

Archdiocese of Cincinnati Catholic Committee on Scouting Newsletter



CATHOLIC
SCOUTING



NCCS Region 6/CST 9 Catholic Scout Camporee and Retreat

On the weekend of October 17, 18, and 19, 2025, Region 6 of the National Catholic Committee on Scouting (NCCS) hosted for Council Service Territory 9 a Catholic Scout camp-o-ree and retreat at Camp Miakonda. This was the first of its kind. Nearly 160 campers enjoyed a beautiful day with Catholic and Scouting programs.

The participants were from nine dioceses and ten Scouting America councils, including Troop 24 of Dan Beard Council, Troop 329 of Miami Valley Council, and Troops 68, 85, and 234G of Tecumseh Council.

The Scouts completed the Jubilee of Hope activity from NCCS, participated in archery, practiced first aid and scoutcraft skills, created a rosary, and learned about ham radios as part of Erie Shores Council's Jamboree-on-the-Air program.

Scouts and leaders prayed together at Mass for Sunday and the Liturgy of the Hours throughout the weekend. They also heard a brother, a sister, a priest, and a married couple share their vocation stories.

NCCS Region 6 gives thanks to God for the glorious weather for the weekend, Erie Shores Council for hosting the event, the many donors who helped defray costs, the staff who planned and worked the weekend, and the Scouts and leaders who decided to attend this event when they had other choices.

The 2026 Catholic Scout camp-o-ree and retreat for the Archdiocese of Cincinnati will happen at Camp Hugh Taylor Birch on October 23, 24, and 25. Camp Birch's address is 4057 Swimming Pool Road, Yellow Springs, OH 45387.

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Upcoming events

Catholic Scout camp-o-ree and retreat

Oct. 23-25, 2026
Camp Birch
← Address

2027 Religious Emblems

Ceremony
March 7, 1:00 PM
St Peter in Chains
Cathedral
325 W 8th St,
Cincinnati, OH
45202



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

Did you know that the Vatican has only approved one Marian Apparition site in the United States? It was by a young woman in Wisconsin named Adele Brise. She had several visions of Mary and the local residents trusted Mary with their safety during a large fire. Do you have faith to believe?

To find the requirements for the Our Lady of Champion religious activity, click the link here: <https://nccs-bsa.org/download/our-lady-of-champion/>

To learn more about this apparition, watch this video here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pkYEoN9dKQA>

Pope Paul VI Unit Award



Cooperation, development, and program are the keywords in the recognition of Catholic chartered units in earning the Pope Paul VI National Catholic Unit Excellence Award. The adult leadership responds to training not only in Scouting traditions, but also training in National Catholic Leadership Development, and religious counseling. The Scouts in each Pack, Troop, Crew or Ship respond by participating in the Religious Emblem programs respective of their status in Scouting

Does your unit qualify for the Pope Paul VI Award? Complete the application below: <https://www.cognitoforms.com/NCCS4/PopeSaintPaulVI/NationalCatholicUnitExcellenceAward>

The application is due no later than March 31, 2026.

Religious Emblems

Ceremony cancelled

It is with sadness that we announce the cancellation of the 2026 religious emblems ceremony. After contacting the Catholic packs and troops to see how many youth were working on religious emblems, we found only 41 youth total were working on them. Most of these were Cub Scouts whose packs planned to recognize them in their parishes. We were aware of fewer than 10 Scouts working on Ad Altare Dei.

We are pleased to announce that the 2027 ceremony at the cathedral will be on March 7, 2027, at 1:00 PM. We look forward to seeing many of you there.

If you need any training on how to be a unit religious emblem coordinator, a counselor for Ad Altare Dei, or a facilitator for Pope Pius XII, reach out to Bro. Andrew, whose email is on page 4. Likewise, contact him if you need a board of review for either of the two above-named emblems.

Important forms for religious emblems

To notify the Catholic Committee on Scouting America, Archdiocese of Cincinnati, of beginning any religious emblem program, complete this form:

<https://archcincyccos.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/2-2026-Intent-to-Begin-for-AOC.pdf>

To order religious emblems for presentation in 2026, complete this form: <https://archcincyccos.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/Emblem-Order-Form-and-Procedure-January-8-2026-AJK.pdf>

Cub Scouts and Reverence Adventures

In case you missed it, *Aaron on Scouting* posted "A leader's guide to Reverence in Cub Scouting." This blog post has a presentation by Cub Scout Committee Chair Tamara Christensen and Committee Member Nilesh Shah regarding modest changes about these adventures.

Cub Scouts may work on the adventures as laid out in the appropriate books or on the religious emblems. The Light of Christ emblem is appropriate for Tiger and Wolf Scouts. Parvuli Dei is appropriate for Bear, Webelos, and Arrow of Light Scouts. Currently, Parvuli Dei fulfills the adventure for Bear and Webelos Scouts only.

To read the blog post, click the link below:

<https://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/2025/12/29/a-leaders-guide-to-reverence-in-cub-scouting/>



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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.

The Catholic Committee on Scouting America for the Archdiocese of Cincinnati supports Catholic Scouting in five councils:

- The entirety of Miami Valley and Tecumseh Councils;
- The Ohio portion of Dan Beard Council;
- Auglaize and Mercer Counties of Black Swamp Area Council;
- Adams and Highland Counties of Simon Kenton Council.

New format for the newsletter Register for the next meeting

As Microsoft is phasing out its MS Publisher application, a new resource to prepare the newsletter is needed. This issue of the newsletter was prepared on a Canva template.

This first newsletter in the new template may feel a little spartan. As we learn how to use Canva better to prepare the newsletter, there will be more stories.

The newsletter always seeks more articles.

Feel free to forward this newsletter on to those people you think may be interested in learning about Scouting America in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati.

The committee meets next on 4 February 2026 via WebEx from 6:00-7:30 PM. Complete the form below by 8:00 AM on February 3, 2026, to receive the meeting link: <https://forms.gle/b3fhebEBdYqXdTa49>
