Catholic Committee on Scouting for Boys

All religious recognition programs are administered by the Diocese of Greensburg through the Office of Evangelization and Faith Formation, as well as the diocesan Scouting chaplain. All emblems must be approved by the diocese.

A full description of each Boy Scout religious award or emblem is listed below.

Light of Christ

This program is for the Tiger/Wolf Cub Scout of the Roman Catholic or Eastern Catholic faith and is designed to help the Scout develop a personal relationship with Jesus. Each Scout must have an activity book that must be completed with a parent or caregiver within the family environment. Working on the program in a den or classroom setting is contrary to the family enrichment component of the program.

The Scout must complete all requirements prior to the start of third grade, and the average completion time is three to six months. After the program is completed, the activity book is reviewed by the parish priest who meets with the Scout to discuss his work.

The completed application and emblem fee is remitted to the diocesan Catholic Committee on Scouting office. The parish priest is encouraged to present the emblem at a parish function. Ideally, the Boy Scout religious emblem square knot and miniature device are presented at a pack meeting.

Parvuli dei

This program is for the Bear Cub/Webelos Scouts of the Roman Catholic or Eastern Catholic faith in third to fifth grade. It is designed to help young boys explore a wide range of activities, to discover the presence of God in their lives and develop a positive self-image through the contributions they make to their group or community.

Each Scout must have his own activity book that must be completed with a parent or caregiver within the family environment. Working on the program in a den or classroom setting is contrary to the family enrichment component of the program.

After the work is completed, the activity book is reviewed by the parish priest who meets with the Scout to discuss his work.

The completed application and emblem fee is remitted to the diocesan Catholic Committee on Scouting office. The parish priest is encouraged to present the emblem at a parish function. Ideally, the Boy Scout religious emblem square knot and miniature device are presented at a pack meeting.

Pope Pius XII

This program is for Boy Scouts/Venturers of the Roman or Eastern Catholic faith who have started ninth grade. It is designed to encourage the candidate to examine how Christianity affects daily living, challenge the candidate to evaluate his personal talents and abilities, and provide the candidate with an opportunity to share faith and practice his religion among peers while receiving guidance attuned to Scouting ideals.

Pastor approval, an individual manual and a trained facilitator are required. A group setting is preferred.

After the work is completed, the candidate must be interviewed by a diocesan board of review. The completed application and emblem fee is remitted to the diocesan Catholic Committee on Scouting office. The bishop often presents the emblem at an annual Scout Convocation Mass.

Ideally, the Boy Scout religious emblem square knot and miniature device are presented at a unit Court of Honor.

Light is Life

This program is designed for 12- and 13-year-old Boy Scouts (others ages may use it) of the Eastern Catholic faith. The purpose of this program is to develop a deeper awareness of faith life. As the Scout grows in faith through the study of this program, he should simultaneously be advancing in Scouting.

Pastor approval, an individual manual and trained counselor are required before the program begins. A group setting is also preferred.

After the work is completed, the Scout must be interviewed by a board of review. The completed application and emblem fee is remitted to the diocesan Catholic Committee on Scouting office.

Ideally, the Boy Scout religious emblem square knot and miniature device are presented at a unit Court of Honor.

Ad Altare Dei

This program is designed for 13- and 14-year-old Boy Scouts of the Roman Catholic faith who have completed the sixth grade and been active in their troop for six months. The purpose of this program is to help Scouts fully develop a Christian way of life. The program is organized in steps, based on the seven sacraments. As Scouts grow in faith through the study of this program, they should simultaneously be advancing in Scouting.

Pastor approval, an individual manual and a trained facilitator are required. A group setting is preferred.

After the work is completed, the Scout must be interviewed by a diocesan board of review. The completed application and emblem fee is remitted to the diocesan Catholic Committee on Scouting office.

Ideally, the Boy Scout religious emblem square knot and miniature device are presented at a pack meeting.

St. George

The National Catholic Committee on Scouting, acting through the local diocese or eparchy, may award the St. George emblem to laity, clergy, Scouters, Catholics and non-Catholics who have made significant and outstanding contributions to the spiritual development of Catholic youth through Scouting. An individual is nominated for this recognition. Self and family referrals are not considered.

Service in the following areas is considered:

Spiritual development of Catholic youth in Scouting Boy Scouts of America Parish, diocese or eparchy Other community organizations (civic, fraternal, etc.)

Pope Paul VI

Boy Scouts of America packs, troops or crews chartered to Roman Catholic or Eastern Catholic parishes, schools or organizations may earn this award.

Requirement areas cover adult training and leadership, unit service, spiritual growth, religious activities, vocational awareness, relationships and membership.

After meeting all requirements, the completed application and proper fee is submitted to the diocesan Catholic Scouting office.

Each unit receives a papal-colored ribbon for its unit standard, a multi-colored wall certificate signed by the bishop and embroidered pocket patches, all bearing the coat of arms of Pope Paul VI.