



Catholic Religious Emblems

- Emblems were developed by the *National Catholic Committee on Scouting*.
- They are age-appropriate faith-formation open only to *male or female Catholic youth in any BSA unit*.
- Youth should work on them *outside* of regular unit meetings at *any time of the year*.
- Cub Scout-age youth work *with parents*.
- Scout-age youth work in a group *with a trained counselor or facilitator*. Group discussion is vital.
- Diocesan and BSA *youth protection policies* must be followed.
- Workbooks are *available at BSA Council Scout Shop* or at <http://www.scoutstuff.org/>.
- Emblems must be ordered through the *Diocese of Winona-Rochester*. (see below for address)



- Light of Christ**
- Designed for 6-7 years old Cub Scouts.
 - Develop personal relationship with Jesus and see him as a real person and friend.
 - Must be a Tiger or Wolf (or equivalent STEM Scout) and work with parents.
 - A meeting with his pastor (or representative) is required.
- Parvuli Dei**
- Designed for 8-10 years old Cub Scouts.
 - Discover presence of God in their daily lives as a member of family and parish.
 - Develop a positive self-image through contributions to their community.
 - Must be a Bear or Webelos (or equivalent STEM Scout) and work with parents.
 - A meeting with their pastor (or representative) is required.
- Ad Altare Dei**
- Designed for Catholic youth aged 13-14 or older.
 - Must have completed 6th grade and been active in BSA unit for six months.
 - Based on the seven sacraments.
 - Must be led by counselor who is trained in Catholic religious emblems.
 - Counselor must complete both **BSA YPT** and diocesan **VIRTUS®** training.
 - Classes are weekly/bi-weekly for several months or as 2 weekends in archdiocese.
 - A religious retreat or day of recollection is required.
 - A Board of Review is required.
- Pope Pius XII**
- Designed for any BSA unit member, 15 years old and older.
 - Groups of 4-12 youth are ideal, though smaller groups may be allowed.
 - Concerns church-related ministries and vocations and life choices.
 - Must be led by facilitator who is trained in Catholic religious emblems.
 - Facilitator must complete both **BSA YPT** and diocesan **VIRTUS®** training.
 - Classes are weekly/bi-weekly for several months.
 - A religious retreat or day of recollection is required.
 - A Board of Review is required.
- Light is Life**
- Used by Eastern-rite Catholic Churches in lieu of the Ad Altare Dei.
 - Cannot earn both Light is Life and Ad Altare Dei.

See <http://www.nccs-bsa.org/index.php/religious-emblems> to read more about our emblems.

Pillars of Faith - Duty to God



This special pin was originally designed for the Diocese of Colorado Springs. It is awarded to a boy who has earned all four Catholic youth religious emblems, a rare event. It has been our practice for the Bishop of Winona-Rochester to award this at the annual Catholic Scout Mass. Download the application at <http://www.wdccc.org/>.

Steps for a Cub Scout or equivalent age STEM Scout

- Buy the workbook.
- Work on it with your parent(s) until complete.
- Present book to your parish priest (or representative) and review it with him, having him sign.
- Religious Emblems Coordinator will send copy of signature page to diocese. They will obtain signature of Scout Chaplain and order the emblem.
- The cost of the emblem may be covered by the unit or by the parish as appropriate.

Steps for a Scout, Venturer, Sea Scout, Explorer, or equivalent age STEM Scout

- Contact your counselor or Emblems Chair at wrdccc+emblems@gmail.com to arrange for one.
- Buy the workbook or pay a class fee to the counselor as advised.
- Complete application in workbook: signed by Scout, parent, counselor, unit leader, and pastor.
- Work with your group and counselor and complete all assignments in a timely manner.
- Complete Scoutmaster Conferences as indicated in the workbook.
- When completed, your counselor will arrange a Board of Review through the WDCCS.
- When Board of Review is completed, your counselor will arrange ordering of the emblem.
- The cost of the emblem may be covered by the unit or by the parish as appropriate.

Religious Emblems Counselor/Facilitator

- An adult BSA membership is not required, but we suggest registering as a religious emblems counselor.
- **BSA Youth Protection Training** must be completed.
- Diocesan **VIRTUS® Training** must be completed with appropriate background checks.
- 60-75 minute training at <https://tinyurl.com/wdcccsetrain> or Training page at <http://www.wdccc.org/>.
- Contact Religious Emblems Chair at wrdccc+emblems@gmail.com.
- Two-deep leadership is required unless Scout works alone with a parent as counselor.
- Scout working alone is discouraged, since group discussion is vital, but you also don't want them to miss a chance to work on the emblem. It brings spiritual growth. Allow it if they are up to it.
- Please coordinate local classes for **all of the Catholic Scouts in your city** whenever possible.
- Obtain appropriate counselor/facilitator emblems manual and download Religious Emblems Reference Manual from <http://www.nccs-bsa.org/pdf/ReligiousEmblemsReferenceManual.pdf>.
- Before class starts, use appropriate form to obtain permission from your pastor and the Scout Chaplain.
- Lead the class. Sign as indicated in the workbook as steps are completed.
- Upon completion, contact Religious Emblems Chair to arrange for a Board of Review.
- After BOR, send copy of signature page to diocese for any final approval and for emblem ordering.

Resources

Winona Diocesan Catholic Committee on Scouting (<http://www.wdccc.org/>)

National Catholic Committee on Scouting (<http://www.nccs-bsa.org/>)

Emblems orders and Scout Chaplain contact: Diocese of Winona-Rochester
Director of the Office of Youth & Young Adults
55 W. Sanborn Street
PO Box 588
Winona, MN 55987