



## **St. Joseph Catholic Church – Women’s Book Club**

Meeting dates (meetings are held 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month in the old church office at 5:00)

**August 26, 2014 (date changed due to travel of members) – Clan of the Cave Bear by Jean M. Auel**

This novel of awesome beauty and power is a moving saga about people, relationships, and the boundaries of love. Through Jean M. Auel’s magnificent storytelling we are taken back to the dawn of modern humans, and with a girl named Ayla we are swept up in the harsh and beautiful Ice Age world they shared with the ones who called themselves The Clan of the Cave Bear.

**September 16, 2014 - The Iron Marshall by Louis L’Amour**

He was a tough enforcer for a New York gang. But when young Tom Shanaghy made one too many enemies, he skipped town on a fast-moving freight. He landed in a small Kansas town that had big dreams, no name, and the need for an honest lawman. He didn’t know that a high-stakes cattle drive was headed his way and that leading it was a vindictive rancher bent on settling an old score, even if he had to destroy the town to do it.

**October 21, 2014 – The Red Tent by Anita Diamant**

In the Bible, her life is only hinted at in a brief and violent detour within the more familiar chapters of the Book of Genesis that are about her father, Jacob, and his dozen sons. Told in Dinah’s voice, this novel reveals the traditions and turmoils of ancient womanhood—the world of the red tent. It begins with the story of her mothers—Leah, Rachel, Zilpah, and Bilhah—the four wives of Jacob. They love Dinah and give her gifts that are to sustain her through a damaged youth, a calling to midwifery, and a new home in a foreign land.

**November 18, 2014 – The Water is Wide by Pat Conroy**

The moving story of a young teacher’s experience on an island forgotten by the world. Though the children of Yamacraw Island live less than two miles from the coast of South Carolina, they can’t name the president or the ocean that surrounds them. Many can’t sign their names. Most can’t read or write—they’re unable to reach their potential to grow and learn because they have been failed by their school district and handicapped by their poverty and isolation. But with the arrival of an eager young teacher, their prospects begin to brighten.

Based on Pat Conroy’s experiences teaching elementary school for a year on South Carolina’s Daufuskie Island, *The Water Is Wide* is a revealing portrait of the inequalities of the American education system and a powerful story of the group of children that changed one man’s life forever.

**December 16, 2014 – The Christmas Cookie Club by Ann Pearlman**

Mark your calendar. It’s the Christmas Cookie Club! Every year on the first Monday of December, Marnie and her twelve closest girlfriends gather in the evening with batches of beautifully wrapped homemade cookies. Everyone has to bring a dish, a bottle of wine, and their stories. On this evening, at least, they can feel as a group the impulses of sisterly love and conflict, the passion and hopefulness of a new romance, the betrayal and disillusionment some relationships bring, the joys and fears of motherhood, the agony of losing a child, and above all, the love they have for one another. As Marnie says, the Christmas Cookie Club, if it’s anything, is a reminder of delight.

**For More Information please contact Catherine Balck at 464-8375 or [CRBalck@gmail.com](mailto:CRBalck@gmail.com)**