



# JDCCS

Joliet Diocese Catholic Committee on Scouting

# Diocese of Joliet Catholic Scouting News

Fall 2022

Proudly serving all our local  
scouting organizations!



## Upcoming Events

### Day of Reflection

October 16, 2022

St John Paul II Parish,  
Kankakee

### JDCCS Meeting

Online

October 18th, 2022

7:00 PM

### 2023 Annual Mass and Religious Recognition

Ceremony

April 23, 2023

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jolietcatholicscouts@gmail.com

## MESSAGE FROM THE JDCCS TO ALL CATHOLIC SCOUTING UNITS

By now you have all heard that the Diocese of Joliet has issued a prohibition on all overnight trips for elementary school students, grades 1-8, and that this rule extends to all parish organizations to include scouting units chartered by Catholic churches. The letter has been shared with scout executives and Pastors of all churches chartering a scouting unit. Although many of our scouting units will likely be seeking new charter organizations, the diocese is exploring the possibility of "enhanced facility use agreements" for use between the diocesan churches and scouting units.

A meeting with the scout execs has helped grant scout units a deadline extension from October 7 to October 31 to find a new charter.

This rule will impact parishes in Three Fires Council, Rainbow Council, and some in PTAC. They include:

Assumption – COAL CITY  
Holy Ghost – WOOD DALE  
Immaculate Conception – ELMHURST  
Our Lady of Mercy - AURORA  
Our Lady of Mt. Carmel – JOLIET  
Resurrection – WAYNE  
St. Alexander – VILLA PARK  
St. Andrew the Apostle – ROMEO-VILLE  
St. Anne – CHANNAHON  
St. Anne – OSWEGO  
St. Isaac Jogues – HINSDALE  
St. James the Apostle – GLEN ELLYN  
St. Joan of Arc - LISLE  
St. John the Baptist – WINFIELD  
St. Joseph – DOWNERS GROVE  
St. Joseph – MANHATTAN  
St. Liborius—STEGER

St. Margaret Mary – NAPERVILLE  
St. Mary of Gostyn – DOWNERS GROVE  
St. Mary Immaculate – PLAINFIELD  
St. Michael – WHEATON  
St. Patrick – KANKAKEE  
St. Pius – LOMBARD  
St. Raphael – NAPERVILLE  
St. Raymond – JOLIET St.  
Thomas the Apostle – NAPERVILLE  
St. Walter – ROSELLE  
Sacred Heart – LOMBARD  
St. Scholastica – WOODRIDGE  
Visitation – ELMHURST

Although we wish the situation were different, we know that while many scouting units will choose to no longer be chartered by a Catholic parish, the spirit of Catholic Scouting can, and will continue. Through the religious medical programs, our special events, and our service to the Lord in all we do and say, we can continue to be model Catholic scouts to those around us.

Join us in praying for a smooth transition to this new model of scouting, and may our hearts be ever open to the next adventure.



## Contact us!

Website: [www.dioceseofjoliet.org/scouting](http://www.dioceseofjoliet.org/scouting)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/groups/jdccc](https://www.facebook.com/groups/jdccc)

E-mail: [jolietcatholicscouts@gmail.com](mailto:jolietcatholicscouts@gmail.com)

Phone: (815) 834-4012

# Fun and Faith at the 2022 Ros-A-Ree Retreat



Corpus Christi Parish was the site of the 2022 Ros-a-Ree retreat, held August 6-7. It was nice to be back in a campout format, although the threatening weather turned the

campout into a lock-in for the 37 staffers, parents, and scouts who attended. The theme was "My Saints Academia" and the fun-packed Saturday and Sunday included plenty of time for prayer and reflection in addition to lots of fun and games.

On Saturday, scouts heard from former Ros-a-Ree staffer and scouting executive Sean Nadeau with a presentation on the bible. Staffer Stephen Bull led us in a guided meditation and a Lectio Divina exercise. Also in the morning we attended Eucharistic Adoration, aided by Deacon Len Penkala from St. Raphael's parish. Scouts also enjoyed the "obstacle course of life" and an escape room, requiring the solving of Catholic-themed puzzles to escape.

In the afternoon, we were treated to a presentation from R. Daniel Conlon, Bishop Emeritus of the Joliet Diocese



about his journey to his vocation. After every speaker, we met in our small groups and discussed our reflections on the presentations. The kind Bishop also participated in the activities and heard our Confessions. Saturday afternoon we also worked on service projects for local nonprofits. We laminated prayer cards, bookmarks, made greeting cards, and tied blankets for nursing homes and other nonprofit organizations.

We also took some time to play some good old-fashioned "nine square" and the Ros-a-Ree staffers made us all laugh with their "campfire skits" Saturday evening. We closed the day's activities with a living rosary.

Our delicious dinner on Saturday was prepared and served by the very generous Knights of Columbus at Corpus Christi Parish. We were so lucky to have them!



On Sunday morning we rose to attend Sunday mass, celebrated by Bishop Conlon. Afterwards the Knights of Columbus from St. Raphael's Parish stopped by to prepare a hot breakfast for us. We were so thankful!

Throughout the retreat we learned a little bit about the "superhero" saints that we celebrate in the Catholic church, presented through original videos produced by staffer Stephen Bull. After breakfast, the small groups each put on a skit to teach us more about either St. Denis, St. Joseph Cupertino, St. Catherine of Alexandria, or St. Martin de Porres. With costumes and great acting, we learned a lot and had fun too.

Thanks to the youth staff that helped put on the Ros-a-Ree this year: Stephen Bull, Owen Enos, Nicole Feldman, Aeryn MacShane, Fynn MacShane, and Ian Portillo. Special thanks to Fr. Mark Jurzyk, Pastor at Corpus Christi Parish, for opening his heart and his facility to the scouts, and also his congregation who shared our space Sunday morning, when outdoor after mass fellowship was brought indoors because of the weather. We are very grateful to everyone who took part in the planning and execution of this special event. If you weren't there this year, we hope to see you next year!



# Chairman's Corner



The last few weeks have been challenging for everybody in the Catholic scouting world. It's true that change can be painful but the hope, in every case, is that something new and significant can come from it.

While some churches have completely severed ties with the Scouts, the Diocese of Joliet has indicated that this is not their intention. Rather, they want to support the ministry of Scouting while detangling themselves from the liability of Scouting.

To this end, the Diocese has extended the deadline for troops to find another charter until October 31, and is also looking to create an "affiliate" agreement that would attempt to preserve the relationship between the Catholic churches and the Scouting units. For Scouts, that would mean continued partnership with the parishes on medals, service projects, masses, etc. In the end, the Diocese hopes that a new agreement will provide clarity in the relationships between the Catholic parishes and the Scouting units.

Meanwhile, our job at the JDCCS

is to stay in touch with Catholic Scouts and Catholic units, even as they find other charters and migrate from the churches. It will be challenging, but in my opinion, it can be done if we all **STAY CONNECTED**.

I am glad you are reading this newsletter because it is one of the few ways the JDCCS can regularly communicate with Scouts throughout the Diocese. We have always had an awareness problem, but now more than ever, we need to reach out and gather the Catholic Scouts who want to grow in faith together and maintain their Catholic identity within their Scouting unit.

One way you can help is by introducing the JDCCS to your Catholic scouting friends who may not know about us so they can keep in touch with Catholic Scouting events. Forward this newsletter to your unit leader and have them share with all their Catholic scouts.

Encourage folks to subscribe to this newsletter by sending their request to [jolietcatholicscouts@gmail.com](mailto:jolietcatholicscouts@gmail.com).

Invite other Catholic scouters to our [Facebook page](#) or share [our website](#) on your social media.

We have a special challenge now. Only by our example and outreach can we keep Catholic Scouting alive. If we stay connected, I know we can do it. Together.

—Karen Dix, JDCCS Chair

# How Do I Find a Trained Advisor?

It's true that the main reason scouts don't complete their religious medals is because they cannot find a trained advisor.

How can a leader find a trained advisor for their troop, especially for Ad Altare Dei or Pope Pius classes?

Currently, we have these answers for scout leaders....

- Check to see if we have an advisors on our Trained Adviser List from your parish or troop. Reach out to them and see if they can help.
- Become trained yourself!!\*

\*To help with becoming trained, I'm going to hold a Zoom event in October to walk attendees through the training. I will give you enough information that you will be ready to fill out and complete the application, quiz, and VIRTUS requirements and then become certified.

The event will take place OCTOBER 20, 2022 at 7pm online on Zoom. If you are interested, please pre-register at the following link: <https://forms.gle/BU7cfnBmrZz2ZBFK6>.

## Registration Now Open for the Fall Day of Recollection



The Diocese of Joliet Catholic Committee on Scouting invites all scouts to the upcoming

### **2022 Fall Day of Recollection**

#### **Navigating Our Faith: Theotokos**

Sunday, October 16, 2022

1:00pm to 6:00pm (Mass at 5:00PM)

St. John Paul II Catholic Church

956 S. 10<sup>th</sup> St., Kankakee

Registration Fee is \$5/per person

We will be learning about our Eastern neighbors with a special visit from Fr. Thomas J Loya, Pastor at the Annunciation Byzantine Catholic Church. We will also celebrate Mass together and have scouting fun with a compass course, pizza dinner, and more. Boards of Review will be available for older scouts in need of them. Scouts in grades K-5 must be accompanied by adult. To register, see the JDCCS website at [dioceseofjoliet/scouting](http://dioceseofjoliet/scouting) or contact Stephanie Quigley at (815)295-0406. See you there!

This Issue's Featured Activity Patch:

# Miguel Pro



“Viva Christo Rey”! These were the words exclaimed by Miguel Augustin Pro prior to being executed by the Mexican government. Pro was a Jesuit priest who returned to Mexico during the Mexican Revolution to spread God’s message and celebrate the Eucharist with the Catholics who were hiding from the Mexican government.

The “Miguel Pro” patch is part of the American Saint Series of activity patches. Requirements to complete this activity are different for each age group, and are available for 1st grade through adult. [Here](#) is a link for more information. A beautiful 3 inch patch is available upon completion of this recognition.

This Issue's Featured Adult Recognition:

# Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Medal

This recognition was established to allow dioceses to recognize adults whose dedicated work helps youth develop their spiritual lives. It is to honor those who serve the youth through organizations serving girls.

Qualified candidates should be the of excellent character and exemplary in every way and currently active and have served three years with the organization (ideally, registered members).

There are no national restrictions regarding recipients. Awards may be given to clergy, religious, non-Catholics, lay men or women. But 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 congregations and clergy. Please click [here](#) for more information and an application to nominate your deserving leader!



## This Issue's Featured Youth Recognition:

# Ad Altare Dei

This program is designed for Catholic youth 13 years old and up who are members of any BSA program. "Ad Altare Dei" means "To the altar of God". This program explores the seven Sacraments as a means toward spiritual growth. Click [here](#) for more information.

A counselor trained by the Diocese staff **MUST** work with the Scout on this emblem. A Scout may not work on it alone or with a parent as counselor. There is an electronic workbook available for this emblem to facilitate online meeting formats, such as Zoom.



## Attention Parents of Scouts K-5th Grade

Did you know you could be working on a religious medal with your child **RIGHT NOW??**

The following medals are completed with a parent. No advisor needed besides YOU. This is a great time to sit down with your scout and deepen your faith together through activities and discussion. Get your book from your scout shop or NYCFM and start working on your recognition today!



### SCOUTS BSA

Light of Christ (Grades 1-2)  
Parvuli Dei (Grades 3-5)

### OTHER CATHOLIC MEDALS FOR SCOUTS

God Is Love (Grades K – 1)  
Family of God (Grades 2 – 3)  
I Live My Faith (Grades 4 – 6)



## Got VIRTUS?

The compliance requirements for clergy, employees, and volunteers who minister with minors and vulnerable adults in the diocese have undergone some changes, beginning in February 2020. The Diocese of Joliet's Office of Child and Youth Protection has a chart on the diocesan website that spells out the compliance requirements for all who work, minister, and volunteer with minors/vulnerable adults. You can access it [here](#).

Volunteers who work with minors/vulnerable adults require a VIRTUS account, completion of the Protecting God's Children course, a background check every five years, and review of diocesan policy and standards of behavior.



Volunteer with minors in a repetitive role (includes coaches, scout leaders, and those who minister with minors in religious education and youth ministry) must also take Mandated Reporter Training, review and sign an Acknowledgement of Mandated Reporter Status, and complete a Volunteer Application.

You can check the status of your compliance by logging into your personal account on the VIRTUS website. Please take time to ensure that you are in compliance with all diocesan requirements when volunteering at JDCCS events or helping scouts earn their religious recognitions.

# Advisor Training Presentation October 20, 2022

If you would like to help scouts in your troop earn their Ad Altare Dei and/or Pope Pius XII medals, you need to become a trained advisor. Training for BSA medals is easy and available online. However, JDCCS Chair Karen Dix will walk advisors through the training in a webinar setting on October 20, 2022 online via Zoom. The training will prepare participants to apply to be a trained advisor and be able to start their group. If you are interested in attending, please pre-register at the following link: <https://forms.gle/BU7cfnBmrZz2ZBFK6>.

## Congratulations!

We want to recognize the Scouts who have earned a religious recognition medal since our last newsletter!

(Please report any inaccuracies in the listing below to [kdix.promopower@gmail.com](mailto:kdix.promopower@gmail.com))



### Parvuli Dei

**Christ the Servant, Downers Grove**

Caleb P.

**Our Lady of Mercy, Aurora**

Patrick M.

**Visitation Parish, Elmhurst**

Samuel G.

Charles K.