

# Scout News

Serving: American Heritage Girls, Boy Scouts, Camp Fire, Scouts BSA & Girl Scouts in the Joliet Diocese

## Quarterly Newsletter

To Subscribe: Send an Email with 'Subscribe' in the subject line to:  
[jolietcatholicscouts@gmail.com](mailto:jolietcatholicscouts@gmail.com)

**NOTE:** Whenever we refer to 'Scout' or 'Scouts' generically we are referring to ALL the organizations we serve: American Heritage Girls, Boy Scouts, Camp Fire, Scouts BSA & Girl Scouts

### UPCOMING EVENTS

2020 / 2021

Religious Recognitions Mass	4/26/20
Ros-a-Ree Weekend Retreat / Camp Out	8/14 - 8/16/20
Ad Altare Dei Workshops	Oct 3 & Nov 7, '20
Boy Scout Sunday	2/7/21
Day of Recollection (1/2 Day)	2/27/21
Girl Scout Sunday	3/7/21
Religious Recognitions Training	Online Now!

#### Website:

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

#### Facebook:

[www.facebook.com/groups/1161209217388846](https://www.facebook.com/groups/1161209217388846)

#### E-Mail:

[jolietcatholicscouts@gmail.com](mailto:jolietcatholicscouts@gmail.com)

Phone: 815-834-4012



## Join us April 27th at the: *Annual Religious Recognitions Mass*

The Scout Religious Recognitions Ceremony & Mass takes place the 1st Saturday after the Feast of St. George (April 23rd) and **will honor ALL Scouts who received a Recognition since last year's ceremony.** All Scouts, Leaders, and Scouters are invited to come and share in the celebration of the achievements of these Scouts.

This year's date is Sunday, April 26, 2020. It will be held at St. Procopius Abbey located at 5601 College Rd in Lisle. The information on the ceremony is below. Please forward this information to all Scouts/Leaders that may want to attend/know about the Ceremony.

**NOTE: A 'Bulletin Board ready' reminder is on pg 6 - Print and then post it on your family's Bulletin Board, to remind you to attend.**

This year's ceremony will begin promptly at 2pm with Holy Mass followed by the Recognitions ceremony. Registration will begin at 1:45pm. We strongly suggest that you plan to arrive by 1:30pm.

Scouts should come in their full uniform wearing **ALL** the religious emblems they have earned (previously presented and the newest emblem they have just earned). All emblems will be blessed during the ceremony. Parents should wear their parent's pins (if any) to have them blessed as well.

Check-In is done the day of the event. **NO PRIOR** Sign Up is needed. Seating instructions and how to line up for recognition will be given at Check-In.

A Check-In sheet will be provided for each Parish and for each Religious Recognition from that Parish. Please report to the Check-In tables by no later than 1:45pm to clarify who from your Unit/Troop/Parish is in attendance.

If you are coming as a group, please have one person in charge of all of the registration for each Unit / Troop to ease line congestion. If Scouts do not Check-In that they are in attendance by 1:45pm, their name will not be read during the ceremony.

Religious Recognitions must be purchased ahead of time by mail (no walk-ins). The order form can be found on the Diocese scouting webpage: **Order Form.** No Religious Recognitions will be available to purchase the day of the ceremony.

Picture taking at any point during the ceremony is permitted. We ask only that you be discreet and courteous to those around you. If a Unit or Troop would like to display their Unit/Troop flag, we encourage them to bring it as well as a flag stand. Only one American flag will lead the procession.

Recognition is important to the spiritual growth and fulfillment of our youth. You are to be commended for your commitment to helping these Scouts complete their Religious Recognition. Celebrate their joy with them and make the day special.

**Religious Recognitions Ceremony**

# This Issue's Featured Religious Recognition: *I Live My Faith*

In each issue, we are going to feature a religious recognition that is available. This quarter's information is provided for parents, guardians, volunteers, and troop leaders who organize, conduct, and encourage youth in the **I Live My Faith** program.

The program, *I Live My Faith*, is designed to help Scouts, grades 4 - 6, appreciate more deeply the place that God and religion occupy in their daily life. The medal can be earned as an individual, troop or in a group setting. Workbooks can be ordered at this website:

[www.nccgscf.org](http://www.nccgscf.org)

## Program Objectives:

- The action-oriented activities focus on developing awareness within the individual of his/her potential as a growing person, friend, family member, citizen, and member of the community of faith.
- Promote growth in faith by teaching youth about the sacraments, service, and prayer.

## Eligibility:

This program is designed for any Catholic youth in 4th - 6th, (grades 3 - 6 allowed), who are members of an approved youth organization (see *our website for a list of organizations*).

## The Program:

The book is divided into four chapters and includes an Introduction, Conclusion, and Leader's Guide. The chapters are:

- Belief
- Sacraments
- Catholic Christian Living
- Prayer

Within each chapter, the youth are challenged to discover, learn, and connect Catholic Church teachings to their lives while incorporating Prayer throughout the process. Each scout will choose activities to demonstrate how they connect their beliefs to the Catholic Church.

*I Live My Faith* complements and supports the more formal religious education provided in Catholic schools and parishes.

## Program Completion:

Each child must have their own original workbook (no electronic copies are allowed). In the back of the original workbook is an application form. The parent/guardian and participant sign the application indicating that the program has been completed. Next, it is signed by the adult adviser and lastly by the parish designate.

With the completed form now done, go to our website at [dioceseofjoliet.org/scouting/](http://dioceseofjoliet.org/scouting/) and click on 'Religious Recognitions'. From there, click on 'Order Form'. Instructions are on the order form as to where and how to send in all that is needed.

Finally, remember to fill in the Survey Monkey form online (directions are found on the order form) so the participant's name appears in the annual Religious Recognitions ceremony program. That ceremony is held annually on the first Sunday after the Feast of St. George (April 23).

# JDCCS Chairman's Corner

## What is Clean?

by *Bill Doody*

Living a Clean Life is not just about washing your hands and bathing daily. It is about being clean in body and in Spirit. When Baden-Powell wrote the 12 points of the Scout Law, I am sure he was thinking more about being clean in Spirit (free of sin) rather than in body.

How can you be clean in Spirit? It starts by asking Jesus into your life if you have not already. You will need to become a follower of Christ before living a good, clean Christian life. To do this, pray to Jesus and ask Him to forgive you for any sins you have committed in your life. Ask him to come into your heart to help you turn away from those sins and devote yourself to following him.

In John 14:6, Jesus said: "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." This means the only way to have a relationship with God is to be a follower of Jesus. While each person's prayer is personal, it might go something like this: "Dear Lord, I know I haven't always been perfect. Please forgive me for all the times I have sinned, like when I was impatient or told a lie. I want to become your follower so that I can be more like you. Please guide me and help me to become a better person. Amen." As a human, you are going to make mistakes. If you do something that you know was wrong, pray to God to forgive you, and ask Him to help you overcome that sin in the future and lead a Clean life.

Be Clean in all matters in your life like the 11th point of the Scout Law says.

# Other Religious Recognitions Available

If you are looking for additional Catholic youth activities that are easy to do, family-based, and still deepen the faith, then look no further. There are several activities that will help young Catholics learn more about their faith and Catholic role models, and become more aware of our global faith community and cultures. In this issue, we will focus on the *Faith Series* Program.

This series provides a group of activities to help youth and adults to learn more about the universal faith-based practices and traditions used in living the Catholic faith. This new series had 4 different activities: Corporal Works of Mercy, Divine Mercy, Eucharistic Adoration, and Eucharistic Adoration.

A beautiful 3 inch patch is available for each activity and they are shown to the right.

More information on the requirements can be found by clicking the following link: [Faith Series](#)



# Training for Counselors Is Now Online

Why does a Scout not earn the Religious Recognition for their grade/age?

It is usually because the Scout cannot find a counselor in their area. That is such a tragedy and a disservice to our youth.

How can we fix this? The answer is to get more Counselors trained and make it EASIER for the Counselors to be trained.

Would you like to learn how to help Scouting boys or girls earn their religious recognitions and deepen their faith? Well then, we now have made it a LOT easier!

EVERYTHING you need to be trained is online and can be accessed by clicking this link: [Training for Advisers](#)

Now, through our online training, you can learn how to be an Adviser for the God is Love, Family of God, I Live My Faith, Mary the First Disciple, The Spirit Alive and Missio (Girl and Others medals), or an adviser for the Light of Christ, Parvuli Dei, Ad Altare Dei, and Pope Pius XII (Boy Scout emblems).

Training is still available to individuals or small groups and can be arranged based on the trainer's availability. Call our hotline at 815-834-4012 to arrange for any training (or just to answer questions you have).





# **Changes to Emblem Completion Date**

## **Changes for This Year Only Due to the National Health Crisis**

In response to concerns about how our Scouts can complete their Catholic Religious Emblems during the current national health emergency, the NCCS Religious Emblems committee has approved the following recommendations and adjustments for diocesan committees to use:

### **For all members**

- For Cubs and Scouts who are working on their Emblems in groups, we suggest continuing to work using media such as teleconferencing applications whenever possible. Be sure to follow all BSA and Diocesan youth protection guidelines.

### **For Cub Scouts working on Light of Christ and Parvuli Dei**

- Cubs can always work on these emblems in their families. No counselor is needed.
- Cubs should complete these programs before crossing over (either moving up to Bear for Light of Christ or ScoutsBSA for Parvuli Dei.)
- For this year only, Cubs who have crossed over have until Dec. 31, 2020 to complete their religious emblem requirements, provided that they began working on the emblem before crossing over. This is a one-time exception and will expire on 12/31/2020.

### **For ScoutsBSA, Venturers, and Sea Scouts working on Ad Altare Dei or Pope Pius XII**

- The work on these emblems is to be finished before the 18th birthday for ScoutsBSA and before the 21st birthday for Venturers and Sea Scouts.
- Boards of Review for these emblems are done according to diocesan procedures and may be held after the 18th or 21st birthday.
- For this year only, Scouts who have begun work on these emblems before their birthday and are unable to complete the requirements because of the current national health emergency have until six months after their birthday or Dec. 31, 2020, whichever is later to complete their work. This is a one-time exception and will expire on 12/31/2020.

### **Other Activities**

- Don't forget that the NCCS Activities Committee has many patch programs to keep your Scouts engaged in their faith during this difficult time: <https://www.nccs-bsa.org/index.php/religious-activities>.

# Don't Miss the Annual Recognitions Mass & Ceremony

*April 26, 2020*



**Diocese of Joliet**  
**Catholic Scouting Committee**



**The Joliet Diocese Catholic Committee on Scouting**

**Invites You to the Annual  
Catholic Scout Recognition Ceremony**



**On April 26, 2020  
From 2pm - 4:30pm  
at the St. Procopius Abbey  
5601 College Rd, Lisle, IL**



**American Heritage Girls, Boy Scouts, Camp Fire & Girl Scouts  
Should be in Their Full Dress Uniform**

**For Information go to the Following Web Page:**

**[Recognitions Ceremony](#)**



**Check-In Begins at 1:45pm  
The Mass Will Begin Promptly at 2pm**



**Following Mass is the Recognitions Ceremony**



Print and Then Place on Your Bulletin Board / Refrigerator NOW So You Don't Forget This Event!!

Print and Then Place on Your Bulletin Board / Refrigerator NOW So You Don't Forget This Event!!