



# Severn Torch

## Welcome!

Welcome back everyone! It is so nice to see everyone back together again! We have many fun activities planned for today including our beloved teacher Certamen! Until then, I hope that you all will have a wonderful day! If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask any of the officers! Good luck to all of you who are competing today and a warm welcome to all those who may be joining us for the first time!

## MDJCL Officers

**President: Mika**

**Kretzmann-Clough**

**Email: saromika@gmail.com**

**Vice President: Nathalie Trouba**

**Email: nathalietrouba@gmail.com**

**Parliamentarian: Michael Deras Gomez**

**Email: michaelderasgomez@gmail.com**

**Historian: Carolyn Tang**

**Email: carolyndtang@gmail.com**

**Editor: Grace Rish**

**Email: grsmiley43@gmail.com**

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**@Maryland Junior Classical League**



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## The Quest for the Gladiator!

And so it begins!



Rules:

1. Just like last Certamen there is a crossword puzzle attached to the Torch, this time it is the Thanksgiving themed!
2. Instead of the Torches being on the tables like usual, they will be distributed at the same time at the beginning of the event.
3. You may work together and the first school to submit a correct puzzle to the editor will win the gladiator for their school! Good Luck!!

## The Rules and Goal of Certamen:

The word Certamen translates to competition or contest. Even though this activity is a chance for students of all levels to show off their Latin skills, we still want everyone to have a good time! In order to ensure that this is possible the NJCL has set up these rules:

- All players and coaches are expected to conduct themselves throughout the entire Certamen process with courtesy, dignity, and respect for other teams and the Certamen staff
- Participants are permitted to bring mascots and good luck tokens as long as such items are deemed by the Certamen staff to be distracting or inappropriate
- During a round, coaches may encourage their team in a general way after the scores are read (5,10,15,19)-e.g. "Good job guys! Keep it up!"
- Players may not converse with their teammates while the toss up questions are being asked or answered, but are allowed and encouraged to converse when answering the bonus question
- The designated team captain must say the answer to the bonus question unless the team captain diverts to another player



## Announcements from the Officers:

Hi everyone! The officers are planning a great new annual event, the Cena Latina! Please help us by filling out the google form on the MDJCL website <http://mdjcl.org/> about location and time! Gratias tibi ago!

## Member Submissions:

Most homes stand on a sturdy foundation.  
Mine wobbles on two unsteady sticks.  
Most homes have a welcome mat and front door.  
Mine has two outstretched limbs and a rosy tint.  
Most homes have windows to see inside and out.  
Mine has windows to see the soul.  
Most houses have tiled roofs to see the inside.  
Mine has a head of clouds, leaves, and grass.  
Most houses shine bright with the help of electricity.  
Mine pulses with a life force like no other.  
Most homes are stuck on a street in a neighborhood.  
Mine can run, fly, and dance like the wind.  
Most homes have deep dark cellars.  
Mine has unfathomable chasms with no end.  
My home can't shelter people from elements .  
Or give them a place to stay the night.  
In fact, my home isn't a place at all,  
but home is where the heart is.  
and my heart belongs with you.

-Michael Gomez (ERHS)

## Upcoming Key Dates:

**January 11:** Cena Latina (TBD)

**February 1:** Certamen (Gilman)

**February 29:** Spelling Bee and Exhibit (Loyola Blakefield)

**April 25-26:** State Convention (Easton)