

# Holy Family Academy

## Junior Summer Reading Assignment

*Hiroshima* by John Hersey

**Due:** First Week of School

**Course:** U.S. History / English

**Grade Level:** 11th Grade

### Assignment Overview

John Hersey's *Hiroshima* is one of the most influential works of nonfiction ever written. Rather than focusing on military strategy, political leaders, or battlefield movements, Hersey tells the story of six ordinary individuals whose lives were forever changed by the atomic bombing of Hiroshima on August 6, 1945.

This assignment is designed to ensure that you engage directly with the text itself. General summaries, SparkNotes, Cliff Notes, AI-generated summaries, documentaries, or other secondary sources will not provide the specific information necessary to complete the assignment successfully.

### Survivor Journal

The Journal needs to be typed and ready to submit to Turnitin on the first day of school.

As you read, keep a journal dedicated to the six survivors Hersey follows throughout the book:

- Miss Toshiko Sasaki
- Dr. Masakazu Fujii
- Father Wilhelm Kleinsorge
- Reverend Kiyoshi Tanimoto
- Dr. Terufumi Sasaki
- Mrs. Hatsuyo Nakamura

For **each survivor**, create a separate section containing:

**A. Before the Bomb (Minimum 150 words)**

Describe:

- Who the person was
- Occupation
- Family situation
- What they were doing immediately before the explosion

**B. The Day of the Bomb (Minimum 250 words)**

Describe:

- Their exact location when the bomb exploded
- Their injuries or immediate experiences
- Specific events they witnessed

**C. Long-Term Consequences (Minimum 150 words)**

Describe:

- Physical effects
- Emotional effects
- Changes to their life after the bombing

**D. Personal Reflection (Minimum 100 words)**

Answer:

Which aspect of this person's experience affected you the most and why?