendom.edu**.

Yours in Christ Our King,



Dr. Thomas Stanford

Chair, Department of English Language and Literature



GET-TO-KNOW *Professor Michael Strickland*

- Hometown: Falls Church, VA

- Undergrad from Christendom ('12), Masters' from CUA ('15)
- Assistant Professor, Department of English Language and Literature
- Hobbies include Shogi, reading and watching sci-fi, brainteasers

Important Dates

July 10 - Deadline for Required Forms (see MyChristendom account to complete)
July 10 - Deadline for Local Students to make request to live at home
August - Receive housing assignments
August - Deadline to register and pay for Airport Shuttle
(registration coming soon)
August 19 - Move-In Day

Important Links

Orientation Webpage

Orientation Guide

Roommate Questionnaire

Move In Day Survey

Student Handbook 2022-2023

Academic Calendar

Academic Bulletin

Video of the Week

Our Academic Resources



studentlife@christendom.edu
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