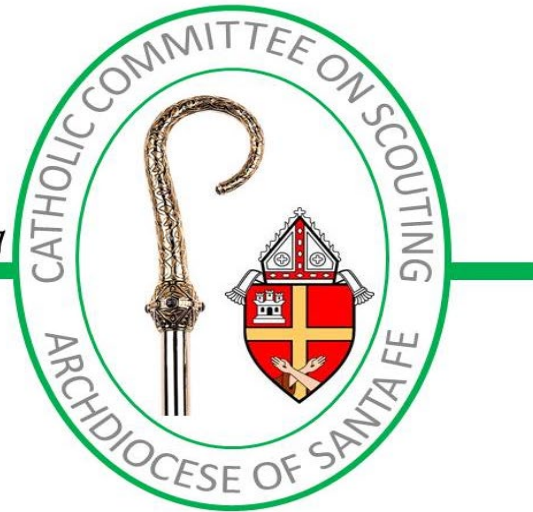


Catholic Committee on Scouting
ARCHDIOCESE OF SANTA FE



Quick Reference Guide

on

How to Earn Catholic Religious Awards In the Archdiocese of Santa Fe

For questions send email to
ReligiousAwards@catholicscoutsnm.org

This guide is current as of January 2025

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For all the awards in this pamphlet, if they are being worked on in a group setting, adults and youth must ensure applicable youth protection procedures are followed and applied:

All adults in the Archdiocese of Santa Fe (AoSF)

All adults who work with youth in the Archdiocese of Santa Fe must be current with and hold a training certificate for the course “Protecting God’s Children Online Awareness”. Training is accessible at

<https://www.virtusonline.org/virtus/productsandservices.cfm#pgc>

Note: one will need to have an account to proceed with this training.

Provide the training certificate to this email address prior to working on any of the awards in a group setting: ReligiousAwards@catholicscoutsnm.org

For Girl Scouts of the USA

Adults must be registered in Girl Scouts of the USA, have a current approved background check with Girl Scouts of New Mexico Trails and have completed the GSUSA Girl Scouts Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Course. Email customercare@nmgirlscouts.org to get access to the training.

Adults will also need the above mentioned “Protecting God’s Children Online Awareness”.

For Scouting America

Adults must be registered in Scouting America (for background check purposes) and current (with a valid training certificate) on Scouting America’s Youth Protection Training (YPT). Training can be found at: <https://www.scouting.org/training/youth-protection/>

Adults will also need the above mentioned “Protecting God’s Children Online Awareness”.

For all youth members of Girl Scouts of the USA, and Scouting America

Pillars of Faith

Archdiocese of Santa Fe endorses and presents this unique and special recognition for members of the Girl Scouts of the USA; or Scouting America who have earned all four of the traditional Roman Catholic religious awards for their respective program. Scouts must have earned the following to be eligible for this recognition:

<u>Girl Scouts USA</u>	<u>Scouting America</u>
Family of God	Light of Christ
I live my Faith	Parvuli Dei
Marian Medal	Ad Altare Dei
Spirit Alive	Pope Pius XII

To obtain the award:

1. After the youth has earned all four of the listed awards in their respective program download the application form from this link:
http://catholicscoutsnm.org/Downloads/PillarsofFaithApplication_2020.pdf
2. Completely fill out the application form.
3. Email the completed application form to ReligiousAwards@catholicscoutsnm.org
4. After the CCOS reviews the application, the Scout leader listed on the application form will be notified of the approved achievement and the current award fee.
5. The Pillars of Faith Award will be presented at the Annual Catholic Scout Conferral Mass held in the fall.

American Heritage Girls

American Heritage Girls

To earn any of the below awards:

1. Visit this website to purchase applicable workbooks:
<https://americanheritagegirls.org/alliances/national-catholic-committee/>
2. Complete the outlined activities.
3. Have Unit Leader or Parent verify completion of the requirements.
4. When requirement completion is verified the Unit Leader or parent purchases the award through the website link in item number 1 above.
5. Present the patch at the next unit awards ceremony. Earned patches may be worn on the back of the sash or vest.

TENDERHEART (ages 6-9)

Deus et Familia Mea (God and My Family)

Deus et Familia Mea guides Catholic Tenderhearts through an awareness of who they are as children of God in the family of the Catholic Church. Girls will learn about the Holy Mass, sacraments, traditions and history of the Catholic Church with fun, hands-on activities. Tenderhearts are encouraged to explore and perform works of charity for their families and neighbors.

EXPLORER (ages 9-12)

Deus et Patria Mea (God and My Country)

Deus et Patria Mea allows Catholic Explorers to learn about various saints representing the United States of America. Explorers enrich their faith by exploring Catholic elements that are most important to those saints, including the Eucharist, Corporal Works of Mercy, and missionary work. Deus et Patria Mea is thought-provoking, hands-on, and will foster a desire in Explorers to serve Jesus Christ through the Catholic Church.

PIONEER (ages 12-14)

Deus et Civita Mea (God and My Community)

Deus et Civitas Mea guides Catholic Pioneers to examine service in their community through Sacred Scripture and Catholic Church Tradition. Girls learn the importance of preparing to serve through prayer and learning about people who exemplified service in

their lives. Pioneers put what they have learned into practice by serving others and by reflecting on the impact of their service.

PATRIOT (ages 14-18)

Femina Integritatis (Woman of Integrity)

Femina Integritatis encourages Catholic Patriots to internalize and immerse themselves in what it means to be a Catholic Woman of Integrity. Prayer and discussion are essential elements of this study with opportunities for outings and engaging speakers. Through study of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, Our Blessed Mother, the lives of the saints, and the sacraments, Patriots discern God's call for their lives after high school.

SPECIAL PATCHES

The above AHG website also has special patch offerings like (list is not all inclusive):

- Eucharistic Revival Patch
- AHG's Respect Life Patch
- Fatima 100th Anniversary Patch
- NCC Religious Vocations Patch
- Year of St. Joseph Patch

AHG participants can also earn the Special Patches found on the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry website:

<https://nfcym.org/programs/nccgscf/religious-recognition-programs-patches/>

And the "all religious activities" listed on the National Catholic Committee on Scouting website: <https://nccs-bsa.org/download/all-religious-activities/>

**Girl Scouts
of the USA
and
Camp Fire
(with some American
Heritage Girls)**

Girl Scouts of the USA / Camp Fire

There are many options for Catholic Religious Awards sponsored by the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry (NFCYM). The awards are designed for youth who are members of Girl Scouts of the USA, Camp Fire, American Heritage Girls, and other Catholic youth organizations. They can all be found at the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry website:

<https://nfcym.org/programs/nccgscf/religious-recognition-programs-patches/>

The Catholic Identity Patch Program

This is a series of about 18 different patches to earn after completing a set of requirements outlined for each patch.

To earn any or all the offerings in this series of patches:

1. Visit this website for down-loadable fact sheets and requirements documents: <https://nfcym.org/programs/nccgscf/religious-recognition-programs-patches/>
2. Scout with Parent/Guardian completes the outlined activities.
3. Have Unit Leader or Parent verify completion of the requirements.
4. When requirement completion is verified the Unit Leader or parent purchases the patch through the NFCYM online store: <https://nfcym.org/store/>
5. Present the patch at the next unit awards ceremony. Earned patches may be worn on the back of the sash or vest.

Special Patch Programs

The Eucharistic Revival Patch Program

<https://nfcym.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/Eucharistic-Revival-Patch.pdf>

Our Lady of Fatima Patch

https://nfcym.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/OurLadyofFatimaPatchActivities_7.22.20.pdf

Our Lady of Guadalupe Patch

https://nfcym.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/OurLadyofGuadalupepatchrequirements_7.22.20.pdf

To earn any or all the offerings in the Special Patch series of patches:

1. Visit this website for down-loadable fact sheets and requirements documents.
2. Complete the outlined activities.
3. Have Unit Leader or Parent/Guardian verify completion of the requirements.

4. When requirement completion is verified the Unit Leader or parent purchases the patch through the NFCYM online store at: <https://nfcym.org/store/>
 5. The unit leader will be informed when the approved award is available to be presented at a unit awards ceremony. Earned patches may be worn on the back of the sash or vest.
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Girl Scouts of the USA and American Heritage Girls

Child of God

The Child of God award is the official religious recognition program of the Catholic Committee on Scouting, Archdiocese of Santa Fe, designed primarily for girls in the Daisies, Girl Scouts of the USA, in **kindergarten or 1st grade**.

The purpose of this award is to make girls aware of the role they play in their family, Church and Friend circle and how to relate to God in all settings.

How to earn this award:

1. Download the workbook: <http://catholicscoutsnm.org/Downloads/ChildofGod.pdf>
2. The Scout and Parents/Guardians work through the workbook
3. Upon completion of the program's workbook fill out the application form at the end of the workbook and obtain all signatures.
4. Contact the Archdiocese of Santa Fe CCOS by email to ReligiousAwards@catholicscoutsnm.org for where to send the award fee and completed workbook for review and approval.
5. The unit leader will be informed when the approved award is available to be presented at a unit awards ceremony.

Ave Maria

The Ave Maria award is the official religious recognition program of the Catholic Committee on Scouting, Archdiocese of Santa Fe, designed for Brownies in Girl Scouts and Campfire Girls (**2nd or 3rd grade**).

The purpose of this award is to help young girls become aware of themselves, neighbors, and their personal relationship with God.

How to earn this award:

1. Download the workbook:
<http://catholicscoutsnm.org/Downloads/AveMaria2020.pdf>
2. The Scout and Parents/Guardians work through the workbook
3. Upon completion of the program's workbook fill out the application form at the end of the workbook and obtain all signatures.
4. Contact the Archdiocese of Santa Fe CCOS by email to ReligiousAwards@catholicscoutsnm.org for where to send the award fee and completed workbook for review and approval.
5. The unit leader will be informed when the approved award is available to be presented at a unit awards ceremony.

God Is Love



The God Is Love program is sponsored by the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry (NFCYM) and is designed for students who are in **kindergarten or first grade** in Camp Fire, American Heritage Girls, Daisies in Girl Scouts, and other Catholic youth organizations.

The program helps students discover an appreciation that God created, cares for, and loves us all.

How to earn this award:

1. Purchase the workbook at:
<https://nfcym.org/product/god-is-love-book/>
2. The Scout and Parent/Guardian work through the workbook.
3. Upon completion of the program's workbook fill out the application form at the end of the workbook and obtain all signatures.
4. Contact the Archdiocese of Santa Fe CCOS by email to ReligiousAwards@catholicscoutsnm.org for where to send the award fee and completed workbook for review and approval.
5. The unit leader will be informed when the approved award is available to be presented at a unit awards ceremony.

Family of God



Family of God is the official religious recognition program of the Roman Catholic Church, sponsored by NFCYM, for children in **2nd and 3rd grades** who are enrolled as Brownies in the Girl Scouts, Camp Fire, American Heritage Girls, and other Catholic youth organizations.

Family of God is an activity series developed to complement the catechetical efforts of the parish and families helping children discover the presence of God in their daily lives as members of their family and parish. Booklet includes guide for adults. The six chapters cover:

1. I Am Special to My Family
2. I Am Special to God's Family
3. I Belong to My Family
4. I Belong to God's Family
5. I Can Help My Family
6. I Can Help God's Family

How to earn this award:

1. Purchase the workbook at: <https://nfcym.org/product/family-of-god-book/>
2. The Scout and Parents/Guardians work through the workbook.
3. Upon completion of the program's workbook fill out the application form at the end of the workbook and obtain all signatures.
4. Contact the Archdiocese of Santa Fe CCOS by email to ReligiousAwards@catholicscoutsnm.org for where to send the award fee and completed workbook for review and approval.
5. The unit will be informed when the approved award is available to be presented at a unit awards ceremony.

I Live My Faith



The I Live My Faith program is designed to help Juniors and Cadettes in Girl Scouts and Camp Fire members, **grades 4-6**, appreciate more deeply the place that God and religion occupy in their daily lives. The program is structured on the Catechism of the Catholic Church with the themes of: Belief, Sacraments, Catholic Christian Living, and Prayer.

Each theme provides a variety of opportunities for young people to explore the Catholic faith including art, technology, research, drama, and prayer.

Within each chapter, youth are challenged to Discover, Learn, and Connect Catholic Church teaching to their lives while incorporating Prayer throughout the process. I Live My Faith complements and supports the more formal religious education provided in Catholic schools and parish programs.

How to earn this award:

1. Purchase the workbook at: <https://nfcym.org/product/i-live-my-faith-book/>
2. The Scout and Parents/Guardians work through the workbook.
3. Upon completion of the program's workbook fill out the application form at the end of the workbook and obtain all signatures.
4. Contact the Archdiocese of Santa Fe CCOS by email to ReligiousAwards@catholicscoutsnm.org for where to send the award fee and completed workbook for review and approval.
5. The unit leader will be informed when the approved award is available to be presented at a unit awards ceremony.

Marian Medal



Mary, the First Disciple award is written for young Catholics in **grades 7-10** who are enrolled as Cadettes and Seniors in the Girl Scouts, Camp Fire, American Heritage Girls, and other Catholic youth organizations to enable them to “proclaim the greatness of the Lord.” This is accomplished by actively involving the participants in an understanding of Mary as a model of openness and spirituality—a woman of the church. Young people will meet Mary in scripture as a young teenager, follow her journey, and watch her grow into the woman known as the Mother of God. Through interviews, role-plays, service projects, reflection questions, and prayer the program will help students also learn more about themselves.

How to earn this award:

1. Purchase the workbook at:
<https://nfcym.org/product/mary-the-first-disciple-book/>
2. The Scout and Parents/Guardians work through the workbook.
3. Upon completion of the program's workbook fill out the application form at the end of the workbook and obtain all signatures.
4. Contact the Archdiocese of Santa Fe CCOS by email to ReligiousAwards@catholicscoutsnm.org for where to send the award fee and completed workbook for review and approval.

5. The unit leader will be informed when the approved award is available to be presented at a unit awards ceremony.

Spirit Alive



This program is designed for Catholic youth in **grades 9 through 12** who are enrolled as Seniors or Ambassadors in Girl Scouts or Horizon Club members of Camp Fire Boys and Girls. The book may be used by those in other Catholic youth organizations. It assists them in discovering how the Holy Spirit moves in their lives, calling them to greater participation in the church's ministry. Its four chapters are titled:

1. The Holy Spirit Alive in Scripture
2. The Holy Spirit Alive in the Catholic Church
3. The Holy Spirit Alive in Prayer
4. The Holy Spirit Alive in Your Life

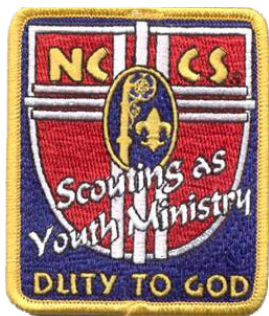
How to earn this award:

1. Purchase the workbook and separate Adult's guide at:
<https://nfcym.org/product/the-spirit-alive-book/>
2. The Scout and Parents/Guardians work through the workbook.
3. Complete the Service project component in Chapter 4.
4. Upon completion of the program's workbook fill out the application form at the end of the workbook and obtain all signatures.
5. Contact the Archdiocese of Santa Fe CCOS by email to ReligiousAwards@catholicscoutsnm.org for where to send the award fee and completed workbook for review and approval.
6. The unit will be informed when the approved award is available to be presented at a unit awards ceremony.

Scouting America

(formerly Boy Scouts of America)

Duty to God Recognition



This recognition is available to everyone...Scout, Catholic Scouting leader, Parish or Catholic School Leader or any person who utilizes Catholic Scouting to instill in Catholic youth and adults the tenants of the Catholic Faith, furthering the mission of Catholic Scouting. Please see <https://nccs-bsa.org/duty-to-god-recognition/> for more on this award.

There are no specific requirements to complete. Rather this award is made at the discretion of the local Catholic Committee on Scouting.

To recommend a person(s) for this award send an email with details and a small paragraph with justification to: ReligiousAwards@catholicscoutsnm.org

Below are some examples (not all encompassing) of who could receive this award:





- Youth Ministers, Directors of Religious Education and Faith Formation coordinators who support Scouting
- Adult Leaders of Packs, Troops, Venture and Sea Scout Crews
- Religious Emblems Counselors
- Pack, Troop, Sea Scout and Venture Crews working on/Completing Religious Emblem(s)
- Clergy – priests, religious and bishops supporting Scouting
- Youth/Adult Members of National Catholic Quality Unit Award – Pope Paul VI
- Youth/Adult completing a service project or attending a retreat
- Youth/Adult member of a Gold Medallion Unit winner or finalist
- Youth/Adult participating in the St. George Trek
- Person(s) contacted to start a new unit
- Person(s) completing another phase of training
- Unit(s) presenting their own clergy, youth ministers, etc., involved in “Scouting as Youth Ministry”
- Members of Diocesan/Eparchial Catholic Committees on Scouting
- Attendees at Philmont Training Center (Scouting in the Catholic Church)
- Attendees at an NCCS Biennial Conference
- Actively serving on an NCCS Committee
- Members of non-Catholic sponsored units encouraging its Catholics to earn Catholic Religious Emblems Awards

Special Awards

Scouts (and Adults) can earn one or all the series of patches and activities in the below graphic. All are sponsored on the National Catholic Committee on Scouting website: <https://nccs-bsa.org/religious-activities/>

To earn these patches:

1. Download the forms/requirements from the above website for the specific patch and work on the requirements.
2. Scout and Parent/Guardian completes the award requirements.
3. Unit Leadership/Parent/Guardian obtains the patch from the NCCS store: <https://nccshop.org/>
4. Unit Leadership presents the award at a unit awards ceremony.

<p>ROSARY SERIES</p> <p>The Rosary Series focuses on the Mysteries of the Holy Rosary and How to Pray the Rosary. This is an opportunity for youth and adults to learn more about their faith.</p> 	<p>MARIAN SERIES</p> <p>The Marian Series examines seven of the Marian feasts commemorated in the United States, including the only Church-recognized Marian apparition in our country. The goal of each activity in this series is to learn more about how and why the Church has honored our Holy Mother Mary for nearly 2,000 years.</p> 	<p>AMERICAN SAINT SERIES</p> <p>These activities honor men and women who led heroic lives of faith that have greatly influenced American Catholics. Their words, their deeds, and their devotion to prayer and the sacraments inspire all American Catholics. Most of these men and women lived and worked in what is now the United States. They have all had a huge impact on the Catholic American landscape. All of them sought to follow Jesus.</p> 
<p>RELIGIOUS TRAIL SERIES</p> <p>The Religious Trail series helps Scouts deepen their faith by visiting revered religious sites, which can be considered a spiritual pilgrimage, a long-standing tradition in the Catholic Church. The Catechism tells us that "pilgrimages evoke our earthly journey toward heaven and are traditionally very special occasions for renewal in prayer." We will offer additional Trails as part of this series as we develop them. Our first activity is focused on Washington DC.</p> 		
<p>HERITAGE SERIES</p> <p>The Heritage Series includes a limited number of long-standing Religious Activities to which some groups share a special devotion.</p>		

International Awards



The National Catholic Committee on Scouting (NCCS) sponsors several International Series of Awards that can be earned by Scouts in various age groups and adults. The Scout and Adult can download the requirements here:

<https://nccs-bsa.org/religious-activities/international-awareness/>

The medallion/patch/pin award program is available to the following age groups with the following recognition emblems:

Grades 1-5: earn a pin and patch

Grades 6-8: earn a medallion and patch

Grades 9-12: earn a medallion and patch

Adults: earn a medallion and patch

Once the age/grade requirements are complete; Unit leader reviews/verifies completion.

The Unit's leadership can arrange to purchase the medallion, patch and pin through the NCCS online store at: <https://nccsshop.org/>

There are two International related Religious Activity Patches

1. The Laudato Si Activity Patch.
2. The Venerable Jacques Sevin Activity Patch.

To earn either of these activity patches:

- a. These patches can be earned by any youth or adult, Scouts/Scouters and non-Scouts/non-Scouters; Catholic or non-Catholic, American or international...All are welcome to participate in this program.
- b. To earn either/both activity patch(es) download the requirements from: <https://nccs-bsa.org/religious-activities/international-awareness/>
- c. Unit Leader verifies completion of the requirements and purchases the patches at the NCCS online store: <https://nccsshop.org/>

Light of Christ



The purpose of the Light of Christ emblem program is to help the Cub Scout develop a personal relationship with Jesus. With the Parents'/Guardian's active assistance and participation in this program, it is hoped that the Scout will come to see Jesus as a real person and friend. This award is for registered Catholic Cub Scouts (Tiger or Wolf) who are 6-7 years old.

The objectives of the Light of Christ program are:

- Support parent's or guardian's role as primary catechists of their children
- Scouts identify Jesus as a real person and as a friend
- To foster early family religious involvement
- To be a steppingstone toward Parvuli Dei and the other higher Catholic Religious Emblems
- To serve as a catalyst to draw the parents into a deeper involvement with the Church, through their child

How to earn this award:

1. Purchase a personal copy of the most current copy of *Light of Christ Activity Book*. There are English and Spanish versions. Visit the Scout Shop in Albuquerque, or visit: <https://www.scoutshop.org/> or <https://nccsshop.org/>
2. Parents/Guardians and their Cub Scout jointly work through the workbook (readings, activities, discussions, etc). If doing this award in a group setting Scouting America's youth protection rules/principles must be followed and training must be current.

Note: the workbook could be completed in four to six hours; however, the goal of earning the Light of Christ Religious Emblem is to help the Cub Scout develop a personal relationship with Jesus. It is suggested that this award not be rushed as it will help the Cub Scout understand that development of their faith is a long-term commitment, not a one-time project.

3. If there are any program questions and to gain better clarification obtain and use the program's online parent guide <https://nccs-bsa.org/download/light-of-christ-parent-guide/>

Program Completion and Recognition

1. When the workbook is completed, the Cub Scout is to present the *Light of Christ Activity Book* to his/her pastor or the pastor's representative. The book is jointly reviewed by the Parish official and the Cub Scout.
2. If satisfied with the work accomplished, the Parish official signs the *Light of Christ Activity Book* and the application form included inside/with the activity book.
3. Parent/Guardian contacts the Archdiocese of Santa Fe CCOS by email to ReligiousAwards@catholicscoutsnm.org for where to send the award fee and completed workbook for review and approval.
4. The CCOS will review for accuracy and completeness then coordinate with the Scout's parents or guardian for purchase of the associated medal.
5. The Light of Christ Award will be presented at the Annual Catholic Scout Conferral Mass held in the fall.

Parvuli Dei



The purpose of the Parvuli Dei (Children of God) emblem program is to help Cub Scouts explore a wide range of activities in order to discover the presence of God in their daily lives as members of their families and parishes, and also to develop a good, positive self-image through the contributions they can make to their family, pack and community. This award is for registered Catholic Cub Scouts (Bear or Webelos) who are 8-10 years old.

Program Objectives

- To help the Scout develop an awareness of God's love for each one of His special, unique created beings
- To help the Scout become aware and understand his/her identity as an important member of his/her family, his/her community, and as a member of the Family of God
- To continue to develop awareness as members of the parish and the Body of Christ
- To aid the Scout in his/her awareness of the responsibilities that grow out of God's love for us

How to earn this award:

1. Each Cub should have his/her own *Parvuli Dei Activity Book*. To obtain a copy visit the Scout Shop in Albuquerque or visit: <https://www.scoutshop.org/> or <https://nccsshop.org/>
2. Parents/Guardians and their Cub Scout jointly work through the workbook (readings, activities, discussions, etc).
Note: the workbook could be completed in four to six hours; however, the goal of earning the Parvuli Dei Religious Emblem is to help the Cub Scout develop a personal relationship with Jesus. It is suggested that this award not be rushed as it will help the Cub Scout understand that development of their faith is a long-term commitment, not a one-time project.
3. The Cub will make a banner as part of the program.
4. If working in a group setting (like in a Den meeting) Archdiocesan and Scouting America Youth Protection policies must be followed with and adults must have a current training certificate.

5. If there are any program questions and to gain better clarification of requirements, obtain and use the program's online parent guide <https://nccs-bsa.org/download/parvuli-dei-parent-guide/progress>

Program Completion and Recognition

1. When the workbook is completed, the Cub Scout is to present the *Parvuli Dei Activity Book* to his/her pastor or the pastor's representative. The book is jointly reviewed by the Parish official and the Cub Scout.
2. If satisfied with the work accomplished, the Parish official signs the *Parvuli Dei Activity Book* and the application form included inside/with the activity book.
3. Parent/Guardian contacts the Archdiocese of Santa Fe CCOS by email to ReligiousAwards@catholicscoutsnm.org for where to send the award fee and completed workbook for review and approval.
4. The CCOS will review for accuracy and completeness then coordinate with the Scout's parents or guardian for purchase of the associated medal.
5. The Parvuli Dei Award will be presented at the Annual Catholic Scout Conferral Mass held in the fall.

Light is Life



The purpose of the Light is Life emblem program is to help Scouts of the Eastern Catholic Rites develop a fully Christian way of life in the faith community. Light is Life respects the cultural and ritual differences among the various Eastern Rite Catholic Churches. Scouts who are members of the Eastern-rite Catholic Churches are to work on Light is Life instead of the Ad Altare Dei emblem. It is not appropriate for a Scout to work on both programs. This award is appropriate for Scouts aged 12 or 13 years old and can be earned up until the Scout's 18th birthday.

Program Objectives

The Scout grows in his/her spiritual experience of his/her relationship with God and the Church.

How to earn this award:

1. Each Scout must have his/her own *Light is Life Scout Manual*. The book is designed for the youth to work through with the guidance of a counselor. To obtain a copy See either: <https://www.scoutshop.org/> or <https://nccsshop.org/>
2. Each Scout must have a personal copy of a Catholic Bible.
3. The program is designed to be completed within 12 months.
4. Regular participation in Sunday Mass is required.
5. The program is facilitated by a program counselor. Ask your Scoutmaster, pastor, parish administrator, director of religious education, or any member of the troop committee if the unit has a trained program counselor. If one does not exist email ReligiousAwards@catholicscoutsnm.org for guidance on how to connect with a program counselor or to obtain the training to become one.
6. After the Scout selects a counselor, the Scout must complete the application to begin working on the Light is Life emblem. The application is in the *Light is Life Scout Manual*. The application is signed by the following people:
 - a. The signature of your parents/guardians stating that they approve of your involvement in the program.
 - b. The program counselor signs committing that he/she is willing to work with you on the program.

- c. Your Scoutmaster/Advisor/Skipper signs certifying that you have met all the requirements to start the program, and that he/she is aware of your involvement in the program.
 - d. Your Pastor signs approval for you to work on and receive the emblem.
7. When working with the program counselor all Archdiocesan safe environment and BSA Youth Protection policies must be followed. Counselor and other attending adults must have current youth protection training certificate.
 8. Upon completion of the workbook and the program counselor approves/certifies completion of the program; the Scout then must successfully complete a Light is Life Board of Review.
 9. The program counselor will coordinate with the CCOS for review of the completed workbook and to schedule a board of review date and time. Send an email to ReligiousAwards@catholicscoutsnm.org for this step.
 10. After successful completion of the Board of Review the Scout will be recognized and conferred with the Light is Life Medal. The youth may choose how to receive this recognition with the following options: At an Eastern Rite Mass; at the Annual Catholic Scout Conferral Mass held in the fall; or both.

Counselor's Role

1. Counselors for the Light is Life emblem shall be approved in advance by the Archdiocese of Santa Fe CCOS.
2. Counselors will use the *Light is Life Counselor Guide*, as an integral part of this program. The guide contains the necessary resources for anyone, including those unfamiliar with Eastern Christianity. The *Light is Life Counselor Guide* can be obtained from either: <https://www.scoutshop.org/> or <https://nccsshop.org/>
3. All Religious Emblem Counselors and Facilitators must have current BSA Youth Protection training certificate and meet local safe environment practices.
4. Hold all scheduled meetings.
5. Examine the Scout's *Light is Life Scout Manual* as he/she proceeds through each step of the program. The counselor will sign and date the certification of completion for the step.
6. The program counselor will coordinate with the Archdiocese of Santa Fe CCOS for review of the completed workbook, obtain information on how parents/guardian can pay the award's fee and to schedule a board of review date and time. Send an email to ReligiousAwards@catholicscoutsnm.org for this step.

Earning the Light is Life Award fulfills one of the requirements needed to apply for the annual National Catholic Committee on Scouting (NCCS) scholarship competition. For more details visit: <https://nccs-bsa.org/college-scholarships/>

Ad Altare Dei Award



The Ad Altare Dei award is for Scouts of the Roman Catholic Rite and who are registered in a BSA Troop, Venturing Crew or Sea Scouts Ship. Scouts who are members of the Eastern-rite Catholic Churches are to work on Light is Life instead of the Ad Altare Dei emblem. It is not appropriate for a Scout to work on both programs. This award is appropriate for Scouts aged 12 or 13 years old and can be earned up until the Scout's 18th birthday.

Program Objectives

The Scout grows in his/her spiritual experience of his/her relationship with God and the Church.

How to earn this award:

1. Each Scout must have his/her own *Ad Altare Dei Scout Manual*. The book is designed for the youth to work through with the guidance of a counselor. To obtain a copy visit the Scout Shop in Albuquerque, or visit: <https://www.scoutshop.org/> or <https://nccsshop.org/>
2. Each Scout must have a personal copy of a Catholic Bible.
3. The program is designed to be completed within 12 months.
4. Regular participation in Sunday Mass is required.
5. The program is facilitated by a program counselor. Ask your Scoutmaster, pastor, parish administrator, director of religious education, or any member of the troop committee if the unit has a trained program counselor. If one does not exist email ReligiousAwards@catholicscoutsnm.org for guidance on how to connect with a program counselor or to obtain the training to become one.
6. After the Scout selected a counselor, the Scout must complete the application to begin working on the Light is Life emblem. The application is in the *Ad Altare Dei Scout Manual*. The application is signed by the following people:
 - a. The signature of your parents/guardians stating that they approve of your involvement in the program.
 - b. The program counselor signs committing that he/she is willing to work with you on the program.

- c. Your Scoutmaster/Advisor/Skipper signs certifying that you have met all the requirements to start the program, and that he/she is aware of your involvement in the program.
 - d. Your Pastor signs approval for you to work on and receive the emblem.
7. When working with the program counselor all Archdiocesan safe environment and BSA Youth Protection policies must be followed.
 8. Upon completion of the workbook and the program counselor approves/certifies completion of the program; the Scout then must successfully complete an Ad Altare Dei Board of Review.
 9. The program counselor will coordinate with the CCOS for review of the completed workbook and to schedule a board of review date and time. Send an email to ReligiousAwards@catholicscoutsnm.org for this step.
 10. After successful completion of the Board of Review the Scout will be recognized and conferred with the Ad Altare Dei Medal at the Annual Catholic Scout Conferral Mass held in the fall.

Counselor's Role

1. Counselors for the Ad Altare Dei emblem shall be approved in advance by the Archdiocese of Santa Fe CCOS.
2. Counselors will use the *Ad Altare Dei Counselor Guide*, as an integral part of this program. The guide can be obtained from either: <https://www.scoutshop.org/> or <https://nccsshop.org/>
3. All Religious Emblem Counselors and Facilitators must have current BSA Youth Protection training certificate and meet local safe environment practices.
4. Hold all scheduled meetings.
5. Examine the Scout's *Ad Altare Dei Manual* as he/she proceeds through each step of the program. The counselor will sign and date the certification of completion for the step.
6. The program counselor will coordinate with the Archdiocese of Santa Fe CCOS for review of the completed workbook, obtain emblem fee, and to schedule a board of review date and time. Send an email to ReligiousAwards@catholicscoutsnm.org for this step.

Earning the Ad Altare Dei Award fulfills one of the requirements needed to apply for the annual National Catholic Committee on Scouting (NCCS) scholarship competition. For more details visit: <https://nccs-bsa.org/college-scholarships/>

Pope Pius XII



The purpose of the Pope Pius XII emblem program is to help older Scouts 15-18 years old and Venturers and Sea Scouts 15-20 years old explore vocations (single, married, religious, ordained) and ministries in the Church as calls from God. The journey to earning the Pope Pius XII award includes youth led discussions on current issues facing the Church and society, which are normally included as part of a dedicated retreat or day of recollection.

Per NCCS verification, The Pope Pius XII emblem is only offered to Scouts in the Roman Catholic Rite.

Program Objectives

Assist older Scouts explore and learn about the various vocations in the Catholic Faith (single, married, religious, ordained).

It is a good practice to work on this award along with Confirmation classes.

How to earn this award:

1. Each Scout must have his/her own *Pope Pius XII Participant Manual*. The book is designed for the youth to work through with the guidance of a counselor. To obtain a copy visit the Scout Shop in Albuquerque or visit: <https://www.scoutshop.org/> or <https://nccsshop.org/>
2. Each Scout must have a personal copy of a Catholic Bible.
3. The program is designed to be run by the candidates themselves; the Religious Emblems Counselor serves as a moderator.
4. Ideal group size is four to 12 participants. The course may be run with smaller groups.
5. The program is designed to be completed in nine to 12 sessions (generally two-hours in length). Session meetings will be set by the group's participants.
6. Regular participation in all sessions is mandatory. This also includes a set number of interviews of other Catholics, and an investigation of a controversial issue facing the Church or society.
7. Candidates participate in a retreat experience, ideally centered on the Pius XII program itself.
8. Complete a ministries service project as outlined in the manual.
9. The program is facilitated by a program counselor. Ask your Scoutmaster, pastor, parish administrator, director of religious education, or any member of the troop committee if the unit has a trained program counselor. If one does not exist email ReligiousAwards@catholicscoutsnm.org for guidance on how to connect with a program counselor or to obtain the training to become one.

10. After the Scout selected a counselor, the Scout must complete the application to begin working on the Pope Pius XII emblem. The application is in the program manual. The application is signed by the following people:
 - a. The signature of your parents/guardians stating that they approve of your involvement in the program.
 - b. The program counselor signs committing that he/she is willing to work with you on the program.
 - c. Your Unit Leader (Scoutmaster, Advisor, or Skipper) signs certifying that you meet the requirements to start the program, and that he/she is aware of your involvement in the program.
 - d. Your Pastor signs approval for you to work on and receive the emblem.
11. When working with the program counselor all Archdiocesan safe environment and BSA Youth Protection policies must be followed.
12. Upon completion of the workbook and the program counselor approves/certifies completion of the program; then the Scout must successfully complete a Pope Pius XII Board of Review.
13. The program counselor will coordinate with the CCOS for review of the completed workbook and to schedule a board of review date and time. Send an email to ReligiousAwards@catholicscoutsnm.org for this step.
14. After successful completion of the Board of Review the Scout will be recognized and conferred with the Pope Pius XII Medal at the Annual Catholic Scout Conferral Mass held in the fall.

Counselor's Role

1. Counselors for the Pope Pius XII emblem shall be approved in advance by the Archdiocese of Santa Fe CCOS.
2. Counselors will use the *Pope Pius XII Counselor Guide*, as an integral part of this program. The guide can be obtained from either: <https://www.scoutshop.org/> or <https://nccsshop.org/>
3. All Religious Emblem Counselors and Facilitators must have current BSA Youth Protection training certificate and meet local safe environment practices.
4. Hold all scheduled meetings.
5. Examine the Scout's *Pope Pius XII Manual* as he/she proceeds through each step of the program. The counselor will sign and date the certification of completion.
6. The program counselor will coordinate with the Archdiocese of Santa Fe CCOS for review of the completed workbook, obtain emblem fee, and to schedule a board of review date/time by sending an email to ReligiousAwards@catholicscoutsnm.org.

Earning the Pope Pius XII Award fulfills one of the requirements needed to apply for the annual National Catholic Committee on Scouting (NCCS) scholarship competition. For more details visit: <https://nccs-bsa.org/college-scholarships/>

Adult Awards

Following awards are available to any adult who works with Catholic boys and girls as a member of a national youth service organization (i.e. GSUSA, Camp Fire, AHG, SA, etc) within the Archdiocese of Santa Fe. These awards are by nomination only.

To nominate an adult for any of the below awards:

1. Download the appropriate nomination form on this site:
http://catholicscoutsnm.org/awards_adults.html
2. Fill it out as completely as possible.
3. Obtain a short biography of the nominee (except the St Elizabeth Seton Group Award).
4. Email completed nomination and biography to
ReligiousAwards@catholicscoutsnm.org
5. The CCOS will form a board of review and select top candidates.
6. If the nominee is selected the person who nominated them will be informed.
7. The nominee will be recognized at the Annual Catholic Scout Conferral Mass held in the fall.

St. Elizabeth Seton Group Award



This award is sponsored by the Archdiocese of Santa Fe Catholic Committee on Scouting. It is designed to encourage individuals within a group (troop, unit, organization) to participate in the CCOS' respective religious medal programs, annual religious retreats, and in parish or community service projects of substantial merit. The unit leader fills out the application form certifying completion of the requirements.

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton



The St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Award was created by the Department of Education, USCC (now USCCB), in 1980 to recognize the significant contributions of persons serving the spiritual needs of Catholic members in organizations serving girls. It is offered to those dioceses that choose to use it, subject to the approval of the local ordinary. It is intended to recognize notable contributions provided by adults supporting spiritual development of youth female Catholics. Scouting is just one of many youth ministries this award can be given for. While not a firm requirement, this award is usually bestowed before the higher-level St Anne Medal (described below). This award is sponsored by the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry and administered by the Archdiocese of Santa Fe CCOS.

<https://nfcym.org/programs/nccgscf/religious-recognition-programs-patches/>

St. Anne



The St. Anne Medal is intended for adults working with Catholic members of national organizations serving girls. The purpose of the award is to honor the outstanding service of adults contributing to the spiritual development of Catholic members of organizations for girls, and to further Catholic adult leadership in youth ministry through those organizations. It was inaugurated at the Sixth National Conference on Catholic Youth Work in Philadelphia in November 1957 and it was redesigned in 1980. The award is offered to those dioceses which choose to use it, subject to the approval of the local ordinary. It is the highest national award in this field offered by the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry (NFCYM). This award is sponsored by the NFCYM and administered by the Archdiocese of Santa Fe CCOS.

<https://nfcym.org/programs/nccgscf/religious-recognition-programs-patches/>

Bronze Pelican



The Bronze Pelican Emblem is a Diocesan recognition granted by a Diocesan Catholic Committee on Scouting with the approval of the Bishop. It may be presented to any adult working in or supporting Scouting programs under Catholic auspices or in units not partnered by the Church, and to those who have made a significant contribution to Scouting in the field of Catholic relationships. The purpose of this emblem is to recognize an outstanding contribution to spiritual development of Catholic youth in Scouting programs.

This award is by nomination only. Recipients are not authorized to wear the Scouting America adult religious award square knot.

St. George



The National Catholic Committee on Scouting®, acting through the local diocese or eparchy, may award the St. George emblem to members of the laity and clergy, Scouters, and non-Scouters alike, who have made significant and outstanding contributions to the spiritual development of Catholic youths through Scouting. Any adult working in the Scouting program is eligible. A Scouter does not earn the St. George emblem but is recommended by application to a board of review by another person. Recipients of this award can

wear the Scouting America adult religious award square knot.

Awards Matrix

Religious Awards Matrix

Award	Sponsor	Eligibility	Final Approval
Child of God	AoSF	Kindergarten student. While primarily for girls of the Catholic faith; however, if a non-Catholic desires to participate, she may do so with permission of her parents.	Archdiocesan Scout Chaplain or Designate
Ave Maria	AoSF	Second and third grade girls who are registered Girl Scouts, Camp Fire Girls, etc. While primarily for girls of the Catholic faith; however, if a non-Catholic desires to participate, she may do so with permission of her parents.	Archdiocesan Scout Chaplain or Designate
God is Love	NFCYM	Girls and boys, kindergarten or first grade, enrolled in organizations such as Girl Scouts, American Heritage Girls, or Camp Fire	Parent and adult adviser
Family of God	NFCYM	Girls and boys (grades 2-3) enrolled in Girls Scouts of the USA or in Camp Fire, Inc.	Parent and adult adviser
I Live My Faith	NFCYM	Girls and boys (grades 4-5) enrolled in Girls Scouts of the USA or in Camp Fire, Inc., and others.	Adult adviser
Mary the First Disciple	NFCYM	Catholic youth in grades 7 through 12. Members of Girl Scouts, Camp Fire, American Heritage or other.	Archdiocese youth director or authorized Archdiocesan Catholic committee representative
Spirit Alive	NFCYM	Youth in grades 9-12.	Archdiocese youth director or authorized Archdiocesan

			Catholic committee representative
Light of Christ	NCCS	A registered Cub Scout of the Roman Catholic faith in a Tiger or Wolf Den. All requirements must be completed before crossing over to a Bear Den.	Archdiocesan Scout Chaplain
Parvuli Dei	NCCS	Cub Scouts of the Roman Catholic Church who are 8, 9, and 10 years of age.	Archdiocesan Scout Chaplain
Light Is Life	NCCS	12- to 13-year-old member of one of the Eastern-rite Catholic Churches, and a registered Scout, active in a troop for six months, and have completed the sixth grade.	Archdiocesan Scout Chaplain (after a Board of Review)
Ad Altare Dei	NCCS	Baptized Roman Catholic member of Scouting America in a troop, crew, post, or ship. Registered in scouting for at least six months and have completed the sixth grade. 13 to 14 years old but may be earned by older Scouts	Archdiocesan Catholic Committee on Scouting (after a Board of Review)
Pope Pius XII	NCCS	Any Roman Catholic youth registered in a troop, crew, post or ship, male or female, who has started the ninth grade may work on and achieve the Pope Pius XII religious emblem.	Archdiocesan Scout Chaplain (after a Board of Review)
Pillar of Faith	Diocese of Colorado	The Scout must have earned - <i>Light of Christ or Family of God</i>	Archdiocesan Catholic Committee on Scouting

	Springs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Parvuli Dei or I Live My Faith</i> - <i>Ad Altare Dei or Marian Medal</i> - <i>Pope Pius XII or Spirit Alive</i> <p>And be a member of any organization that uses NCCS or NFCYM awards.</p>	
Bronze Pelican	NCCS	Any adult working with Catholic youth	Archbishop. According to CCOS bylaws, selection will be made by a sub-committee consisting of one Boy Scouter who has received the St. George emblem and one Girl Leader (GSUSA, AHG) who has received the St. Anne medal who will select the recipient after consulting the Scout Chaplain.
St. George	NCCS	Adult who has made a significant contribution to Catholic Scouting in the diocese.	Archdiocesan committee appointed by the Archdiocesan Scout Chaplain or CCOS Chair. According to CCOS bylaws, selection will be made by a sub-committee consisting of one Boy Scouter who has received the St. George emblem and one Girl Leader (GSUSA, AHG) who has received the St. Anne medal who will select the recipient after consulting the Scout Chaplain.
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton	NFCYM	Persons serving the spiritual needs of Catholic members in organizations serving girls.	Archbishop –he can designate whomever to approve. According to CCOS bylaws, selection will be made by a sub-committee consisting of one Boy Scouter who has received the St. George emblem and one Girl Leader (GSUSA, AHG) who has received the St. Anne medal

			who will select the recipient after consulting the Scout Chaplain.
St. Anne	NFCYM	Adults working with Catholic members of national organizations serving girls.	Archbishop – he can designate whomever to approve. According to CCOS bylaws, selection will be made by a sub-committee consisting of one Boy Scouter who has received the St. George emblem and one Girl Leader (GSUSA, AHG) who has received the St. Anne medal who will select the recipient after consulting the Scout Chaplain.