



Christ Classical Academy Upper School *Magnus Lector* List

The purpose of Christ Classical Academy's *Magnus Lector* program is to develop reading skills and the enjoyment of good books and quality writing. This reading list is intended for use by Christ Classical teachers to help them guide students selecting books to complete their *Magnus Lector* requirements. Students will read the equivalent of one book per nine-weeks grading period and write a *Magnus Lector* card about the book. A small or medium novel or nonfiction work will count as one book. A longer novel of 600-1000 pages (ie. *Anna Karenina*, or *The Brothers Karamazov*) may be read in the place of two books over the course of two quarters. Students reading poetry or short stories will read a book-length collection by a particular author or organized with a particular theme in lieu of one book. Students reading drama should read a book-length selection of drama.

Books that students read should generally come from their grade level; however, the list should serve as a guide, not a rule. Some titles on each list are considered standards for a particular grade level and ought to be read before the student undertakes to read less eminent books. Some students who do not have the benefit of being at Christ Classical for their grammar school years may need to read certain books from the grammar school list. As teachers guide their students, they should consider the student's ability, the curriculum the student is studying, the student's personal interests, and the student's reading history. As teachers approve titles for their students to read, they should offer counsel to students and even inform parents of non-Christian worldviews and mature content their children may encounter as they read. Use the footnotes provided for guidance, and inform administration and other teachers of any additional notes that ought to be provided or books that ought to be added to successive editions of the reading list.

Seventh

Fiction

<i>The Wonderful Wizard of Oz</i>	L. Frank Baum
<i>Pilgrim's Progress</i> ¹	John Bunyan
<i>The Secret Garden</i> ²	Frances Hodgson Burnett
<i>The Incredible Journey</i>	Sheila Burnford
<i>Tarzan of the Apes</i> ³	Edgar Rice Burroughs
<i>Alice's Adventures in Wonderland</i>	Lewis Carroll
<i>Hound of the Baskervilles</i>	Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

¹ Required reading.

² Note pantheism.

³ Note evolution.

<i>Horatio Hornblower (series)</i>	C. M. Forester
<i>The Dark Frigate</i>	Charles Hawes
Any Title	G.A. Henty
<i>Rifles for Watie</i>	Harold Keith
<i>The Jungle Book</i> ¹	Rudyard Kipling
<i>Captains Courageous</i>	
<i>A Wrinkle in Time</i> ²	Madeleine L'Engle
The Chronicles of Narnia ³	C.S. Lewis
<i>White Fang</i>	Jack London ⁴
<i>Classic Myths to Read Aloud</i>	William F. Russell
<i>The Talisman</i>	Sir Walter Scott
<i>Ivanhoe</i>	
<i>Kidnapped</i>	Robert Louis Stevenson
<i>The Eagle of the Ninth</i>	Rosemary Sutcliff
<i>The Shining Company</i>	
<i>The Hobbit</i>	J.R.R. Tolkien ⁵
<i>The Lord of the Rings (any of trilogy)</i>	
<i>Mysterious Island</i>	Jules Verne
<i>20,000 Leagues Under the Sea</i>	
Biography	
<i>Alexander the Great</i>	Robin Lane Fox
Leaders in Action Series	George Grant, editor
<i>Adoniram Judson</i>	Sharon Hambrick
<i>All Creatures Great and Small</i> ⁶	James Herriot
<i>Heroes of the Early Church</i>	Newton
<i>Heroes of the Reformation</i>	Various
<i>God's Smuggler</i>	Brother Andrew
<i>Autobiography of George Mueller</i>	George Mueller
<i>Little Britches</i>	Ralph Moody
<i>The Hiding Place</i>	Corrie ten Boom
<i>Through Gates of Splendor</i>	Elisabeth Elliot

Eighth

Fiction

<i>The Three Musketeers</i>	Alexandre Dumas
<i>The Prince and the Pauper</i>	Mark Twain
Sherlock Holmes stories	Sir Arthur Conan Doyle
<i>The White Company</i>	
<i>Sir Nigel</i>	
<i>King Arthur and His Knights. . .</i>	Roger Lancelyn Green
<i>The Adventures of Robin Hood</i>	
Any Title	G.A. Henty
<i>The Boy's King Arthur</i>	Sidney Lanier
<i>The Scarlet Pimpernel</i>	Baroness Orczy

¹ Note evolution.

² Note deism.

³ Required reading.

⁴ Note evolution.

⁵ Required reading.

⁶ Note language.

<i>The Story of King Arthur. . .</i>	Howard Pyle
<i>Merry Adventures of Robin Hood</i>	
<i>Shining Company</i>	Rosemary Sutcliff
<i>A Connecticut Yankee. . .</i>	Mark Twain
Biography	
<i>The Small Woman</i>	Alan Burgess
<i>Through Gates of Splendor</i>	Elisabeth Elliot
<i>Shadow of the Almighty</i>	
<i>Michael Faraday</i>	Charles Ludwig
<i>Martin Luther</i>	Stephen J. Nichols
<i>The Legacy of Sovereign Joy</i>	John Piper
<i>Evidence Not Seen</i>	Darlene Deibler Rose
<i>Hudson Taylor</i>	Howard Taylor
Ninth	
Fiction	
<i>Watership Down</i>	Richard Adams
<i>Little Women</i>	Louisa May Alcott
<i>Emma</i>	Jane Austen
<i>Mansfield Park</i>	
<i>Sense and Sensibility</i>	
<i>Jane Eyre</i>	Charlotte Bronte
<i>O Pioneers!</i>	Willa Cather
<i>The Last of the Mohicans</i>	James Fenimore Cooper
<i>The Red Badge of Courage</i>	Stephen Crane
<i>David Copperfield</i>	Charles Dickens
<i>The Tale of Two Cities</i>	
<i>Cranford</i>	Elizabeth Gaskell
<i>North and South</i>	
<i>Wives and Daughters</i>	
<i>To Kill a Mockingbird</i> ¹	Harper Lee
<i>Call of the Wild</i>	Jack London
Short stories	O'Henry
<i>The Chosen</i> ²	Chaim Potok
<i>The Promise</i>	
<i>. . . Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde</i>	Robert Louis Stevenson
<i>Adventures of Huckleberry Finn</i>	Mark Twain
Any Title	Jules Verne
Any Title	P.G. Wodehouse
Biography	
<i>The Hiding Place</i>	Corrie ten Boom
<i>Life and Diary</i>	David Brainerd
<i>The First American</i>	H.W. Brands
<i>Andrew Jackson</i>	
<i>Winston Churchill</i>	Violet Bonham Carter
<i>Lincoln</i>	Richard Cartwardine
<i>Jefferson's Great Gamble</i>	Charles A. Cerami

¹ Note rape scene.

² Required reading.

<i>The Real Lincoln</i>	Thomas DiLorenzo
<i>Lincoln</i>	David Herbert Donald
<i>A Chance to Die</i>	Elisabeth Elliot
<i>His Excellency</i>	Joseph J. Ellis
<i>Daniel Boone</i>	John Back Faragher
<i>The Autobiography</i>	Benjamin Franklin
<i>God's Politician</i>	Garth Lean
<i>A Man Called Peter</i>	Catherine Marshall
<i>Churchill at War</i>	Lord Moran
<i>George Washington</i>	Willard Sterne Randall
<i>Grant</i>	Jean Edward Smith
<i>John Paul Jones</i>	Evan Thomas
<i>Children of the Storm</i>	Natasha Vins
Non-Fiction	
<i>Life Together</i>	Dietrich Bonhoeffer
<i>Let Me Be a Woman</i>	Elisabeth Elliot
<i>The Mark of a Man</i>	
<i>The Attributes of God</i>	A.W. Pink
<i>How to Read Slowly</i>	James Sire
<i>The Holiness of God</i>	R.C. Sproul
<i>Reading Between the Lines</i>	Gene Edward Veith
<i>Face to Face</i>	Steve Wilkins
<i>Recovering the Lost Tools</i>	Douglas Wilson
<i>Repairing the Ruins</i>	
<i>The Fruit of Her Hands</i>	Nancy Wilson

Tenth

Fiction	
<i>The Tenant of Wildfell Hall</i>	Anne Bronte
Father Brown Mysteries	G.K. Chesterton
Any Title	Agatha Christie
Any Title	Charles Dickens
<i>Lord of the Flies</i> ¹	William Golding
<i>Return of the Native</i>	Thomas Hardy
<i>Tess of the D'ubervilles</i>	
<i>Far From the Madding Crowd</i>	
<i>The Scarlet Letter</i> ²	Nathaniel Hawthorne
<i>Les Miserables</i> ³	Victor Hugo
<i>Mythology</i> ⁴	Edith Hamilton
<i>The Greek Way</i>	
<i>The Roman Way</i>	
<i>Till We Have Faces</i> ⁵	C.S. Lewis
<i>The Complete Stories</i>	Flannery O'Connor
Short Stories	O'Henry

¹ Note mature, violent content.

² Note distorted view of Puritanism.

³ Abridgement acceptable.

⁴ Required reading.

⁵ Required reading.

<i>Animal Farm</i>	George Orwell
<i>The Metamorphoses</i>	Ovid
Lord Peter Stories	Dorothy Sayers
<i>Quo Vadis</i>	Henry K. Sienkiewicz
<i>The Code of the Woosters</i>	P.G. Wodehouse
Biography	
Ancient period biographies	
Biographies listed elsewhere	
Non-Fiction	
Sermons	John Chrysostom
<i>The Best Things in Life</i>	Peter Kreeft
<i>The Universe Next Door</i>	James Sire
<i>Knowing God</i>	J.I. Packer

Eleventh

Fiction	
<i>The Tenant of Wildfell Hall</i>	Anne Bronte
<i>Don Quixote</i> ¹	Miguel de Cervantes
<i>The Count of Monte Cristo</i> ²	Alexandre Dumas
<i>The Name of the Rose</i>	Umberto Eco
<i>The Hunchback of Notre Dame</i>	Victor Hugo
<i>Les Miserables</i> ³	
<i>Ivanhoe</i>	Sir Walter Scott
<i>Gulliver's Travels</i>	Jonathan Swift
<i>War and Peace</i>	Leo Tolstoy
<i>Sir Gawain and the Green Knight</i>	J.R.R. Tolkien
Any Title	P.G. Wodehouse
Biography	
<i>Surprised by Joy</i>	C.S. Lewis
<i>Jonathan Edwards</i>	Iaian Murray
<i>Cicero: A Biography</i>	Torston Petersson
<i>John Calvin</i>	Robert Reymond
<i>Joan of Arc</i> ⁴	Mark Twain
Medieval biographies	
Non-Fiction	
<i>Celebration of Discipline</i>	Richard Foster
<i>The Imitation of Christ</i>	Thomas a Kempis
<i>Mere Christianity</i>	C.S. Lewis
<i>How Shall We then Live?</i> ⁵	Francis Schaeffer
<i>Chosen By God</i>	R.C. Sproul
<i>State of the Arts</i>	Gene Edward Veith
Any Title	N.T. Wright
Any Title	Ravi Zacharias
Poetry	

¹ Abridgement acceptable.

² Abridgement acceptable.

³ Abridgement acceptable.

⁴ Note not precisely biographical.

⁵ Required reading

Selections	Lord Byron
Selections	John Donne
“The Temple”	George Herbert
Selections	Gerard Manley Hopkins
Selections	John Keats
Selections	John Milton
Sonnets	William Shakespeare
Selections	Percy Bysshe Shelley
Selections	William Wordsworth
Drama	
Any Title	Shakespeare

Twelfth

Long Fiction

<i>Northanger Abbey</i>	Jane Austen
<i>Persuasion</i>	
<i>Fahrenheit 451</i>	Ray Bradbury
<i>Cold Sassy Tree</i>	Olive Ann Burns
<i>Agnes Grey</i>	Anne Bronte
<i>Villette</i>	Charlotte Bronte
<i>Wuthering Heights</i>	Emily Bronte
<i>The Deerslayer</i>	James Fenimore Cooper
<i>The Man Who Was Thursday</i>	G.K. Chesterton ¹
<i>Oliver Twist</i>	Charles Dickens
<i>A Tale of Two Cities</i>	
<i>The Brothers Karamazov</i>	Fyodor Dostoevsky
<i>Crime and Punishment</i>	
<i>The Idiot</i>	
<i>The Sound and the Fury</i>	William Faulkner ²
<i>As I Lay Dying</i>	
<i>The Great Gatsby</i>	F. Scott Fitzgerald
<i>Sophie’s World</i> ³	Jostein Gaarder
<i>Power and the Glory</i>	Graham Greene
<i>Tess of the d’Urbervilles</i>	Thomas Hardy
<i>Catch-22</i>	Joseph Heller
<i>For Whom the Bell Tolls</i>	Ernest Hemingway
<i>The Old Man and the Sea</i>	
<i>Brave New World</i> ⁴	Aldous Huxley
<i>The Portrait of a Lady</i>	Henry James
<i>Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man</i>	James Joyce
<i>How Green Was My Valley</i>	Richard Llewellyn
<i>Moby Dick</i>	Herman Melville
<i>Utopia</i>	Thomas More
<i>Wise Blood</i> ⁵	Flannery O’Connor

¹ Twelfth graders should read at least one Chesterton book before graduation.

² Note grotesque.

³ Note Freudian sexuality, etc.

⁴ Note sexual themes.

⁵ Note grotesque

1984 ¹	George Orwell
<i>Animal Farm</i>	
<i>The Second Coming</i>	Walker Percy
<i>The Moviegoer</i>	
<i>My Name Is Asher Lev</i>	Chaim Potok
<i>The Gift of Asher Lev</i> ²	
<i>The Jungle</i>	Upton Sinclair
<i>Cancer Ward</i>	Alexander Solzhenitsyn
<i>The Grapes of Wrath</i>	John Steinbeck
<i>Of Mice and Men</i>	
<i>The Pearl</i>	
<i>Dracula</i>	Bram Stoker
<i>Uncle Tom's Cabin</i> ³	Harriet Beecher Stowe
<i>Anna Karenina</i>	Leo Tolstoy
<i>War and Peace</i>	
<i>Twenty Thousand Leagues. . .</i>	Jules Verne
<i>The Time Machine</i>	H.G. Wells
<i>Invisible Man</i>	
<i>The Picture of Dorian Gray</i> ⁴	Oscar Wilde
Short Fiction	
"The Bet," "Ward No. 6," etc.	Anton Chekhov
"Heart of Darkness," etc.	Joseph Conrad
"Daisy Miller," etc.	Henry James
"Metamorphosis," etc.	Franz Kafka
"A Good Man Is Hard to Find", etc.	Flannery O'Connor ⁵
"The Gift of the Magi," etc.	O. Henry
Any Title	Edgar Allen Poe
Any Title	Leo Tolstoy
Biography	
<i>Amy Carmichael of Dohnavur</i>	Frank L. Houghton
<i>Schindler's List</i> ⁶	Thomas Keneally
<i>Traveling Mercies</i> ⁷	Anne Lamott
<i>Nicholas and Alexandra</i>	Robert Massie
<i>Night</i> ⁸	Elie Wiesel
Other Modern Biographies	
Non-Fiction	
<i>The Cost of Discipleship</i>	Dietrich Bonhoeffer
<i>The Everlasting Man</i>	G.K. Chesterton
<i>The Origin of Species</i>	Charles Darwin ⁹
<i>The Dissent of Man</i>	
<i>Souls of Black Folk</i>	W.E.B. DuBois
<i>Religious Affections</i>	Jonathan Edwards

¹ Note sexual scenes.

² Note sexuality.

³ Note abolitionism.

⁴ Note homosexuality.

⁵ Note grotesque.

⁶ Note graphic.

⁷ Note liberal Christianity.

⁸ Note Semitic anti-Christianity.

⁹ Note Darwinism.

<i>Self-Reliance, etc.</i> ¹	Ralph Waldo Emerson
<i>Lectures on Revivals</i> ²	Charles Finney
<i>Man's Search for Meaning</i> ³	Viktor Frankl
<i>The Practice of the Presence of God</i>	Brother Lawrence
Any title	C.S. Lewis
<i>Christianity and Liberalism</i>	John Gresham Machen
<i>Mystery and Manners</i>	Flannery O'Connor
<i>Common Sense</i> ⁴	Thomas Paine
<i>Pensees</i>	Blaise Pascal
<i>Amusing Ourselves to Death</i>	Neil Postman
Sermons	Charles Spurgeon
<i>Walden and Civil Disobedience</i> ⁵	Henry David Thoreau
<i>Christian Letters. . .</i>	Dorothy Sayers
<i>The God Who Is There</i>	Francis Schaeffer
<i>Postmodern Times</i>	Gene Edward Veith
<i>A Pilgrim at Tinker Creek</i>	Annie Dillard
Poetry	
Selections	W.H. Auden ⁶
<i>If</i>	Amy Carmichael
Selections	e.e. cummings
"Songs of Innocence and Experience"	William Blake
Selections	Elizabeth Barrett Browning
Selections	Wendell Berry
Selections	Robert Browning
Selections	Emily Dickenson
Selections	Samuel Taylor Coleridge
"Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock"	T.S. Elliot
Selections	Ralph Waldo Emerson
Selection	Robert Frost
Selections	Langston Hughes
Selections	Henry Wadsworth Longfellow
Selections	Pablo Neruda
Selections	Edgar Allen Poe
Selections	Ezra Pound
Selections	Christina Rossetti
Selections	Alfred Lord Tennyson
<i>Leaves of Grass</i>	Walt Whitman
Selections	William Carlos Williams
Selections	William Butler Yeats
Drama	
Any Title	Henrik Ibsen
Any Title	William Shakespeare
"The Man Born to Be King"	Dorothy Sayers
"The Importance of Being Earnest"	Oscar Wilde

¹ Note naturalism.

² Note revivalism.

³ Note psychology.

⁴ Note Deism.

⁵ Note naturalism.

⁶ Note homosexuality.

“Our Town”
“The Glass Menagerie”
“A Streetcar Named Desire”

Thornton Wilder
Tennessee Williams