



Catholic Committee on Scouting Archdiocese of Cincinnati Quarterly Newsletter

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Boards of Review—Jan. 2025

The following start at 7:00 PM
1/6, Incarnation Church, Centerville
1/8, St Veronica, Mt. Carmel
1/10, St Ignatius, Cincinnati.

If the above dates do not work,
contact John Hughes or Harry
Heaton to schedule.

Cathedral Ceremony - 2025

March 23, 2025, 2:00 PM
St. Peter in Chains Cathedral

Catholic Camporee - 2025

NCCS Region 6/CST 9
October 17-19, 2025
Location - Camp Miakonda

Emblems Counselor Training

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

IN THIS ISSUE

Relationship	1
Saint Isaac Jogues	2
Adult recognition	3
Cathedral Ceremony	3
Contacts	4
Archbishop's letter	4
From the chair	4

VOLUME VII, ISSUE I

NOVEMBER 2024

Relationship of BSA in Cincinnati Archdiocese

On November 7, Bro. Andrew Kosmowski, chair of the Catholic Committee on Scouting for the Archdiocese of Cincinnati, and Mr. Sean Ater, director of the Center for New Evangelization of the same archdiocese, met to discuss the state of Catholic Scouting in 19 counties of southwest Ohio. For the sake of transparency, below are the notes from that meeting, as shared between both Mr. Ater and Bro. Kosmowski via email to ensure their veracity.

At present, BSA (aka Scouting America) is not promoting stances contrary to Church teachings. BSA strives for neutrality and appears to be doing so successfully. If that changes in the future, the Archdiocese will need to enter into deliberations about the consequences.

While Citizenship in Society Merit Badge has been seen by some as problematic, the [paper](#) Bro. Andrew Kosmowski created to support the merit badge counselors' knowledge of Catholic teach-

ings on diversity and equity helps to ease this concern. Catholic units' counselors are encouraged to consult this [document](#) as they prepare for offering the merit badge. Mr. Sean Ater examined this [item](#) and found that it presented Catholic teaching correctly. As such, Scouting America is permitted as a form of youth ministry within the Archdiocese of Cincinnati and may use archdiocesan and parochial resources. Furthermore, at the pastor's discretion, parishes may use the Scouting America program as a stand-alone program for girls, a replacement option for any GSUSA units, or as a complement to American Heritage Girls.

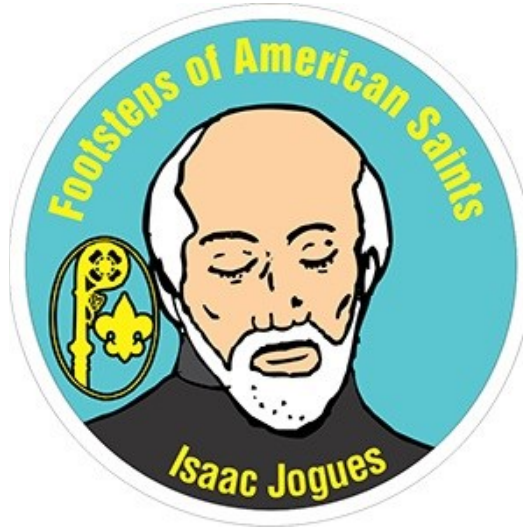
As the Center for New Evangelization sees BSA units chartered by parishes as a form of youth ministry, the archdiocesan guidelines for youth ministry and catechesis must be followed. Once these are received from Mr. Ater, Bro. Kosmowski will send those on to the five scout executives whose councils are fully or partly within the territory of

the Archdiocese of Cincinnati for distribution to all leaders within Catholic units. Likewise, Catholic unit leadership must participate in the archdiocesan Safe Parish programs and complete the background check for the archdiocese as well as those of BSA. (n.b. Catholic unit leaders should receive these guidelines via their councils. These can also be received from their chartering organization.)

Catholic BSA unit leaders, regardless of the chartering organization, are welcome at any evangelist, catechetical leader, and youth minister program sponsored by the archdiocese.

Looking for a way to continue the Eucharistic Revival in your parish?

SAINT ISAAC JOGUES ACTIVITY



ABOUT THIS AWARD

The American Saint Series honors 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.

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

Scouts 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/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/Amer-Isaac-Jogues-10-22.pdf>

COMPLETION OF THE ACTIVITY

After Scouts complete the requirements, a parent, guardian or Scout leader will review their 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 Scouts are recognized shortly after completing the activity.

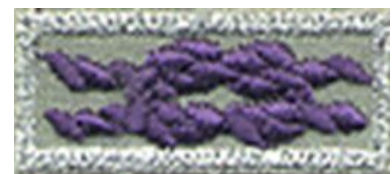
Adult recognition

We seek nominations for adults who promote Catholic Scouting in their communities. These need to be sent to the Catholic Committee by 10 January. We need this with wet signature of the pastor or his delegate. Arrange to scan these to the chair and then mail them to the archdiocese (all contacts on page 4). The nomination form for the Certificate of Recognition, Bronze Pelican, and St George Award may be downloaded at <https://archcincyccos.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/Audlt-Nomination-Form-2022.pdf>

The Certificate of Recognition is given by the Catholic Committee on Scouting in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati. It is designed to recognize those Scouters whose attention to the twelfth point of the Scout Law, A Scout is Reverent, is undeniable. The candidate should show a history of fostering the religious aspects of Scouting especially at the unit level. There is no limit to the number of Certificate of Recognitions presented.

This recognition is offered by the Archdiocese of Cincinnati in conjunction with the National Catholic Committee on Scouting. It is designed to recognize those individuals who are actively involved in youth ministry through Catholic Scouting. The candidate should have a strong history of support for the youth religious emblems programs, a strong history of involvement with Scouting under Catholic auspices, and have influenced the spiritual development of youth and scout unit alike. Learn more at <https://nccs-bsa.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/Bronze-Pelican-NCCS-Fact-Sheet.pdf>

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. Learn more at <https://nccs-bsa.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/St.-George-NCCS-Fact-Sheet.pdf>



Cathedral Ceremony

The 2025 ceremony is on March 23.

At that event, 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.

If your unit prefers to receive the emblems in your parish, let Bro. Andrew know so we can do our best to ensure a representative of the committee is present at your ceremony.



Cub Scouts, Scouts, and Scouters who received their religious emblems in at Cathedral of Saint Peter in Chains in 2024.

Catholic Committee on Scouting Archdiocese of Cincinnati



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Deacon Dave Shaffer - Emblems Coordinator

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Websites:

<https://resources.catholicaoc.org/offices/center-for-the-new-evangelization/youth-evangelization>
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.

Letter from the Archbishop

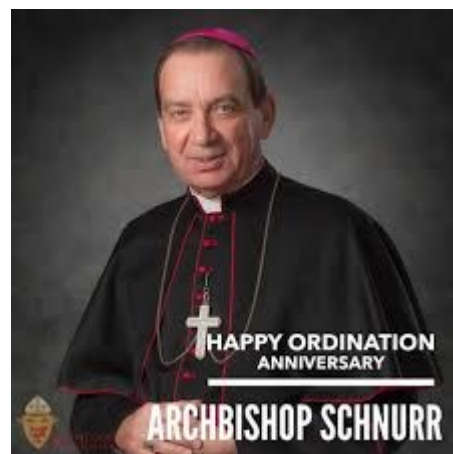
Every year, the chair of the local Catholic Committee on Scouting writes a report to the archbishop highlighting the activities of Catholic Scouting. His Excellency, Most Reverend Dennis M. Schnurr, replied with the following, which should have been read at each summer camp Mass in 2024, whether at Camp Birch or Camp Friedlander.

Thank you for the report on Catholic Scouting in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati. I am pleased to learn that Catholic Scouting is healthy in the Archdiocese. I

am very grateful to you and all those who give their time to the Scouts to assure them that they enjoy Christ's love, that He has a plan for each and every one of them, and that plan is their path to peace, joy, and fullness of life.

With prayerful best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Most Reverend Dennis M. Schnurr
Archbishop of Cincinnati



From the Chair

Normally, I try to give updates on events in the archdiocese. This time, I need to share a note on additional responsibilities with my Catholic Scouting career.

On the Feast of St Martin of Tours (11 November 2024), I received confirmation from the National Chaplain of the National Catholic Committee on Scouting (NCCS) that, in addition to my responsibilities as chair of the

Catholic Committee on Scouting in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati, I have been named the NCCS Region 6 Chaplain. As I attend the meetings of the region as chair, this was a logical match.

I ask for your prayers as I discharge the duties of both the chair for our local committee as well as those of the regional chaplain.



**National Catholic
Committee on Scouting**