

## Fourth Quarter - Week Five

### **7th Grade:**

### U. S. MUST BECOME 'GREAT ARSENAL' TO SAVE DEMOCRACY



This week begins with some of the most serious and somber history we explore in seventh grade: the Holocaust. Students have learned about the discrimination and hate sowed by the Nazis (and their allies), and this week they are presented with an overview of the Nazi plan to exterminate any people they deemed a threat to their power. Today, students will hear from two survivors of the Holocaust. These testimonies are powerful and emotional. I encourage students and families to talk about this history together (even watch the video clips posted to Google Classroom together). We must never forget.

Tomorrow, students will explore the southeast Michigan connection to World War II: the *Arsenal of Democracy*. It was here in the Great Lakes region's factories that tanks, planes, trucks, and weapons were manufactured for the war effort. Companies like Chrysler, Ford, and General Motors played a major role in stopping Nazi Germany and the Empire of Japan.

In addition to ZOOM class, the deadline for submitting 4Q Geography test screenshots is on Thursday. If you have any questions, send me an email or join our ZOOM class to ask me directly. Finally, on Friday we will conclude the week (our final full week of school!) with our global current events (GCE) focus.

Have a great week!

- ★ I will be hosting this week's **ZOOM class on Thursday, May 14 (10am)**. The link can be found below on the *Student Learning Tasks* chart. I will spend time in this ZOOM class reviewing the 4Q Geography Test, the Unit 8 tasks from the week, and previewing our final unit of the year. If any student is unable to join, please continue to stay in contact via Google Classroom posts and email. Thank you!

**8th Grade:** Over the course of this final full week of instruction, students are bringing their exploration of Social Studies topics full-circle. We began seventh grade learning about the geography of Europe (remember your travel projects, students?) and we close out eighth grade by learning about contemporary Europe and its modern geopolitical organizational structure (see EU map below). Yesterday and today, students are examining how the European Union (EU) governs, the advantages/disadvantages of EU/Eurozone membership, and how NATO operates in the post-Cold War world. A great bookend for our junior high curriculum.

Tomorrow, students will watch a documentary clip about Europe's southern neighbor, Africa and the African Union (AU). This will be the final new, non-GCE assignment of the school year. Please review the Parent Portal and Google Classroom pages regularly to ensure that you have earned every point possible this quarter. Reach out to me if you have any questions/comments/concerns.



## Student Learning Tasks: May 11 - 15, 2020

| <b>7th<br/>G<br/>R<br/>A<br/>D<br/>E</b> | <i>Assignment/Task</i>                        | <i>Assigned on...</i>    | <i>Due</i>   | <i>Relevant Resources</i>                                   |
|--|---|--------------------------|--|---|
|  | Good News Monday                              | 5/11 on Google Classroom |  | <a href="#">GNM video link</a> ; See Classroom page.        |
|  | The Holocaust (pt. I)                         | 5/11 on Google Classroom | 5/13 on Google Classroom                                     | See Google Classroom pages for assignment and links         |
|  | The Holocaust (pt. II)                        | 5/12 on Google Classroom | 5/14 on Google Classroom                                     | See Google Classroom pages for assignment and video links   |
|  | Arsenal of Democracy                          | 5/13 on Google Classroom | 5/15 on Google Classroom                                     | See Google Classroom page for assignment and links          |
|  | ZOOM Class!                                   | 5/14                     | 10:00-10:45am  | 7th <a href="#">ZOOM Class Link</a><br><b>Password: 213</b> |
|  | 4Q Geography Test<br><b>Assessment Points</b> | 5/7 on Google Classroom  | <b>Email screenshot to Mr. Willing by: Thursday, May 14.</b> | See Google Classroom for link to Geography test.            |
|  | GCE   | 5/15 on Google Classroom | 5/17 on Google Classroom                                     | See Google Classroom page                                   |

| <b>8th<br/>G<br/>R<br/>A<br/>D<br/>E</b> | <i>Assignment/Task</i>                        | <i>Assigned on...</i>    | <i>Due</i>   | <i>Relevant Resources</i>                                   |
|--|---|--------------------------|--|---|
|  | Good News Monday                              | 5/11 on Google Classroom |  | <a href="#">GNM video link</a> ; See Classroom page.        |
|  | How does the EU work?                         | 5/11 on Google Classroom | 5/13 on Google Classroom                                     | See Google Classroom pages for assignment and links         |
|  | NATO and Europe                               | 5/12 on Google Classroom | 5/14 on Google Classroom                                     | See Google Classroom pages for assignment and video links   |
|  | The African Union                             | 5/13 on Google Classroom | 5/15 on Google Classroom                                     | See Google Classroom page for documents and links           |
|  | ZOOM Class!                                   | 5/14                     | 11:00-11:45am  | 8th <a href="#">ZOOM Class Link</a><br><b>Password: 213</b> |
|  | 4Q Geography Test<br><b>Assessment Points</b> | 5/7                      | <b>Email screenshot to Mr. Willing by: Thursday, May 14.</b> | See Google Classroom for link to Geography test.            |
|  | GCE   | 5/15 on Google Classroom | 5/17 on Google Classroom                                     | See Google Classroom page                                   |

## Distance Learning/Google Classroom Notes:

- **ZOOM Class requires a password** for security purposes. Please enter my classroom number (213) to join.
  - ZOOM Class sessions are OPTIONAL. I *fully* understand the demands on our schedules and technology. If any students cannot join the ZOOM remember I am just an email or a Google Classroom message away!
  - **The 4Q Geography Test** is obviously a modified assessment from the usual quarterly format. Please see the Google Classroom-posted study guides, review checklists, and test directions (see posting schedule in chart above) to clarify any questions you may have. Still need help? I am only an email away and I am always *willing* to help a student in need! :) **Those of you who have submitted assessments already: Way to go!** The knowledge gained is demonstrable and impressive! Well done!
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### ***THIS WEEK IN HISTORY!***

These people, places and events are all part of our All Saints Catholic School junior high social studies curriculum throughout seventh and eighth grades! (Events and resource links curated by [historyplace.com](http://historyplace.com))

- 5/11**      **1969** - During the [Vietnam War](#), the Battle of "Hamburger Hill" began. While attempting to seize the Dong Ap Bia Mountain, U.S. troops repeatedly scaled the hill over a 10-day period and engaged in bloody hand-to-hand combat with the North Vietnamese. After finally securing the objective, American military staff decided to abandon the position, which the North Vietnamese retook shortly thereafter. The battle highlighted the futility of the overall American military strategy.
- 5/12**      **1949** - Soviet Russia lifted its blockade of Berlin. The blockade began on June 24, 1948 and resulted in the Berlin airlift. For 462 days - from June 26, 1948, until September 30, 1949, American and British planes flew about 278,000 flights, delivering 2.3 million tons of food, coal and medical supplies to two million isolated West Berliners. A plane landed in Berlin every minute from 11 Allied staging areas in West Germany. The planes were nicknamed "candy bombers" after pilots began tossing sweets to children. They also flew out millions of dollars worth of products manufactured in West Berlin.
- 5/13**      **1846** - At the request of President [James K. Polk](#), Congress declared war on Mexico. The controversial struggle eventually cost the lives of 11,300 U.S. soldiers and resulted in the annexation of lands that became parts of Oklahoma, New Mexico, Arizona, Nevada, California, Utah and Colorado. The war ended in 1848 with the [Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo](#).
- 1943** - During World War II in North Africa, over 250,000 Germans and Italians surrendered in the last few days of the Tunis campaign. British General Harold Alexander then telegraphed news of the victory to [Winston Churchill](#), who was in Washington attending a war conference. The victory re-opened Allied shipping lanes in the Mediterranean.
- 1981** - Pope John Paul II was shot twice at close range while riding in an open automobile in St. Peter's Square in Rome. Two other persons were also wounded. An escaped terrorist, already under sentence of death for the murder of a Turkish journalist, was immediately arrested and was later convicted of attempted murder. The Pope recovered and later held a private meeting with the would-be assassin and then publicly forgave him.

5/14 1942 - During World War II, an Act of Congress allowed women to enlist for noncombat duties in the Women's Auxiliary Army Corps (WAAC), the Women Appointed for Voluntary Emergency Service (WAVES), Women's Auxiliary Ferrying Squadron (WAFS), and Semper Paratus Always Ready Service (SPARS), the Women's Reserve of the Marine Corp.

5/17 1954 - In Brown v. Board of Education, the U.S. Supreme Court unanimously ruled that segregation of public schools "solely on the basis of race" denies black children "equal educational opportunity" even though "physical facilities and other 'tangible' factors may have been equal. Separate educational facilities are inherently unequal." Thurgood Marshall had argued the case before the Court. He went to become the first African American appointed to the Supreme Court.

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## **Extra! Extra!**

- **Eighth graders and families,**

We are all facing so many new realities and altered routines/traditions during this historic pandemic. However, we must not let challenges thwart our vibrancy as a faith-filled school community. To that end, I want to express how excited I am to see students and families through several upcoming events: Ribbon Mass, Graduation Mass, drive-by graduation, a few special surprises, and ZOOM meetings to close out our time together at All Saints. Lots of fun to be had yet, eighth graders! Keep up the phenomenal work! Countdown to officially being ninth graders: 9 days... You can do this!

- May's **Virtue in Practice**: Zeal - *being driven by an intense love for God*. For ideas, reflections, prayers, and home project suggestions, visit the [ASCS Virtues in Practice page](#).

- Curious about the final units of the year? Remaining topics are as follows:

| Fourth Quarter - Distance Learning Instructional Units  |  |
|---|--|
| 7th Grade   | 8th Grade  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>★ <del>Unit 7: World War II &amp; the Rise of Totalitarianism</del></li><li>★ <del>Unit 8: World War II in Europe and at Home</del></li><li>★ Unit 9: World War II in the Pacific</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>★ <del>Unit 9: Social &amp; Environmental Activism</del></li><li>★ <del>Unit 10: The Middle East and Oil Politics</del></li><li>★ <del>Unit 11: End of the Cold War</del></li><li>★ <del>Unit 12: Breakup of the USSR</del></li><li>★ <del>Unit 13: Contemporary Europe/Africa</del></li></ul> |

[Note: Units that are ~~crossed off~~ have been completed/will be completed by the end of *this* week through Distance Learning.]

- This morning, the **Navy's Blue Angels** will be flying over southeast Michigan in tribute to all Covid-19 frontline and essential workers. **Check out the flight path below**. We have beautiful weather, so hopefully you can see (or at least, *hear*) these special aviators honoring our country. God bless America!

# DETROIT

Flight Path  
May 12th

Blue Angels



**This 21-minute flyover is a salute to frontline COVID-19 responders.**

**Times are subject to change.**

**Residents should observe the flyover from the safety of their home-quarantine and should refrain from traveling to see the flyover. Social distancing should be practiced at all times.**

**Stay home and stay safe!**

**#AmericaStrong**



Contact information: Strong home-school communication is essential to student success. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions/comments/concerns. I am always willing to help in any way!

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School phone: (734) 459-2490  
(though no one will be there for the time being...)



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