

Diocese of Baton Rouge Catholic Committee on Scouting Requirements for Priests

Patricia Mathurin Revised 10 /16 /2015

The Diocese of Baton Rouge Catholic Committee on Scouting (CCOS) **follows the requirements of the National Catholic Committee on Scouting** in the completion of the Religious Emblem Awards per Scout. In our Diocese, we have various guidelines and timelines to complete the Religious Emblem Awards. I would like to take this time to bring to your attention a few highlights of our CCOS Programs:

- ❖ The Religious Emblem Counselors (REC's), who are trained in the CCOS Program, coordinate the Religious Emblem Awards activities (required in their Religious Emblem Booklet) throughout the year with the Scouts and their Leaders.
- ❖ **Upon completion** of the Religious Emblem Booklet (Religious Award), the REC coordinates the **Exit Interview** with the **Parish Priest** and the **Scouts per Religious Emblem** (in a group).
- ❖ **The Exit Interview is required in our CCOS Program and is a requirement of the National Catholic Committee on Scouting Program:**
 - One of the reasons for the Exit Interview with a Priest is to bring consciousness of Religious vocations to our Scouts.
 - The Exit Interview also affirms this Scout is a registered Catholic parishioner participating in the Catholic Religious Awards. Non-Catholics may not receive Catholic Religious Emblem Awards. Note: Other denominations have their own Religious Award programs.
 - It is a great opportunity for shared faith experience with our Scouts, Parents, and Priests in a group setting.
 - All participating persons have to sign the Original Religious Emblem Applications. **The only time an application would be signed by a parish designee or Administrator is when there is no longer a Priest at the Parish. This is the requirement of the National Catholic Committee on Scouting. Thanks be to God we are blessed in the Diocese of Baton Rouge to have Priests in our designated parishes!**
 - The Exit Interviews only take 20 minutes per Religious Awards. Please share your faith with the Scouts, for you never know:
 - What seed will be planted for vocations with the Scouts and
 - You may even learn something about our faith from the Scouts and/or
 - Even witness parents coming back to our faith with joy!
 - I sincerely thank you for your support and encourage you to encourage the Girl and Boy Scouts in your Catholic Parish to achieve their Religious Emblems Awards.

- ❖ All REC's are trained in the CCOS Program requirements and comply with the Youth Protection Programs in the Diocese of Baton Rouge. Although the REC's are members for life, the Diocese of Baton Rouge CCOS requires retraining every three years.
- ❖ We provide REC trainings twice a year for new REC's.
- ❖ On our website is a list of active REC's per Parish – info.ccosbr.net.
- ❖ Our CCOS Ceremony incorporates Girl Scouts and Cub/Boy Scouts earning Religious Emblem Awards.
 - In addition, Camp Fire and American Heritage Scouts can earn the Religious Emblem Awards.
- ❖ In addition to the CCOS Ceremony on Religious Emblem Awards – we sponsor:
 - The Rosary Program
 - The Saints Program
 - These programs are advertised on our website and in the Catholic Commentator.
 - The events are held at Our Lady of Mercy and/or Most Blessed Sacrament.
 - We are available to participate at other Parishes, if you are interested, please contact us.
- ❖ The following is a list of the Religious Emblems Awards available for our Scouts:

| Girls Scouts | Cubs Scouts | Boys Scouts |
|--------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| God is Love (New 2015) | | |
| Family of God | Light of Christ | Our Lady's Award |
| I Live My Faith | Parvuli Dei | Ad Altare Dei |
| Our Lady's Award | Our Lady's Award | St. Pius XII |
| Mary, the First Disciple | | |
| Spirit Alive | | |

- ❖ Our Lady's Award is unique to our Diocese. Both Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts can earn this Religious Emblem Award.
- ❖ **Please note: Only one Religious Emblem Award can be earned in one year.**

- ❖ All Scouts as troops/packs can earn the Light in the Lord Bishop Stanley Ott Service Recognition.
 - Requirement is a Service Project to the Community.

- ❖ Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts can earn the National Catholic Committee on Scouting Pope Paul VI National Award.
 - Requirements are:
 - Participation in the Religious Emblem Programs
 - Vocation Awareness
 - Service Project to the Community

- ❖ Please note our change of address:
 - Catholic Committee on Scouting
c/o Our Lady of Mercy
445 Marquette Avenue
Baton Rouge, LA 70806

If you have any additional questions, you can contact me via email: cra77stola@cox.net.

Thank you for sharing your Catholic Faith with our Scouts.

God bless you!

Patricia Mathurin
CCOS Religious Emblem Counselor Chairman