



PROGRAM GUIDE FOR CATHOLIC SCOUTING AWARDS

Office for Catholic Youth Ministry
Diocese of Providence
One Cathedral Square
Providence, RI 02903
401-278-4626
www.CatholicYouthRI.org

Chaplain's Message

Scouting is a world of wonder. Through scouting, boys and girls discover their fullest potential as they explore the beauty of all God's universe. Each scout is challenged to search deep within, and discover that the meaning of life is found in the gift of love and their service to God and their fellow human beings.

The Catholic Church's involvement with Girl Scouting and Boy Scouting has created a bond that has been long-lasting. From their earliest foundations, these institutions have worked hand-in-hand for the benefit of contemporary youth.

If Catholic Scouting programs are to be successful, the principles of Scouting must really come alive in all its members. The Catholic Committee on Scouting assists Scouts and Scouters in promoting "Duty to God" and in living the Scout Oath and the Girl Scout Promise.

We cannot fulfill our purpose of reaching every Catholic Scout in every unit in our Diocese *unless you help*. We are happy to provide this book that gives basic information of the ways we are reaching out to our youth and also supporting our adult leadership. Together let us work at encouraging all in their work of building up Catholic Scouting in our Diocese through our partnership with these national movements.

May God bless every effort we make in helping youth.

The Catholic Committee on Scouting Diocese of Providence

The Catholic Committee on Scouting of the Diocese of Providence echoes the mission and goals of the National Catholic Committee on Scouting:

- + it is a church committee advisory to the local councils of the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts of America and Camp Fire USA, with the responsibility of promoting and guiding cooperative contacts between the Diocese of Providence and the local councils.
- + it gives guidance, direction, leadership, and vitality in the spiritual phase of Scouting to all Catholics in the Diocese.

Particular areas of responsibility include (but are not limited to)

- Religious emblems programs – develop, monitor, evaluate and promote;
- Religious activities – promote regular and meaningful Catholic religious activities for units in the Diocese;
- Adult Recognitions;
- Catholic scouter spiritual development – promote and provide;
- Membership promotion;
- Chaplaincy programs;
- Vocations

The Diocesan Committee meets regularly to carry out the plans and programs of the Committee. Volunteer members are recommended to and by the Diocesan Scout Chaplain, Pastoral Associate and the Diocesan Youth Ministry Director and are appointed by the Bishop. If you are interested in serving scouts in youth ministry, please contact the Office of Catholic Youth Ministry, One Cathedral Square, Providence, RI 02903-3695 at 401-278-4626.



Light of Christ

The purpose of the Light of Christ recognition is to have the young Scout develop a personal relationship with God. Through the active participation of the Scout's parent, the hope is that even the youngest scout will see Jesus Christ as a real person and friend.

To be eligible, a Scout must be a registered Tiger or Wolf Scout of the Catholic faith. To receive the emblem, all the requirements are to be completed before the Scout starts the third grade.



Parvuli Dei

The Parvuli Dei emblem is a recognition that the Catholic Church gives to Cub Scout and Webelos Scouts for advancement in religious knowledge and spiritual formation.

Its purpose is to help the scout become aware of God's presence in his daily life, especially within his home and community.

To be eligible, a Scout must be a Catholic, a registered Bear or Webelo Scout and have completed the second grade.

Both programs require the Scout to work with his parents and submit the booklet to the Parish Priest. Program booklets are available from the local Scout store or the Office of Catholic Youth Ministry.

Each award is presented in the local parish at a Sunday liturgy. The Diocesan Catholic Committee recommends that the award be presented during Scout month (February), but the program can be initiated anytime throughout the year.

Arrangements should be made by the cub master and the recipient's family for presentation after the recipient's application is submitted and accepted. The application is sent to the Office of Catholic Youth Ministry, One Cathedral Square, Providence, RI 02903-3695.

Purchasing of the award is done through the Office of Catholic Youth Ministry. The cost for the medal is to be covered by either the pack or the recipient's family.



Ad Altare Dei

The purpose of the **Ad Altare Dei** program is

- + *to better equip the Scout to take his place in the world with an understanding of his Christian commitment;*
- + *to recognize his advancement in the spiritual content of Scouting, and*
- + *to help him fully live the Scout Oath and Law.*

The Scout discovers the meaning of being a follower of Christ and how he is to live the things he believes in his daily life. These requirements strongly emphasize the sacraments, through which one encounters the Risen Christ.

The program requires the candidate to be teamed with a trained counselor. (See Counselors Training info Section) The completion of the program includes a Day of Reflection and Board of Review as the final requirements. Most program instruction begins in late spring or early summer in anticipation of this scheduled completion date.

The Ad Altare Dei workbook is available through the Scout store or through the Office of Catholic Youth Ministry, One Cathedral Square, Providence, RI 02903-3695.

Part of the requirements for eligibility is that a boy must be a registered scout for one year, have completed the sixth grade and must be attending Mass weekly in his own parish. Signatures from his pastor, as well as parents, scoutmaster and religious emblems counselor must be obtained and submitted to the Office of Catholic Youth Ministry **before** beginning any part of the requirements of the program.

The award is presented each year by the Bishop at the Cathedral of Saints Peter and Paul, Providence, Rhode Island. Through the kindness of the Bishop, there is no cost for the Ad Altare Dei Medal, it is his gift to each recipient.



Pope Pius XII

The **Pope Pius XII** program was developed in recognition of the need for Catholic Lay Leaders in church and community affairs, and of exploring potential in developing such leadership. If a young person is properly informed, his formation will lead to a desire for serious commitment to action. The emblem contains the “Keys of Saint Peter” with the words --- DIGNITY – RESPECT – HUMILITY --- inscribed around the perimeter. The emblem reflects the ideal of youth’s growing concern with God’s world, as well as the human world. Guided by the Holy Spirit, this formation, properly carried out, will lead to a transformed youth geared to his/her role as a Christian leader. Under the guidance of a trained moderator, a group of candidates meet regularly to explore their relationship with God and their role within the Church.

This program is for high-school-age Catholic Scouts and registered Venturers who have started the ninth grade. Signatures from the pastor, as well as parents, scoutmaster and religious emblems counselor must be obtained and submitted to the Office of Catholic Youth Ministry **before** beginning any part of the requirements of the program. Most program instruction begins in late spring or early summer in anticipation of the scheduled completion date.

The completion of the program includes a Day of Reflection and Board of Review as the final requirements.

The Pope Pius XII workbook is available through the Scout store or through the Office of Catholic Youth Ministry, One Cathedral Square, Providence, RI 02903-3695.

The award is presented each year by the Diocesan Bishop at the Cathedral of Saints Peter and Paul, Providence, Rhode Island. Through the kindness of the Bishop, there is no cost for the Pope Pius XII Award, it is his gift to each recipient.

With the new Girl Scout Program changes effective Fall of 2008 the Girl Scout Religious Awards breakdown eligibility will be the following:

Grade One – Girl Scout Daisy – For the Love of God

Grade 2 and 3 – Girl Scout Brownie – For the Love of God and Family of God

Grades 4 and 5 – Girl Scout Junior – Holy Family

Grade 6 – Girl Scout Cadette – I Live My Faith

Grade 7 and 8 – Girl Scout Cadette – I Live My Faith and Marian

*Grade 9,10,11 & 12 – Marian

*Grade 10, 11 & 12 – Spirit Alive

*Grades 9 & 10 are Girl Scout Seniors

*Grades 11 & 12 are Girl Scout Ambassadors



For the Love of God

For the Love of God, a Diocesan award, was designed to supplement a girl's religious education during her Scouting and Camp Fire years. The program helps to make girls (ages 7-9) become more aware of God's love in their daily lives.

Any Catholic Brownie or Starflight can work on this award, provided she has been registered in Girl Scouts or Camp Fire for at least six (6) months and submits a pre-application form and fee to the Catholic Committee on Scouting, c/o the Office of Catholic Youth Ministry, One Cathedral Square, Providence, RI 02903. The recipient's family incurs the cost for the book.



Family of God

The **Family of God** National Award program is offered to Brownies and Starflights in grades two and three. Its purpose is to help the child explore a wide range of activities and discover the presence of God in her life as a member of their family and parish.

Parents and adults serve as advisors to the child and help her grow in religious awareness by talking about the experiences that make up the program. Wherever possible, parental involvement is encouraged. A climate of openness, flexibility, and love in the relationship between the child and adult is the most important foundation upon which to build the experience of this program.

Both awards are presented at a parish liturgy, usually during Girl Scout and Camp Fire Month (March), or at the discretion of the moderator and the parish priest. Project books and medals are available through Area Catholic Committee Members or the Office of Catholic Youth Ministry. The applications are sent to Office of Catholic Youth Ministry, One Cathedral Square, Providence, RI 02903. The recipient's family incurs the cost for the book.



Holy Family Award

The **Holy Family Award**, a Diocesan award, is given for advancement in religious knowledge and spiritual formation. Its purpose is to help a girl become more aware of God's presence in her daily life through home and community.

Any girl (ages 9-11) of the Catholic faith in the Girl Scout or Camp Fire Program may work on the award under the guidance of a moderator and her parents. Upon completion, the applicant presents herself, her workbook and logbook to her moderator and parish priest who will review and sign the book.

The medal is presented at a parish liturgy, usually during Girl Scout and Camp Fire month (March). Project books and medals are available through a Catholic Committee Member or the Office of Catholic Youth Ministry, One Cathedral Square, Providence, RI 02903. The recipient's family incurs the cost for the medal.



I Live My Faith

The **I Live My Faith** National Award Program is the official religious recognition program for girls in Grade 6 (ages 9-11). I Live My Faith enables the girl to grow as a Christian person and to take her place as an active and responsible member of her family, parish, troop/group and community.

The girl participates with a trained counselor for a period of 3-6 months on activities and projects outlined in the project book. The project book is available through the Area Catholic Committee Member or the Office of Catholic Youth Ministry.

The award is presented each year by the Diocesan Bishop at the Cathedral of Saints Peter and Paul, One Cathedral Square, Providence, Rhode Island. Through the kindness of the Bishop, there is no cost for the I Live My Faith Award, it is his gift to each recipient.



Marian Medal

The **Marian Medal**, a National Award Program for Girls ages 12-14 provides the girls a unique opportunity to develop new insights into herself, friends, family and the world around her. The Marian medal enables girls to discuss and share together in order to come to a better understanding of the Christian life. They have the opportunity to look at their values, their approaches to life, their relationship with God and their understanding of the Virgin Mary. Above all, they have the opportunity to grow in an understanding of their Catholic faith and its traditions.

The girl participates in the program with a trained moderator and in a team/group. It takes approximately one year to complete the projects and activities required. The girl is required to participate in the Diocesan Day of Recollection scheduled prior to the presentation ceremony.

The project book is available through members of the Catholic Committee on Scouting or the Office of Catholic Youth Ministry, One Cathedral Square, Providence, RI.

The award is presented each year by the Diocesan Bishop at the Cathedral of Saints Peter and Paul, Providence, Rhode Island. Through the kindness of the Bishop, there is no cost for the Marian Medal, it is his gift to each recipient.



The Spirit Alive

This program is designed for Catholic High School girls who are in the senior level of Scouts or Horizon Club of Camp Fire. It assists them in discovering how the Holy Spirit moves in their lives, calling them to greater participation in the church's ministry.

The four chapters cover:

- The Holy Spirit Alive in Scripture
- The Holy Spirit Alive in the Catholic Church
- The Holy Spirit Alive in Prayer
- The Holy Spirit Alive in Your Life

Activities are an integral part of The Spirit Alive process. Because different people have different learning styles, there are four categories of activities to choose from for chapters 1-3: written, artistic, interactive, and digital. The activity in Chapter 4 is the service component of the process.

The girl participates in the program with a trained moderator and in a team/group. It takes approximately one year to complete the projects and activities required.

The project book is available through members of the Catholic Committee on Scouting or the Office of Catholic Youth Ministry, One Cathedral Square, Providence, RI. The presentation of the medal is made at the Cathedral of Saints Peter & Paul in Providence at the Annual Catholic Youth Ministry and Scout Awards Celebration. Through the kindness of the Bishop, there is no cost for the Spirit Alive Medal, as it is his gift to the recipient.

Annual Catholic Youth Ministry and Scout Awards Celebration

Held annually at the Cathedral of Saints Peter and Paul in Providence, the Bishop recognizes those scouts who have successfully completed requirements for certain religious awards. The Annual Catholic Youth Ministry and Scout Awards Celebration is the occasion for awarding the I Live My Faith, the Marian, the Spirit Alive, the Ad Altare Dei, Pope Pius XII, Unit Awards and Adult Recognitions.

This annual celebration is also a way to bring Catholic Scouts together with the Bishop in a religious ceremony honoring and praying for Scouting.

Day of Recollection

The annual Day of Recollection is offered each year in the winter to candidates for the Ad Altare Dei, the Pope Pius XII and the Marian Medal, for which it is a requirement. The specific date and time is determined each year and a written notice is sent to all registered candidates for the Awards.



Unit Awards

The Diocesan Unit Awards are presented annually to the Pack, Troop or Unit whose members have made an outstanding contribution to the community through service and have made progress in their own spiritual development.

Application forms are available through the Office of Catholic Youth Ministry and the members of the Catholic Committee on Scouting. Applications must be submitted through Committee Members or the Office for Comprehensive Youth Ministry, One Cathedral Square, Providence, RI 02903, by December 31st.

The presentation is made by the Bishop at the Annual Catholic Youth Ministry and Scout Awards Celebration at the Cathedral of Saints. Peter and Paul, One Cathedral Square, Providence RI.

The Diocesan Pack/Troop/Unit may be called upon periodically to be of service to the Bishop and the Catholic Committee on Scouting at functions through the entire scouting year.

ADULT AWARDS



Bronze Pelican Award

The Bronze Pelican Award is given to Adult Scouters in the Cub Scout and Boy Scout Program who have served a minimum of five years. The recipient must have demonstrated good example as a Christian and influenced boys to live a good Christian life through the fostering of spiritual growth.

Nomination forms and eligibility requirements are available through the Office of Catholic Youth Ministry, One Cathedral Square, Providence RI 02903 or through members of the Catholic Committee on Scouting.

The award is presented by the Bishop at the Annual Catholic Youth Ministry and Scout Awards Celebration at the Cathedral of Saints Peter and Paul, One Cathedral Square, Providence, RI. Adult awards are presented every other year.



Saint George Award

The Saint George Award is given for remarkable contribution to the spiritual development of Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts and Venturers. It is the highest national award recognition for Catholic adults in Scouting.

Nomination forms and eligibility requirements are available through the Office of Catholic Youth Ministry, One Cathedral Square, Providence RI 02903 or through members of the Catholic Committee on Scouting.

The award is presented by the Bishop at the Annual Catholic Youth Ministry and Scout Awards Celebration at the Cathedral of Saints Peter and Paul, One Cathedral Square, Providence, RI. Adult awards are presented every other year.



Paraclete Award

The **Paraclete Award** is a Diocesan award given in recognition for continued active years of service to girls in Scouting and Camp Fire and for promoting the spiritual concepts of these programs.

Candidates must be currently active with the Catholic Committee and must have received the St. Anne Award at least five years prior to the nomination.

Recipients of this award are chosen by the Adult Awards Committee of the Catholic Committee on Scouting. Nomination forms can be obtained from the Office of Catholic Youth Ministry or through a Catholic Committee on Scouting member. The presentation of the Paraclete Award takes place at the Annual Catholic Youth Ministry and Scout Awards Celebration. Adult awards are presented every other year.



Good Samaritan

The **Good Samaritan** is a Diocesan Award given in recognition of services to the Catholic Committee and for the advancement and promotion of religious awards.

Candidates are nominated by the Catholic Committee. The candidates or groups are not directly involved in Scouting or Camp Fire, but without their help and support, the work of the Catholic Committee would be impeded.

The presentation of the Good Samaritan Award takes place at the Annual Catholic Youth Ministry and Scout Awards Celebration. Adult awards are presented every other year.



Saint Anne Award

The **Saint Anne Award** is the highest national recognition for adults who serve Catholic Youth through organizations such as Girl Scouts and Camp Fire. Its purpose is to honor the outstanding service of adults who contribute to the spiritual development of Catholic young people in Girl Scouts and other girls' organizations.

Candidates are nominated by anyone who has witnessed the outstanding spiritual influence a leader possesses and encourages in their groups. Selections are made by the sub-committee of the Diocesan Catholic Committee with the approval of the Diocesan Scout Chaplain and the Director of Youth Ministry. Recipients should be adults currently active with the organizations served (ideally, registered members). Awards may be given to clergy, religious, non-Catholics, laymen or women. Catholic recipients should be exemplary Catholics with the support of their parish community and their respective pastors. Non-Catholic recipients should also be supported by their congregation and clergy.

A minimum of seven years of active service to youth as an adult member is required. The recipient should promote the religious recognition program for Catholic members and/or serve as a counselor.

Nomination forms and eligibility requirements are available through the Office of Catholic Youth Ministry, One Cathedral Square, Providence RI 02903, or through a Catholic Committee on Scouting member.

The award is presented by the Bishop at the Annual Catholic Youth Ministry and Scout Awards Celebration. Adult awards are presented every other year.



Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Award

The Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Award recognizes the meritorious contributions of adults who serve Catholic Youth through Girl Scouting and Camp Fire programs in the Diocese of Providence. A minimum of five years of service is required.

The Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton award was created by the Department of Education, USCC in 1980 to recognize the significant contributions of persons serving the spiritual needs of Catholic members in national organizations serving girls. This award seeks out those who have contributed notably to the spiritual development of the Catholic members, such as retreats, days of recollection, Girl Scout/CampFire Sunday observances, etc. and promotes the religious recognition programs available to Catholic members in the Diocese and/or serves as a counselor.

Nomination forms and eligibility requirements are available through the Office of Catholic Youth Ministry, One Cathedral Square, Providence RI 02903, or through a member of the Catholic Committee on Scouting.

The award is presented by the Bishop at the Annual Catholic Youth Ministry and Scout Awards Celebration. Adult awards are presented every other year.

Religious Emblems Counselors And Moderator Training

All Scouting religious award counselors are required to complete training in order to work with youth for Awards.

The purpose of the training is threefold:

to ensure an understanding of the guidelines and philosophy of working with youth espoused by this Diocese and its Office of Catholic Youth Ministry;

to provide consistent information about the required procedures and policies for each of the Awards; and

for mutual support: to provide a forum for an idea exchange, and “best practices: what works, and what doesn’t.”

This training has been created to assist in protecting all counselors as well as the youth we serve. The training program addresses the following topics: Religious Awards as Youth Ministry, Compliance and Volunteer Guidelines for Working with Youth, Overview of Award Procedures, and Workshops for each specific [counselor required] award.

This is a required training for all counselors/committee members, regardless of number of years of service or qualifications. Persons completing this program will receive a certificate authorizing them [with proper Scouting credentials] to serve as Religious Awards Counselors for youth in the Diocese of Providence.

Catholic Scouter Development

Catholic Scouter Development is a program of service, dedication and purpose developed primarily for adult Catholic leaders in Scouting. Special emphasis is given to the spiritual enrichment of unit leaders, den leaders, religious emblems counselors and moderators, scouting coordinators and all scouters on unit, district and council levels. This program, through its purpose and goals, aims to form in scouters a truly Christian approach and motivation to their apostolic work.

Catholic Scouter Development is offered periodically. For further details, please contact a member of the Catholic Committee on Scouting or the Diocesan Office of Catholic Youth Ministry, One Cathedral Square, Providence, RI 02903-3695 at 401-278-4626.



Camp-O-REAT A Camping Retreat Experience

“A Scout is Reverent...”

The Camp-O-REAT is a religious program designed to help our scouts grow spiritually. The challenge and adventure in combining a camping trip with retreat activities provide them with a unique experience, through which they will develop and strengthen their insights into our faith and in the community. Youth ministry ... in the woods!

Scheduled in the autumn, the Camp-O-REAT frequently provides scouts with an appropriate way to begin a unit’s program year. This retreat is a period of “prime time” for God, consisting of prayer, spiritual input, quiet reflection, and activities designed to awaken, confirm and strengthen the scout’s relationship with God.

Specific date and program information are announced each year by the Diocesan Catholic Committee on Scouting and the Diocesan Scout Chaplain.

Suggested Websites

Diocese of Providence

www.dioceseofprovidence.org

Office of Catholic Youth Ministry www.CatholicYouthRI.org

National Catholic Committee on Scouting

www.nccs-bsa.org

National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry

www.nfcym.org

National Catholic Committee for Girl Scouts and Camp Fire

www.nfcym.org/gscf/structure.htm