



# Catholic Committee on Scouting Archdiocese of Cincinnati Quarterly Newsletter

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

### Cathedral Ceremony - 2024

March 10, 2024, 2:00 PM  
St. Peter in Chains Cathedral

### NCCS Conference

### Catholic Camporee - 2024

October 25-27, 2024  
Location - Friedlander

### Emblems Counselor Training

Available by request  
Contact John Hughes or Harry Heaton to schedule.

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## Catholic Scout Camporee and Retreat

The Catholic Committee on Scouting hosted the 2023 Catholic Scout Camporee and Retreat at Cricket Holler in November 2023 and focused on scout skills and the Eucharistic Revival programs that the National Catholic Committee on Scouting (NCCS) has prepared. There were approximately 50 registrants for troops throughout the archdiocese. In addition to Mass on Saturday evening, Scouts had an opportunity for adoration afterward.

In 2024, this event will be held at Camp Friedlander October 25-27. The program will include scout skill contests. Scouts will also work on the Luminous Mysteries activity and continue with the Eucharistic Revival activity sponsored by the NCCS. Get this on your troop's planning calendar.

In 2025, Region 6 of NCCS (Michigan and Ohio) is planning a large "Catholic Jubilee Jamboree" to be held at Camp Miakonda, just outside Toledo, October 17-

19. Do get this on your troop's calendar as it will be a unique opportunity for your scouts to meet others throughout Michigan, Ohio, and Indiana, and perhaps other nearby states like Kentucky and Illinois.

Because of this regional and territorial event, the Cincinnati Catholic Committee on Scouting will not host its own Catholic Scout Camporee and Retreat in 2025. We will resume in 2026

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## 48th NCCS Biennial Conference

Welcome! Join fellow Scout Chaplains, Scouters, and spouses for the 48th Biennial Conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico, April 4-7. This year's conference will celebrate 100th+ years of Catholic Scouting! Our host committee, the Archdiocesan Committee of Santa Fe is excited about bringing together Catholic Scouters

from across the country to celebrate this milestone.

Don't miss out on this incredible opportunity to connect with fellow Catholic Scouters and leaders. Please register now to join us in enchanting New Mexico!

More information, including how to register, can be found

at <https://nccs-bsa.org/events/biennial-meeting-albuquerque-nm-april-4-7-2024/>

If you have any questions about the NCCS Conference, reach out to John M. Hughes or Bro. Andrew Kosmowski. Their e-mail addresses are on the last page.

*Looking for a way to recognize your Catholic chartered Unit's commitment to include Catholic Scouting in your programs?*

## SAINT POPE JOH PAUL II ACTIVITY



### ABOUT THIS AWARD

The Modern Saint Series honors 20th and 21st century Catholic men and women who have had a profound impact on many people around the globe.

### ELIGIBILITY

All young people and adults—Scouts or non-Scouts, Catholic or non-Catholic—can work on the activities in this series and earn a patch for each activity they complete. The activities in this series can be worked on individually or as a group.

### ACTIVITY REQUIREMENTS

Young people must fulfill the requirements for their grade level to complete this activity. Adults must fulfill the adult requirements to complete this activity. Requirements may be found here: <https://nccs-bsa.org/download/john-paul-ii/>

### COMPLETION OF THE ACTIVITY

After a young person completes the requirements, a parent, guardian or Scout leader will review the Scout's work to confirm accuracy and understanding. Then, the parent, guardian or Scout leader will order the patch from the [NCCS Online Store](#). Detailed documentation of fulfillment of activity requirements does not need to be sent to NCCS.

### PRESENTATION OF THE PATCH

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

# Are you planning next year's emblems program?

Make sure you have the current books on sale at the National Catholic Committee on Scouting store:

<https://nccshop.org/product-category/remanuals/>

## Religious emblems and new Cub Scout program

You have probably heard about the new Cub Scout programs and are wondering how this affects the emblems program. The good news is Cub Scouts can still earn the Light of Christ and Parvuli Dei emblems for rank advancement. Remember that Light of Christ is meant for Tigers and Wolves while Parvuli Dei is meant for those in Bear, Webelos, and Arrow of Light dens. Some long time pack religious emblem coordinators said that they prefer working with families to earn Light of Christ with Wolf dens as the program complements many parishes' programs that prepare the second graders for First Communion.

Given the demands of finishing the new Arrow of Light program before February Blue and Gold dinners and crossover programs, pack religious emblems coordinators might consider encouraging families to complete Parvuli Dei before Cub Scouts enter their final year in their packs.



## Cathedral Ceremony

A reminder that this year's cathedral ceremony will be on Sunday, March 10, 2024, at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Chains, 325 W 8th St, Cincinnati, OH 45202.

Like last year, we will conduct a soap drive for various Catholic organizations to distribute to those most in need. We ask that each recipient have a bar of soap to put into collection boxes near the front of the Cathedral.



Cub Scouts, Scouts, and Scouters who received their religious emblems in at Cathedral of Saint Peter in Chains in 2023.

# Catholic Committee on Scouting

## Archdiocese of Cincinnati



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### Websites:

<https://resources.catholicaoc.org/offices/center-for-the-new-evangelization/youth-evangelization>  
[www.archcincycos.org](http://www.archcincycos.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

As a scout, I was invited to go to Philmont about four weeks before the trek. It was unexpected, and I could not turn it down. Soon I was going to meetings to prepare, examining the packing list time and time again. Each time I had a pair of steel-toed work boots. At the last meeting before our departure, someone said to me "ounces turn into pounds". I was asked why I did not have lightweight hiking boots. At the final shake-down in Philmont, our guide asks, Why steel-toed boots? I replied the same to both: I wore them every day for the two months prior... I

will be fine.

As we have entered Lent, I remind you of three pillars: prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. As we await Christ's glorious victory over sin and death, we turn back to God. We recognize the obstacles in our lives that lead us from receiving the fullness of God and His love. We shed unnecessary noise and weight that gets in the way. Like the Philmont shakedown, we learn what we must have and what can be put aside because it is unnecessary. We see the scars or remnants of our past sins that we must endure. The

temptation is real, but we must embrace God in these moments and not fall into these personal desires.

As for my boots, they were comfortable and did not cause any problems. I was glad others had a concern for them. During Lent, we recognize our obstacles and, in a spirit of charity, help others with theirs. We must recognize that people are in different places in their spiritual growth. We can learn from but also teach others. Let us grow with the help of others and build each other up for a life of holiness.

## From the Chair

I find myself in the midst of a move to an unknown location within Dayton as my order's leadership has determined it best to close the house I am presently living in. As I am packing, discarding, etc., as people who are preparing to move do, I am finding I have accumulated many items in my life. I have slowly been liquidating my Scout memorabilia, though that seems to accrue more quickly than I had realized.

I suspect many of us likewise have found ourselves with more stuff than we thought we had when we pack to move or downsize. We often have emotional attachments to our goods, making it harder to detach ourselves from them.

So it can be with Scouting. Many of us serve not just our units but also district, council, or archdiocesan scouting committees. We need to consider if we

are doing too much Scouting and how to ask others to help. I recently did this as I realized serving as a chair of a NCCS committee was one function too many, and so I will cease being that chair at the April NCCS conference.

I pray that during this Lent we can assess our activity with Scouts and see how we can use Scouting to draw ourselves closer to Christ instead of finding us stressed by the level of volunteering we do.