

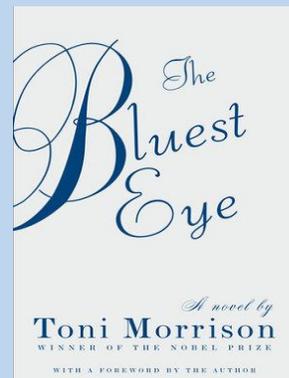
Recommended Summer Reading from the St. Thomas of Villanova Parish Anti-Racism Committee

Parish Discussion Book: *The Bluest Eye* by Toni Morrison

The Bluest Eye is the first novel written by Toni Morrison, winner of the 1993 Nobel Prize in Literature.

Pecola Breedlove, a young black girl, prays every day for beauty. Mocked by other children for the dark skin, curly hair, and brown eyes that set her apart, she yearns for normalcy, for the blond hair and blue eyes that she believes will allow her to finally fit in.

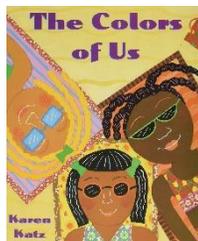
Yet as her dream grows more fervent, her life slowly starts to disintegrate in the face of adversity and strife. A powerful examination of our obsession with beauty and conformity, Toni Morrison's virtuosic first novel asks powerful questions about race, class, and gender with the subtlety and grace that have always characterized her writing. *(From the publisher.)*



The ARC will host a discussion of the book via Zoom on 9/28/21 at 7 pm. Stay tuned for recommendations for further reading/watching to help contextualize and enrich your reading and discussion!

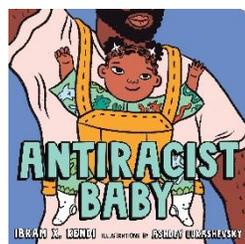
Please consider supporting a local [black-owned book retailer](#) if you plan to buy your book.

Books for Children



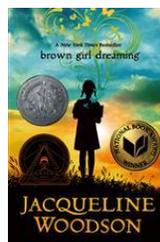
The Colors of Us
by Karen Katz (4-8 yrs)

Something Happened in Our Town
by Marianne Celano, Marietta Collins,
and Ann Hazard (4-8 yrs, animated
version available [on-line](#))



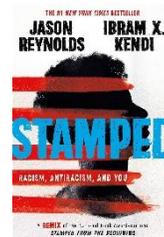
AntiRacist Baby
by Ibram X. Kendi (0-3 yrs)

Books for Teens



Brown Girl Dreaming
by Jacqueline Woodson

Stamped: Racism, Antiracism, and You: A Remix of the National Book Award-winning Stamped from the Beginning
by Ibram X. Kendi and Jason Reynolds



The Hate U Give
by Angie Thomas (YA)

If you are interested in joining or learning more about the committee, please find us online on the Parish [website](#)! Our extensive list of "what we've been reading this year" is also available on our page on the parish website.