

Religious Emblems Display (R.E.D.) Team Manual



Relationships Division
Boy Scouts of America

**Religious Emblems Display Team Manual
Table of Contents**

Section 1: Rationale3

Section 2: Building a Religious Emblems Display Team4

Section 3: Presentation Materials6

 Full Script8

 Outline Format.....14

Appendix:

 Worksheet/Checklist.....i

 Sample Position Description.....ii

 Sample Newsletter Articleiii

 Interfaith Quick Reference Chart.....iv

 Frequently Asked Questionsvi

No. 05-920
November, 1999

**Permission is granted to photocopy any of the handouts in this manual
and/or to duplicate the manual in its entirety.**

Religious Emblems Display Team Manual

Religious Emblems Display (RED) Teams are groups of speakers who make presentations on the religious emblems programs in order to increase the awareness of these programs at district and unit levels. RED Teams do not provide religious instruction. They provide information - information about the religious emblems of ALL faiths so that all Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts and Venturers will have the opportunity to earn an emblem of their own faith.

This manual has three objectives: to explain why leaders and youth members should be informed about the religious emblems programs; to explain how to build RED Teams; and to provide the presentation materials and resources for RED Teams.

Section 1: Rationale

At the heart of the Scouting movement is “Duty to God.” The Cub Scout Promise, Boy Scout Oath, and Venturing Oath all stress the importance of reverence toward God.

The religious emblems programs are key spiritual components of the Scouting movement. These programs have been created by the national religious organizations/committees. They help young people to become more active members of their own faith group and encourage spiritual development by providing specific religious instruction. These programs are overseen by and/or taught by religious leaders and administered by religious organizations, not by the Boy Scouts of America.

Religious emblems can play a vital role in the overall development of young people. Besides providing specific religious instruction, the religious emblems programs share many of the values that are integral to the Scouting program, e.g., service to the community, intergenerational relationships, friendship-making skills, and positive self-esteem. The religious emblems programs provide opportunities for young people to reinforce and internalize the values they have learned in Scouting and to relate them to their faith.

Research has shown that when young people are involved in both a religious organization and a civic youth organization, the number of positive assets increases while their at-risk behaviors decrease. Search Institute of Minneapolis, Minnesota, has identified 40 developmental assets that are essential for a child’s healthy development. One of these assets is involvement in the religious community. Local Scout councils can turn to the religious emblems programs to help develop this asset for youth. The religious emblems programs will involve multiple sectors of the community: the religious institution, the family, and the local council. The more places that deliver the same message and teach the same values to youth, the stronger the youth will be.

Section 2: Building a Religious Emblems Display Team

The following items need to be taken into consideration when building a council/district RED Team:

1. Establish who the council support person will be.

If your council already has a staff person responsible for developing religious relationships, that staff member could also be the support person to the RED Team. Councils with large memberships or large geographic territories might want to consider dividing this responsibility among several staff members.

2. Determine how many RED Teams will be needed.

Small councils may need only one RED Team to serve the entire council. Larger councils may need several RED Teams to cover specific geographic areas. Council membership and geographic territory will be determining factors for this decision.

3. Establish a budget.

The budget for the RED Team will include the following items:

- Sample curriculum booklets and recognition items. Having actual booklets and recognition items is an effective way to promote the religious programs. Initially, this could be a small sampling of medals and booklets, but make it part of the budget to increase your display materials to include as many faiths as possible. Contact the appropriate faith groups to purchase these materials. Decide how many sets will be needed.
- A display case (for the sample recognition items). This can be a simple shadow box or a larger tabletop display.
- Printing of business cards for RED Team members.
- Printing of the Interfaith Quick Reference Chart, Frequently Asked Questions and other brochures.

4. Recruit members for the RED Team.

- Develop a position description for RED Team speakers (see Sample Position Description in the appendix).
- Be intentional about recruiting representatives from the various faith groups.
- Identify adults who have received an adult religious recognition. These adults have already demonstrated outstanding service to Scouting and their religious institution and may be potential RED Team members.
- Identify older youth who have earned the religious emblem of their faith. Involve them in a youth/adult partnership with the RED Team.
- Identify parents (whose children have earned a religious emblem). Parents who can speak from experience and who have had a positive experience with the program can make good spokespersons for the RED Team.

- Identify potential team members via requests through district meetings and through the council newsletter.

5. Resources available to the District's RED Team.

- Local council relationships committee
- Local council religious relationships committee
- P.R.A.Y. – Programs of Religious Activities for Youth, a non-profit organization based in St. Louis, Missouri. 800-933-PRAY.
P.R.A.Y. will provide Red Teams with:
 - Startup kit
 - RED Team updates and news bulletins
 - Free subscription to *Youthscape*, P.R.A.Y.'s quarterly newsletter
- Scouter associations and committees of various denominations (See Interfaith Quick Reference Chart for "WWW" addresses.)

6. Develop a presentation calendar.

Develop a calendar to keep track of presentation requests, schedule the display case and order necessary handouts and materials.

7. Publicize the RED Team.

The RED Team can be effective only if others know about it. Use a variety of ways to introduce the RED Team:

- Write articles for the council newsletter (see sample article in appendix).
- Make announcements at district meetings.
- Talk to unit (pack/troop/crew) leaders – get invited to Cub Scout pack meetings and Boy Scout courts of honor (in order to contact the largest number of boys with parents present).
- Arrange to display the religious emblems at roundtables, program fairs, camporees, pow wows and other appropriate events.
- Work with the council staff adviser to identify potential opportunities for making presentations and contact appropriate persons to schedule presentations.

Section 3: Presentation Materials

A suggested RED Team presentation is included in this manual. With simple modifications, it can be used with two different audiences:

- Adult leaders
- Youth members and their families

(The presentation manuscript includes instructions indicating which sections are appropriate for certain audiences.) The complete presentation starts with an explanation of WHY Scouting should promote religious emblems, outlines the steps that a youth member would take to participate in these programs, and concludes by emphasizing the leader's role in passing this information on to every member in the unit. When making presentations to adult leaders, it is not enough to explain the religious emblems programs; you must distribute the Interfaith Quick Reference Chart and explain the importance of the leader's role in providing this information to the young people and their families.

The presentation is available in two different formats: full script and outline format (RED Team members should choose the format most comfortable for them). Handouts and other materials that are mentioned in the presentation may be found in the appendix. The primary resource needed for a RED Team presentation is the A Scout Is Reverent poster, No. 5-206C, available from your local Council Service Center. This poster includes pictures of all the religious emblems available for youth and adults. It helps leaders understand the scope of the religious emblems programs and connects these programs to the Boy Scout Law. The reverse side of the poster includes a Quick Reference Chart that tells how to obtain the booklets for each specific faith group. It lists the names, addresses, phone numbers, and Web pages of all the religious emblems programs recognized by BSA. A black and white 8 ½ x 11 reproducible handout of this chart is provided in the appendix. To ensure the success of your presentation, please take the time to fill out the worksheet/checklist also found in the appendix.

RED Teams may have the opportunity to set up displays at different council or district events. Having a presence at these events and being a visible part of Scouting is an important function of the RED Team, even without a formal "presentation." Some of the materials contained in the appendix (especially the Interfaith Quick Reference Chart and the Frequently Asked Questions brochure) may be appropriate to have in your display as handouts. Permission is granted to duplicate any of the materials found in the appendix.

RED Team Presentation Script

Thank you for allowing us to speak at your meeting. Helping me is _____, and I am _____.

We represent the _____ District Religious Emblems Display Team. Or the “RED Team” for short. We believe that all Cub Scouts/Boy Scouts/Venturers should have the opportunity to earn the religious emblem of their own faith, and we are here to talk about these programs.

Unit Presentations - add the following section:

We would like to ask all the Cub Scouts (or Boy Scouts or Venturers) to stand and slowly repeat the Cub Scout Promise (or Boy Scout Oath and Law or Venturing Oath). Parents, please listen very carefully to what they are saying.

[Cub Scout Promise: *“I promise to do my best to do my duty to God and my country, to help other people, and to obey the Law of the Pack.”*

Now that you have heard the promise, we want you to ask yourself this question: What have you done to show your duty to God?]

[Boy Scout Oath: *“On my honor I will do my best to do my duty to God and my country and to obey the Scout Law; to help other people at all times; to keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight.”*

Boy Scout Law: *“A Scout is trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent.”*

Now that you have heard the Scout Oath and Law, we want you to ask yourself these questions: What have you done to show your duty to God? How have you shown that you are “reverent” as stated in the 12th point of the Scout Law?]

[Venturing Oath: “As a Venturer, I promise to help strengthen America, to be faithful in my religious duties, to help others, and to seek truth, fairness, and adventure in our world.”

We believe that one way you can show your duty to God is to proudly wear the religious emblem you have earned.]

Our role today is to give you and your family information so that you may decide whether to participate in the religious emblems program of your faith. We provide information, not religious instruction. Scouting recognizes that religious instruction is the responsibility of parents and religious leaders. But parents first have to know that these programs exist.

[This paragraph is for district presentations only]

Our role today is to provide information that you can pass on to your unit members and their families so that they may decide whether or not to participate in the religious emblems program of their faith. We provide information, not religious instruction. Scouting recognizes that religious instruction is the responsibility of parents and religious leaders. But parents first have to know that these programs exist. And as unit leaders, you are critical in getting information about religious emblems to your members and their families.

What exactly are “religious emblems programs”? They are programs that have been created by the various religious organizations/committees, not by the Boy Scouts of America. These programs encourage members to become more active in their own faith groups, and they encourage spiritual development by providing specific religious instruction. These programs offer emblems that are approved for wear on the official uniform of the Boy Scouts of America.

“Duty to God” has been a fundamental precept of the Scouting movement, for 90 years. Religious emblems help introduce and reinforce this spiritual component. Religious emblems also promote many of the same values that are the basis of the Cub Scout, Boy Scout and Venturing programs. They help develop wholesome lifestyles in youth members. Research shows that young people who are members of both a Scouting unit and a religious institution made better moral decisions than those who are members of only one organization.

Participating in the religious emblems programs will involve four basic steps for youth members and their families.

First, youth members must obtain the specific booklet for their religion. This booklet contains information on all the lessons and service projects that they will need to complete. Each youth member needs a personal booklet to document progress. Some religious emblems programs also offer adult manuals for counselors and mentors.

Some of these booklets are available in our local Scout service center. Here’s the phone number [phone number]. If they are not available in the service center, parents will need to purchase booklets directly from the sponsoring religious organization. The Interfaith Quick Reference Chart lists the addresses and phone numbers for the various religious organizations. We will provide you with enough charts to distribute to your families so that they will know whom to contact.

Second, parents must review the specific guidelines for their particular program. Some programs require that the young person be an official “member” of the local religious institution; other programs may not. Age/grade requirements also vary from program to program. In addition, each program sets its own guidelines as to who may serve as a counselor. Some programs require clergy to serve as counselors, other programs allow parents or other family members to serve as counselors. Parents must check the specific guidelines for their particular program.

Third, families should talk to their religious leaders and, if possible, show them the booklet before beginning a program. Many of the programs require that they be completed under the auspices of that religious organization, and require the signature of the local religious leader.

Fourth, youth members need to complete the requirements, obtain the proper signatures, and follow the instructions to order the emblem. These emblems are not available in the local council store. The emblem should be presented in a meaningful ceremony, preferably in the young person's religious institution. The emblems can be presented at any time of the year. Scout Sunday/Sabbath, in February, is a perfect time to recognize youth members who have earned their religious emblems during the past year.

Before we go any further, are there any questions on the religious programs for youth members?

Adult recognitions are entirely different. Whereas youth members "earn" their emblems by working on specific requirements, adults are nominated to receive a religious award. Adult recognitions are honors that are given to adults for outstanding service to youth through both a religious institution and the Boy Scouts of America. Recipients of these awards are unaware that they are being nominated. If you know of an adult Scouter who also is active in a religious institution, you could nominate that person for an adult award. Most awards require a completed application form, a resume of the candidate's qualifications and letters of recommendation from the religious leader and from the local council executive. Many of these awards also require a minimum number of years of service before a person can be considered, so please check eligibility requirements for specific awards. Again, Scout Sunday/Scout Sabbath is an appropriate time to present an adult recognition. Plan accordingly: these awards usually go through a review committee and require extra time for processing.

Unit presentations only - add the following section:

Are there any questions? Here are our names and telephone numbers. Feel free to contact us with any questions that you have. In closing, you have heard all about the religious emblems programs. And you have made a promise to do your “duty to God” and your country. Now it is up to you. We encourage you to complete the requirements for your religious emblem. Thank you for allowing time to share these important programs with you.

[The following section is for district presentations only]

We believe that all youth members should have the opportunity to earn the religious emblem of their faith. Our biggest roadblock is the lack of information about these programs at the unit level. That is why you, as unit leaders, are so important. What can you do?

First, you can distribute the Interfaith Quick Reference Chart to every youth member in your unit. This brochure includes a chart of all the different religious emblems, lists the addresses, phone numbers and Web pages for the religious organizations, and explains how to get started on these programs. We will provide whatever quantity you need in order to distribute one brochure to every member.

Second, please read the Frequently Asked Questions About Religious Emblems Programs. This brochure will help you answer some of the basic questions that parents might ask you about these programs. We have enough copies to give to everyone here today.

Third, you can keep a record of all youth members who have completed a religious emblem and notify the council of these recipients by filling out the form Notification of Religious Emblem Completed. Our council tries to recognize all recipients by publishing their names in our newsletter.

Fourth, you can nominate other Scout leaders who are active in their religious institutions to receive an adult religious recognition.

Fifth, you can invite the RED Team to speak at special events. We would be happy to speak to your unit, especially at meetings when both youth members and their parents will be present. Here are the names and addresses of the RED Team members. Please keep in mind that we are here to serve as a resource for you. Give us a call to schedule a time when the RED Team can visit (e.g., pack meeting/troop court of honor/Venturing parents program). The presentation will only last [15] minutes. The team can stay afterward to answer other questions about the program. We're here to help!

Are there any questions?

Before we close, we would like to leave you with two key thoughts: First, religious emblems can have a positive impact on your youth members; and second, as the unit leader, YOU are the key person in getting information about these programs to your members and families. Thank you for allowing us to speak to you today.

Please duplicate. Also available at www.praypub.org.

RED Team Presentation Outline

Introduction of the RED Team and its objectives:

- Promote religious emblems programs
- Provide information, not religious instruction
- Serve as a resource to adult leaders
- Encourage adult leaders to promote the use of religious emblems programs among their youth members and their families

What are “religious emblems programs”?

- They are programs created by national religious organizations/committees.
- They are recognized by the BSA.
- They include emblems that are approved for wear on BSA uniforms.
- They are programs that encourage members to become more active in their own faith group, and encourage spiritual development by providing specific religious instruction.

Why promote religious emblems programs?

- At the heart of the Scouting movement is “Duty to God.” The Cub Scout Promise, Boy Scout Oath, and Venturing Oath all stress the importance of reverence toward God.
- Religious emblems programs can help provide a spiritual component to the Scouting program.
- Religious emblems programs promote many of the same values that are integral to the Scouting program.
- Religious emblems programs help develop wholesome attributes in youth members.

Participating in the religious emblems programs will involve four basic steps for youth members and their families:

1. Youth members must obtain the specific booklet for their religion.
 - Youth members need their own booklet to document progress.
 - Some religions offer adult manuals for counselors and mentors.
 - Booklets may be obtained from your local council service center or contact directly the religious organization/committee. Their addresses and phone numbers are listed on the Interfaith Quick Reference Chart.
2. Parents should review the program guidelines.
 - Some programs require that the youth be an official “member” of the religious institution.
 - Age/grade requirements vary from program to program.
 - Each faith group sets its own guidelines as to who may serve as counselor. Some programs require clergy to serve as counselors; other programs allow parents or other family members to serve as counselors.
3. Families should talk to their religious leaders and, if possible, show them the booklet before beginning any program.
 - Most programs require that they be completed under the auspices of that religious organization.
 - Many programs require the signature of the local religious leader.
4. The youth member must complete the requirements, obtain the proper signatures, and follow the instructions to order the emblem.
 - These emblems are not available in the council service center.
 - The emblem should be presented in a meaningful ceremony, preferably in the youth member’s religious institution.
 - The emblem can be presented at any time of the year. Scout Sunday/Sabbath, in February, is a perfect time to recognize recipients.

Are there any questions about the religious emblems programs for youth members?

Adult religious emblems are entirely different from the youth programs:

- Adult emblems are by nomination only; they are honors given to adults for outstanding service to youth through both a religious institution and the Boy Scouts of America.
- Recipients are unaware of their nomination.
- These emblems usually are submitted to a review committee; extra time is needed for processing.
- Many adult recognition emblems require a minimum number of years of service; check eligibility requirements for specific emblems.
- Most emblems require the following:
 - Completed application form
 - Resume of the candidate's activities
 - Letter of recommendation from the local council
 - Letter of recommendation from the religious institution

We believe that every youth member (Cub Scout, Boy Scout, or Venturer) should have the opportunity to earn the religious emblem of his or her faith. Our biggest roadblock is the lack of information about these programs at the unit level. That is why you, as unit leaders, are so important. What can you do?

- Distribute the Interfaith Quick Reference Chart to every youth member in the unit.
- Use the "FAQ" brochure as a resource to answer parents' questions.
- Keep a record of all unit members who have received a religious emblem.
- Notify the council of all recipients.
- Nominate other Scouters who also are active in their faith community to receive an adult religious recognition
- Invite the RED Team to speak to your group (district, pack/troop/crew meeting)

Closing

- Questions?
- RED Team members' names and phone numbers
- We would like to leave you with two key thoughts:
 - Religious emblems can have a positive impact on your youth members.
 - As the unit leader, YOU are the key person in getting information about these programs to your youth members and families.

Please duplicate. Also available at www.praypub.org.

Presentation Worksheet

In scheduling presentations for different groups, be very clear about the purpose of your presentation. Explain that the Religious Emblems Display Team will be presenting information about religious emblems, not teaching a religion class. Always stress the fact that the presentation will be about religious emblems, not teaching or starting to work on a specific emblem.

To ensure the success of your presentation, please take the time to answer the following questions.

Name of group: _____

Contact name and title: _____

Phone number of contact: _____

Location of meeting: _____

Directions to location: _____

Date of meeting: _____

Time of meeting: _____

How much time RED Team will be allowed to speak: _____

Meeting agenda: Check what other events are on the agenda for that meeting. (If it is Pinewood Derby Day or a special party day, you may want to reschedule your presentation.)

Space: If your council has a display of religious emblems, will you need an extra table or space to set up your display? _____

Size of group (number of participants): _____

Checklist:

- ___ Presentation (sample script)
- ___ Frequently Asked Questions (one per participant = _____)
- ___ Religious Emblems Quick Reference Chart/Poster (one per unit = _____)
- ___ Interfaith Quick Reference Chart (single sheet handout)
(one for each member of the unit = _____)
- ___ Notification of Religious Emblem Earned Form
(one per participant = _____)
- ___ Adult recognition nomination forms
- ___ Sample curriculum books
- ___ Sample emblems/awards
- ___ Verify whether your council service center stocks any of the religious emblem booklets

Sample Position Description: RED Team Speaker

Position reports to _____
(Council/District Staff Member/Relationships
Committee Chairperson or RED Team Chairperson)

Qualifications

- Ability to give presentations to group of at least 10 adults
- Willingness to learn terminology of religious emblems program
- Willingness to learn terminology of the faith groups

Functions

- Learn religious recognitions programs and presentation
- Contact groups to schedule presentations
- Secure materials from _____ (council / RED Team chairperson)
- Submit written reports/evaluations

Sample Newsletter Article

Religious Emblems Display Team Organizes

The [local council] has just announced the formation of the Religious Emblems Display Team. This team is a group of volunteers who are trained to make presentations on religious emblems in order to increase the awareness of these programs. The Religious Emblems Display Team does not provide religious instruction. The purpose of this team is to provide information – information on ALL faiths so that youth members (Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, and Venturers) will be encouraged to work on and complete the religious emblem of their own faith.

The Religious Emblems Display Team will provide brochures at no charge for distribution at council, district and unit meetings. These brochures answer the most frequently asked questions about religious emblems and provide information on all the programs. The Team also is available to make short presentations at unit meetings on the religious emblem programs. Contact [name] at [phone number] for more information.

Please encourage participation in the religious emblems programs!

Interfaith Quick Reference Chart

Available to members of the Boy Scouts of America

A Scout is reverent. He is reverent toward God. He is faithful in his religious duties and respects the convictions of others in matters of custom and religion.

The following religious emblems programs have been created by the various religious groups to encourage members to grow stronger in their faith. The Boy Scouts of America has approved of these programs and allows the emblems to be worn on the official uniform, but each religious organization develops and administers its own program. Check with your local council service center or contact the religious organization directly to obtain the curriculum booklets.

	Cub Scout	Webelos Scout	Boy Scout & Varsity Scout	Venturer, Older Boy Scout, Varsity Scout	Adult Recognition
African Methodist Episcopal Church Local Council Service Center or P.R.A.Y., 8520 Mackenzie Road, Suite 3, St. Louis, MO 63123-3413; 800-933-7729; e-mail: info@praypub.org; Web site: www.praypub.org	God and Me (gr. 1-3) S, No. 33604; C, No. 33603; M, No. 33606	God and Family S, No. 33597; C, No. 33598; M, No. 33595	God and Church S, No. 33599; C, No. 33600; M, No. 33596	God and Life S, No. 33609; C, No. 33610; M, No. 33605	God and Service Nomination
African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church Local Council Service Center or P.R.A.Y., 8520 Mackenzie Road, Suite 3, St. Louis, MO 63123-3413; 800-933-7729; e-mail: info@praypub.org; Web site: www.praypub.org	God and Me (gr. 1-3) S, No. 33604; C, No. 33603; M, No. 33606	God and Family S, No. 33597; C, No. 33598; M, No. 33595	God and Church S, No. 33599; C, No. 33600; M, No. 33596	God and Life S, No. 33609; C, No. 33610; M, No. 33605	God and Service Nomination
Armenian Apostolic Church of America (Western prelaty) 4401 Russell Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90026; 323-663-8273	None	None	Saint Mesrob	Saint Mesrob	None
Armenian Church of America (Eastern Diocese) D.R.E., Diocese of the Armenian Church of America, 630 Second Avenue, New York, NY 10016; 212-686-0710	Saint Gregory	Saint Gregory	Ararat	Ararat	None
Association of Unity Churches PO Box 610, Lee's Summit, MO 64063; 816-524-7414	None	God in Me	Light of God Award Nomination	None	Distinguished Youth Service
Baha'i Baha'i Committee on Scouting, Baha'i National Center, Education and Schools Office, 1233 Central Street, Evanston, IL 60201-1611; (847)733-3495	Unity of Mankind	Unity of Mankind	Unity of Mankind	Unity of Mankind	None
Baptist Local Council Service Center or P.R.A.Y., 8520 Mackenzie Road, Suite 3, St. Louis, MO 63123-3413; 800-933-7729; e-mail: info@praypub.org; Web sites: www.praypub.org or www.bsa.net/abs	God and Me (gr. 1-3) S, No. 33604; C, No. 33603; M, No. 33606	God and Family S, No. 33597; C, No. 33598; M, No. 33595	God and Church S, No. 33599; C, No. 33600; M, No. 33596	God and Life S, No. 33609; C, No. 33610; M, No. 33605	Good Shepherd Nomination No. 77-062*
Buddhist National Buddhist Committee on Scouting, 701 East Thrift Avenue, Kingsland, GA 31548-8213; 912-729-6323, fax: 912-729-1699; e-mail: bcascout@eagnet.com	Metta	Metta	Sangha	Sangha	None
Catholic, Eastern Local Council Service Center, Diocesan Scout Office, or Nat'l Catholic Committee on Scouting, 1325 W. Walnut Hill Ln, PO Box 152079, Irving, TX 75015-2079; 972-580-2114; Web site: www.catholic-church.org/catholicscouting	Parvuli Dei 1 st & 2 nd graders may earn Light of Christ, No. 33074	Parvuli Dei S, No. 33085	Light Is Life S, No. 16-3011 C, No. 16-106	Pope Pius XII S, No. 33076; C, No. 34733	Saint George Catholic Nomination, No. 16-132*
Catholic, Roman Local Council Service Center, Diocesan Scout Office, BSA Supply Division 800-323-0732; or Nat'l Catholic Committee on Scouting, 1325 West Walnut Hill Ln, PO Box 152079, Irving, TX 75015-2079; 972-580-2114; Web site: www.nccs-bsa.org	Parvuli Dei S, No. 33085 1 st & 2 nd graders may earn Light of Christ, S, No. 33074	Parvuli Dei S, No. 33085	Ad Altare Dei S, No. 33094; C, No. 33072	Pope Pius XII S, No. 33076; C, No. 34733	St. George Roman Catholic Nomination, No. 16-132*
Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Local Council Service Center or P.R.A.Y., 8520 Mackenzie Road, Suite 3, St. Louis, MO 63123-3413; 800-933-7729; e-mail: info@praypub.org; Web site: www.praypub.org	God and Me (gr. 1-3) S, No. 33604; C, No. 33603; M, No. 33606	God and Family S, No. 33597; C, No. 33598; M, No. 33595	God and Church S, No. 33599; C, No. 33600; M, No. 33596	God and Life S, No. 33609; C, No. 33610; M, No. 33605	God and Service Nomination
Christian Methodist Episcopal Church Local Council Service Center or P.R.A.Y., 8520 Mackenzie Road, Suite 3, St. Louis, MO 63123-3413; 800-933-7729; e-mail: info@praypub.org; Web site: www.praypub.org	God and Me (gr. 1-3) S, No. 33604; C, No. 33603; M, No. 33606	God and Family S, No. 33597; C, No. 33598; M, No. 33595	God and Church S, No. 33599; C, No. 33600; M, No. 33596	God and Life S, No. 33609; C, No. 33610; M, No. 33605	God and Service Nomination
Churches of Christ Members of Churches of Christ for Scouting, ACU, Box 27938, Abilene, TX 79699-7938; (915)674-3739; e-mail: mccc@bible.acu.edu	Joyful Servant Grades 2-5	Joyful Servant Grades 2-5	Good Servant	Good Servant	Faithful Servant
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (LDS) LDS Relationships, 40 East South Temple, Suite 330, Salt Lake City, UT 84111-1003; 800-537-5923 or 801-530-0004	None	Faith in God	On My Honor	On My Honor	On My Honor
Eastern Orthodox P.R.A.Y., 8520 Mackenzie Road, Suite 3, St. Louis, MO 63123-3413; 800-933-7729; Web sites: www.praypub.org or www.vccbsa.org/eocs	St. George No. 3EOMB	Chi Rho No. 3EOFB	Alpha Omega No. 3EOCB	Alpha Omega No. 3EOCB	Prophet Elias Nomination*
Episcopal Local Council Service Center or P.R.A.Y., 8520 Mackenzie Road, Suite 3, St. Louis, MO 63123-3413; 800-933-7729; e-mail: info@praypub.org; Web site: www.praypub.org	God and Me (gr. 1-3) S, No. 33604; C, No. 33603; M, No. 33606	God and Family S, No. 33597; C, No. 33598; M, No. 33595	God and Church S, No. 33599; C, No. 33600; M, No. 33596	God and Life S, No. 33609; C, No. 33610; M, No. 33605	St. George Episcopal Nomination
First Church of Christ, Scientist P.R.A.Y., 8520 Mackenzie Road, Suite 3, St. Louis, MO 63123-3413; 800-933-7729; e-mail: info@praypub.org; Web site: www.praypub.org	God and Country No. 3CSFB	God and Country No. 3CSFB	God and Country No. 3CSCB	God and Country No. 3CSCB	None
General Church of the New Jerusalem (The New Church) Chairman, Boy Scout Relations Committee, General Church of the New Jerusalem, PO Box 277, Bryn Athyn, PA 19009	None	None	Open Word Award	Open Word Award	None

Hindu North American Hindu Association, 847 East Angela Street, Pleasanton, CA 94566-7511; 925-846-3811 (voice/fax); e-mail: hajratwala@home.com	Dharma	Dharma	Dharma	Dharma	Dharma Saathi
Islamic Mr. Aunali Khalfan, PO Box 731516, Elmhurst, NY 11371; 718-446-6472, fax: 718-446-4370	Bismillah	Bismillah	In the Name of God	In the Name of God	Allaho Akber
Jewish Local Council Service Center or P.R.A.Y., 8520 Mackenzie Road, Suite 3, St. Louis, MO 63123-3413; 800-933-7729; e-mail: info@praypub.org; Web sites: www.praypub.org or www.shamash.org/scouts	Aleph S, No. 33185 Tiger Cubs may earn Maccabee, S, No. 7165	Aleph S, No. 33185	Ner Tamid S, No. 33181	Etz Chaim S, No. 33186	Shofar Nomination No. 15-102*
Lutheran Local Council Service Center or P.R.A.Y., 8520 Mackenzie Road, Suite 3, St. Louis, MO 63123-3413; 800-933-7729; e-mail: info@praypub.org; Web sites: www.praypub.org or www.tcmnet.com/~macmaxim/nlas/nlas.html	God and Me (gr. 1-3) S, No. 33604; C, No. 33603; M, No. 33606	God and Family S, No. 33597; C, No. 33598; M, No. 33595	God and Church S, No. 33599; C, No. 33600; M, No. 33596	Living Faith S, No. 33637, C, No. 33636	Lamb Nomination; Servant of Youth Nomination
Meher Baba Committee for Meher Baba and Scouting, 912 9 th Ave S, North Myrtle Beach, SC 29582; 843-272-3498	Love for God	Love for God	Compassionate Father	Compassionate Father	The Ancient One
Moravian The Moravian Church, Drawer Y, Winston-Salem, NC 27108; 336-722-8126	None	None	God and Country	God and Country	The Order of David Zeisberger
Polish National Catholic Church Mr. Arthur Wyglon, 115 Heather Hill Dr, Buffalo, NY 14224; 716-674-2394	Love of God (Milosc Boga)	Love of God (Milosc Boga)	God and Country (Bog I Ojczyzna)	God and Country (Bog I Ojczyzna)	Bishop Thaddeus F. Zielinski
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Local Council Service Center or P.R.A.Y., 8520 Mackenzie Road, Suite 3, St. Louis, MO 63123-3413; 800-933-7729; e-mail: info@praypub.org; Web sites: www.praypub.org or pcusa80.pcusa.org/pcusa/scouters	God and Me (gr. 1-3) S, No. 33604; C, No. 33603; M, No. 33606	God and Family S, No. 33597; C, No. 33598; M, No. 33595	God and Church S, No. 33599; C, No. 33600; M, No. 33596	God and Life S, No. 33609; C, No. 33610; M, No. 33605	God and Service Nomination
Protestant and Independent Christian Churches Local Council Service Center or P.R.A.Y., 8520 Mackenzie Road, Suite 3, St. Louis, MO 63123-3413; 800-933-7729; e-mail: info@praypub.org; Web site: www.praypub.org	God and Me (gr. 1-3) S, No. 33604; C, No. 33603; M, No. 33606	God and Family S, No. 33597; C, No. 33598; M, No. 33595	God and Church S, No. 33599; C, No. 33600; M, No. 33596	God and Life S, No. 33609; C, No. 33610; M, No. 33605	God and Service Nomination
Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) P.R.A.Y., 8520 Mackenzie Road, Suite 3, St. Louis, MO 63123-3413; 800-933-7729; e-mail: info@praypub.org; Web site: www.praypub.org	That of God No. 3QOFB	That of God No. 3QOFB	Spirit of Truth No. 3QOCB	Spirit of Truth No. 3QOCB	Friends Nomination
Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (World Community Program Series) Director of Scouting, R.L.D.S., The Auditorium, PO Box 1059, Independence, MO 64051; (816)833-1000	None (Use of God and Me: S, No. 33604; C, No. 33603, M, No. 33606, is approved – contact P.R.A.Y.)	Light of the World	Liahona	Life and World	International Youth Service Award Nomination
The Salvation Army PO Box 269, Alexandria, VA 22313; Eastern Territory, 914-620-7367; Central Territory, 847-294-2112; Southern Territory, 404-728-1363; Western Territory, 310-544-6434	God and Me S, No. 33604; C, No. 33603; M, No. 33606	Silver Crest God and Family	God and the Salvation Army	God and Life	Scouter's Award Nomination
United Church of Christ Local Council Service Center or P.R.A.Y., 8520 Mackenzie Road, Suite 3, St. Louis, MO 63123-3413; 800-933-7729; e-mail: info@praypub.org; Web site: www.praypub.org	God and Me (gr. 1-3) S, No. 33604; C, No. 33603; M, No. 33606	God and Family S, No. 33597; C, No. 33598; M, No. 33595	God and Church S, No. 33599; C, No. 33600; M, No. 33596	God and Life S, No. 33609; C, No. 33610; M, No. 33605	God and Service Nomination
United Methodist Local Council Service Center or P.R.A.Y., 8520 Mackenzie Road, Suite 3, St. Louis, MO 63123-3413; 800-933-7729; e-mail: info@praypub.org; Web site: www.praypub.org or www.umscouting.org	God and Me (gr. 1-3) S, No. 33604; C, No. 33603; M, No. 33606	God and Family S, No. 33597; C, No. 33598; M, No. 33595	God and Church S, No. 33599; C, No. 33600; M, No. 33596	God and Life S, No. 33609; C, No. 33610; M, No. 33605	God and Service Nomination
Zoroastrian The Zoroastrian Association of Greater New York, c/o Mrs. Villy Gandhi, Corresponding Secretary, The Good Life Program, 704 Harristown Rd, Glen Rock NJ 07452-2334; 201-445-3917, fax: 201-445-3917; e-mail: villy@cybernex.net	None	None	Good Life	Good Life (To age 21)	None

If materials with a Boy Scouts of America supply number are not in stock at the local council service center, please ask the manager to order from the Boy Scouts of America Supply Division or call the BSA Supply Division toll-free at 800-323-0732.

*Also available from Religious Relationships, S226, Boy Scouts of America, PO Box 152079, Irving, TX 75015-2079; telephone 972-580-2191.

S – student material C – counselor material M – adult mentor material
Please Duplicate Chart as Handout

**For more information, contact the religious organizations directly or call your council representative(s).
How do we get started on these programs?**

1. Youth members must obtain the specific booklet for their religion.

- Check with your council store or contact the religious organization directly (see above chart).
- Each youth member needs his or her own booklet to document progress.
- Some religions offer adult manuals for counselors and mentors.

2. Parents must review the program guidelines.

- Some programs require participants to be official "members" of the religious institution.
- Age/grade requirements vary from program to program.
- Each program sets its own guidelines as to who may serve as counselor. Some programs require clergy to serve as counselors, other programs allow parents or other family members to serve as counselors.

3. Families should talk to their religious leaders and show them the booklet before beginning any program.
 - Most programs require that they be completed under the auspices of that religious organization.
 - Many programs require the signature of the local religious leader.

4. The youth member needs to complete the requirements, obtain the proper signatures, and follow the instructions to order the emblem.
 - These emblems are not available from your local council store (follow the instructions in your booklet).
 - The emblem should be presented in a meaningful ceremony, preferably in the member's religious institution.

Frequently Asked Questions

About the religious emblems programs available to members of the Boy Scouts of America
The emblem can be presented at any time of the year. Scout Sunday/Sabbath, in February,
would be a perfect time to recognize religious emblems recipients.

What are the religious emblems programs?

The religious emblems programs are programs created by the various religious groups to encourage youth to grow stronger in their faith. All religious emblems programs have been created by the religious groups themselves, not by the Boy Scouts of America. The Religious Emblems Quick Reference Chart (publication No.5-206) lists all the different religious programs currently available and who to contact for more information. The Boy Scouts of America has approved of these programs and allows the recognitions to be worn on the official uniform, but each religious organization develops and administers its own program.

I have a unit with children of all different faiths. How can I include the religious emblems programs for my unit?

The religious emblems programs should be presented to youth members and their families as an optional program for them to complete through their religious organization. Religious instruction should always come from the religious organization, not from the unit leader. Parents need to be informed of these programs and told where to get the information for their particular faith.

Do boys and girls participate in the same program?

It depends on the religion. Some religions have created programs that are used by both boys and girls. Other religions have created separate programs for members of separate youth agencies (i.e., Boy Scouts of America, Girl Scouts of the U.S.A., and Camp Fire Boys and Girls). Please check the specific eligibility requirements for each religious emblems program.

Do the youth have to belong to a religious institution?

It depends on the religion. Please check the eligibility requirements for your particular religious program.

Why doesn't my religious institution know about the religious emblems programs?

Although the religious emblems programs were created by the religious bodies at the national level, the local religious institution may not be aware of these programs. It may be helpful to write for more information or even obtain a copy of the curriculum to give to your religious leader.

If the religious emblems program for my faith has more than one level (for the different grade levels), may my child earn all of these recognitions?

Yes. Members can earn all levels of their religious emblems program. However, they must be in the appropriate program guidelines when they start and complete each level (they may not go backwards and earn younger programs).

How is the emblem presented?

The emblem should be presented in a meaningful ceremony, preferably in the youth member's religious institution. Some emblems come with a sample presentation ceremony.

How long does it take to complete a program?

It depends on the program. Some programs may take three or four months, others longer.

Where is the emblem worn on the uniform?

The universal religious square knot is worn over the left shirt pocket of the Scout uniform. The medallion is pinned over the square knot for full uniform occasions.

How do we get started on these programs?

First, youth members must obtain the specific booklet for their religion. This booklet will contain information on all the lessons and service projects that they will need to complete. Each member needs to have their own booklet to document progress. Some religions also provide adult manuals for counselors and mentors. Check with your local council to see if it stocks these booklets in its store, or contact the religious organization directly (addresses and phone numbers are listed on the Religious Emblems Quick Reference Chart No.5-206).

Second, parents must review the specific guidelines for their particular program: age/grade requirements vary from program to program; some programs require that the youth be an official "member" of the local religious institution, others may not; and each program determines who may serve as counselor (some require clergy, others allow parents or other family members). Be sure to look at specific eligibility guidelines!

Third, families should talk to their religious leaders and show them the booklet before beginning any program. Most of the religious emblems programs require that they be completed under the auspices of that religious organization, and many require the signature of the local religious leader. Again, check the specific eligibility requirements for your religious program.

Fourth, the member needs to complete the requirements, obtain the proper signatures, and follow the instructions to order the emblem/award. (These emblems are not available in your local council.) The emblem can be presented at any time of the year and should be presented in a meaningful ceremony, preferably in the member's religious institution.

Who may serve as counselor?

It depends on the program. Some programs require clergy to serve as counselor, others allow a parent or family member. Please check the specific guidelines for your religious program.

How do I order the recognition items?

Each religious program has its own emblem. Follow the instructions in your recognition guidelines because the emblems come from different places and require submission of different information. These emblems will not be available in your local council!

What are the adult recognitions?

The adult recognitions are by nomination only; they are honors given to worthy adults for their outstanding service to youth both through their religious institution and one of the national youth agencies. Recipients of these awards are unaware that they are being nominated; an outside party must nominate them to receive an award by submitting the required application, letters of recommendation and resume. Please check eligibility requirements for specific awards.

Notification of Religious Emblem Earned

Our council is always pleased to know that members are fulfilling their promise "to do my duty to God and my country." We would like to recognize our members who have earned their religious emblem by including them in our council's newsletter. Please complete the form below and send it to your local council.

Youth member's name _____ Age _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip Code _____

Daytime Phone _____

Program Level: ___ Tiger ___ Cub ___ Webelos ___ Boy Scout ___ Venturer

Unit # _____ District _____

Name of Emblem _____

Date Completed _____ Date Recognition Presented _____

Location Recognition Was

Presented _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Religious Organization Contact _____

Phone _____

Please duplicate. Also available at www.praypub.org.