



## UPCOMING EVENTS:

**Emblems Counselor Training**  
Available by request  
See article Page 3

**Catholic Camporee -  
(Virtual)**  
October through November 7,  
2020  
See article Page 1

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# Catholic Committee on Scouting Archdiocese of Cincinnati Quarterly Newsletter

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## Catholic Scouting during COVID-19

As we are all too well aware, the COVID-19 pandemic is affecting all aspects of our daily life, including Scouting and our ability to incorporate our Catholic faith into our Scouting experience. Most summer camps and the BSA High Adventure programs have been canceled for 2020 so many of the religious activities that were normally available during the summer have also been suspended.

The Committee has been working to help Units continue their Religious Emblems Programs and provide guidance in these confusing times.

We will continue to provide training to qualifying adults wishing to become Emblems Coordinators and Counselors and to provide Boards of Review for Ad Altare Dei and Pope Pius XII candidates, however, special arrangements may be required to comply with state, Archdiocesan and BSA safety guidelines.

This newsletter contains updates and resources to help you continue to add "A Scout is Reverent" to your programs.

If you have any questions or need any guidance, please contact the Committee at:

[chair@archcincyccos.org](mailto:chair@archcincyccos.org)

## Catholic Camporee, November 7, 2020

Due to the ongoing uncertainty around the rules related to activities during COVID-19 pandemic, the Committee has decided to change the 2020 Catholic Camporee to a virtual format containing a month-long set of activities for Scouts and Scouters to complete on their own, ending with a virtual community prayer service on November 7, 2020. Activities will be graded to allow the participation of Tiger Cubs through Venturers.

A participant's guide and registration form will be available **September 8th** on

the Catholic Committee's website:

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

The cost of the event is a suggested donation of \$5.00.

Participants who successfully complete all of the activities will earn a one-of-a-kind patch that will help everyone remember that our Catholic faith can survive even a global pandemic!

Please plan to engage your Units in this truly unique experience.

If you have any specific questions regarding the Camporee, please contact:

Mr. Harry Heaton  
[harryheaton@me.com](mailto:harryheaton@me.com)

or

Br. Andrew Kosmowski, SM  
[kosmowskia1@udayton.edu](mailto:kosmowskia1@udayton.edu)

# Religious Activities

## International Awareness Recognition

The International Catholic Conference of Scouting provides an opportunity for its members to meet together as friends in the Catholic Church. It links the Catholic Church and the Scouting Movement all over the world. It contributes to the complete education of young people through Scouting from the perspective of the Catholic faith. It develops and enhances the spiritual dimension of Scouting in the World Scout Movement.

The Pope appoints priests to work with the International Catholic Conference of Scouting as ecclesiastical assistants (chaplains). This recognition activity is an ongoing special project of the International Committee of the National Catholic Committee on Scouting (USA). Proceeds will further the work of the International Catholic Conference of Scouting and help enable representation by NCCS chaplains at ICCS meetings and NCCS chaplain support at international scouting events.

### ELIGIBILITY

All youth and adults—Scouts or non-Scouts, Catholic or non-Catholic, male or female—are welcome to participate in the Religious Activity Programs promoted by the National Catholic Committee on Scouting. These activities include the Rosary Series, the Footsteps of American Saints, the International Catholic Awareness Award, and the Good Turn Project. The activities may be used by families, schools, or any Girl Scout, Boy Scout, Cub Scout, American Heritage Girl, Campfire or Venturer.

### ACTIVITY REQUIREMENTS

The youth and adults must perform the requirements for their grade level to complete this activity. Click on the program link above related to the grade level of the youth to see the detailed requirements. [For a printable flier click here.](#)

[Pin / Patch Program \(Grades 1-5\)](#)  
[Medallion / Patch Program \(Grades 6-8\)](#)  
[Medallion / Pin / Patch Program \(Grades 9-12\)](#)  
[Medallion / Pin / Patch Program \(Adults\)](#)  
[Martyrs of Canada, United States and Mexico](#)



### COMPLETION OF THE ACTIVITY

After completing the requirements, a parent or scout leader will complete the [NCCS Order Form](#) and mail it along with the applicable fee to the NCCS. The answers to the questions do not need to be forwarded when ordering the patch.

### PRESENTATION

The Pins, Medallions, and Patches are to be presented to those who earned them and can be presented in a formal Awards Mass, Scout meeting, by family members, etc. The key is to make the presentation special, so the youth understand why they have earned this patch. Also, the presentation should be done in a timely manner so the youth is recognized shortly after completing the activity.

*This activity “develops and enhances the spiritual dimension of Scouting in the World Scout Movement”.*

## Religious Emblems Programs - 2020-21

As everyone is well aware, the restrictions on public meetings due to the COVID-19 pandemic have caused a significant disruption in every aspect of daily life, including the Scouting program.

John Hughes, a long term representative to the National Catholic Committee on Scouting (NCCS), has been working closely with the NCCS to implement an online version of the Ad Altare Dei manual, an online Counselor's recordkeeping program, online access to the Bible, and support videos. A PowerPoint presentation with information about the new online program is now available at the following link:

[https://www.nccs-bsa.org/images/pdf/2020/e-AAD\\_web1.pptx](https://www.nccs-bsa.org/images/pdf/2020/e-AAD_web1.pptx)

It is important to note that Scouts and their Counselor will still need to hold regular group meetings, either in-person or virtual in order to facilitate the instruction and discussions required to complete the emblem requirements. The online manual does not replace this requirement, it simply makes it easier for Scouts to record their responses and Counselors to track and approve progress toward completion. This online version will allow Scouts to work on the emblem via electronic media at any time or any place.

If you have any questions about the new online manual or any other aspects of Religious emblems, please contact either

John Hughes,  
[jmhughes@fuse.net](mailto:jmhughes@fuse.net)  
or  
Deacon Dave Shaffer,  
[deacondaveshaffer@gmail.com](mailto:deacondaveshaffer@gmail.com)

NOTE: The Pope Pius XII manual is no longer available in printed format through the BSA supply system. You will need to go the National Catholic Committee website and purchase a downloadable copy or have a printed copy mailed to you.

## Local Scout Eagle Project featured in Boy's Life magazine

The Committee extends our heartfelt congratulations to Alex Arehart from Troop 85, chartered by St. Luke's Parish in Beavercreek. Alex received the Glenn A. and Melinda W. Adams National Eagle Scout Service Project of the Year award.



Alex's project was to build concrete outdoor seating for the Dayton Regional STEM School. As you can see from the picture, this was an impressive project and well deserving of the honor.



Alex has been a regular attendee of the Catholic Camporee/Retreat programs sponsored by the Committee and he has received the Light of Christ, Parvuli Dei and Ad Altare Dei emblems.

Additional details about Alex's project and his award are included at the following links:

**"2020 Eagle Scout Project of the Year: He Used Science to Make School Seating."**

<https://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/2020/06/15/2020-eagle-project-of-the-year-he-used-science-to-make-school-seating/>.

**"Beavercreek Eagle Scout Wins National Award for STEM Project." WYSO Weekend.**

<https://www.wyso.org/post/beavercreek-eagle-scout-wins-national-award-stem-project>.

## Interested in becoming a Religious Emblems Counselor?

If you are interested in becoming a Religious Emblems Coordinator (Cub Emblems), Counselor (Ad Altare Dei), or Facilitator (Pope Pius XII), please contact Tom Wiles, [tjwiles83@gmail.com](mailto:tjwiles83@gmail.com), in the Cincinnati area or Harry Heaton, [harryheaton@me.com](mailto:harryheaton@me.com), in the Dayton area to arrange for the required training. In addition to the training, you will need to complete an application and be approved by the Archdiocese of Cincinnati.

The application is available from the Archdiocese webpage at the following link:

<http://www.catholiccincinnati.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/Counselor-Application-Revised.pdf>

## Are you already a Religious Emblems Counselor?

The Committee is working to update our records of all approved and active Religious Emblems Counselors and we need your help.

If you believe that you are currently an approved Counselor for either Ad Altare Dei or Pope Pius XII emblems, please send an email to Monica Sellers at the Archdiocese: [msellers@catholiccincinnati.org](mailto:msellers@catholiccincinnati.org). She will check the records and, by return email, either confirm your training and approvals or let you know what needs to be updated.

If you are currently approved and would like to be removed from the list, also please contact Monica so she can update the Archdiocesan records.

Thanks for your help.

## Catholic Committee on Scouting Archdiocese of Cincinnati

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**Tom Wiles - Committee Chairman**

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deacondaveshaffer@gmail.com

**Brother Andrew Kosmowski, SM - Communications Chair**

kosmowskia1@udayton.edu

### Websites:

[www.catholiccincinnati.org/ministries-offices/youth-ministry/catholic-scoutin/](http://www.catholiccincinnati.org/ministries-offices/youth-ministry/catholic-scoutin/)

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

The mission of the Catholic Committee on Scouting for the Archdiocese of Cincinnati is to provide the guidance and resources necessary to add the elements and principles of the Catholic faith to the Scouting experience for all Units in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati.

We can only accomplish this mission with the prayers and support of all of our leaders and Scouts so please make it a goal to always include "Duty to God" as a fundamental part of your programs.

## Chaplain's Corner - Fr. Brian Phelps

There is a church historian named Msgr. Greg Fairbanks who said "Pandemics and plagues have often marked periods when the greatest saints are born." We can list many names of saints who lived during pandemics. Saints like St. Godeberta of Noyon, St. Roch, St. Charles Borromeo, St. Henry Morse, St. Virginia Centurione Bracelli, St. Marianne Cope. These are just a few names of saints who lived during the times like we live in now.

The thing that connects all of them together is that they had great lives of virtue, strong lives of prayer, and a trust in God that strengthened their faith and resolve during their time of trial. We now can live a life of

great virtue and sacrifice for others. St. Charles Borromeo stayed and tended to the sick and poor of Milan during the plague. St. Marianne Cope went to help St. Damien of Molokai to tend to the women who contracted leprosy.

Where is God calling you to live great virtue and faith during these times? Can you look in your neighborhood for people who may need help but are not able to be outside? Use your training and skills as Scouts to be creative and imaginative to minister to those who may need groceries, their lawn cut, leaves raked, and the list goes on. Be like St. Marianne Cope who taught her Sisters a very strict hygiene regimen. Prudence is the

handmaid of all virtues. Prudence guides how we live out those other virtues. Be smart and be safe.

Most of all pray for the ending of the pandemic. Pray for those who are sick. Pray for doctors, nurses, and all in the medical field for wisdom and protection. You can even offer sacrifices up to God. The more we do that, it will be like one loud voice of prayer and sacrifice for the world. Let us be the saints God is calling all of us to be during this time.

In Christ,

*Fr. Brian Phelps*

Chaplain

## Committee Report - New Archdiocesan Representative

The Committee is proud to welcome Laura Potter, Associate Director for Youth Evangelization, as our new representative from the Archdiocese of Cincinnati. Laura will be replacing Matt Reinkemeyer and we want to thank Matt

for his prior participation and leadership as a member of the Committee.

Laura has been in the field of youth evangelization for 17 years and has been back in Ohio for 2 years after expe-

riencing many adventures around the world with NET Ministries.

Laura can be reached at the Archdiocesan office at :

[lpotter@catholiccincinnati.org](mailto:lpotter@catholiccincinnati.org)