

February, 2019

My dear sisters and brothers in Christ:

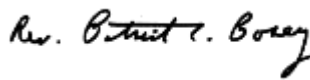
In recent days, the Dioceses of Arlington and Richmond have published a report detailing an account of clerical abuse in our localities. This scandal is incredibly painful for all concerned. We must seek accountability and atonement; and we must continue to pray for the victims and their families. So too, we must pray for our Church, that we remain open to God's grace, seek His mercy and be guided by His commandments.

Ensuring the safety of our parish family, and all who visit Saint James, has been, and continues to be, an important focus of my ministry here. To that end, Saint James has the following measures in place to ensure the security and welfare of every individual:

All Priests, Deacons, Sisters, employees, and those volunteers who have substantial contact with children are required to:

- *Attend an educational program (VIRTUS) which includes methods of recognizing and preventing child abuse and sexual misconduct involving children and others.*
- *Undergo a background and reference checks.*
- *Review and sign the Code of Conduct for Personnel and Volunteers in the Diocese of Arlington which clearly states the guidelines in place to protect children and young people.*
- *Review and sign the Diocese of Arlington's Policy on the Protection of Children/Young People and Prevention of Sexual Misconduct and/or Child Abuse. This document covers how and what to report, if abuse is suspected. Please see [www.arlingtondiocese.org](http://www.arlingtondiocese.org) to view documents.*
- *Have (2) adults present when meeting with a minor.*
- *We have also incorporated security investments (cameras, etc.) throughout campus.*

For more information on the diocesan response, please go to: <https://bit.ly/2HtWKfo>. I am grateful to those who work to share God's message; and I am especially grateful for the undersigned who partner with me to inspire new generations of faithful Catholics. Please do not hesitate to contact me with questions or concerns. May God continue to bless you and our beautiful parish.



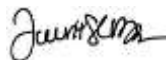
Very Rev. Patrick L. Posey, V.F.  
Pastor



Sister Mary Sue Carwile, IHM  
Principal



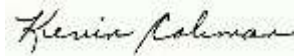
Sister Regina Rosarii, IHM  
Director, Religious Education



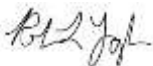
Dawn Behrens  
PTO President



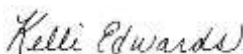
Jerry Garren  
CYO Coordinator



Kevin Coleman  
Scouts BSA Troop 681 Scoutmaster



Robin Yagmour  
American Heritage Girls  
Troop Coordinator



Kelli Edwards  
Parish Girl Scouts Coordinator



Jason Brost  
Cub Scout Pack 681 Cubmaster