



Piercing Arrow

March 2016

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Diocese of Kansas City- St. Joseph, Missouri

Chairman's Report

When I agreed to take on the chairmanship of the Catholic Committee on Scouting just over two years ago, I was not sure if I was up to the challenge. Of course, I had been involved with the committee for a number of years prior to this and had served in many different capacities but, to be the chairman seemed like a daunting task. With the help of the committee and with many prayers on my part, I successfully completed two years as the chair.

I could never have handled this position without the help of so many others. My fellow committee members were always there for me to see that any task that had to be completed was done so in a timely manner. Our membership has grown and continues to do so. We have many members who generously donate to the cause of helping the Scouts in our diocese.

Most importantly, I believe that we have a great group of people who have agreed to take on our annual retreat. Last fall, we held our first retreat under the guidance of these amazing people. I feel that with their leadership, the retreat will grow in the future and become greater than ever. Please pray, with me, that this will be so.

I look forward to working with our new chair, John Swartz, as he begins his term as our new leader. I would ask that you would think about joining our meetings as often as you can and assist John in any way that you can. His and our work can be done much better when we have many volunteers. If you cannot be physically present for any of our meetings, please pray for all of us, that our efforts in support of Catholic Scouting will bear much fruit.

Deacon Dan

Piercing Arrow Newsletter Delivery Changes

Some of our members have advised that they have been unable to open the newsletter sent to them as an attachment to an e-mail. This is either because they do not have a program that can open a *.pdf file, e.g., Adobe Reader, or because the file is too large for their computer or their service provider. Hence, we are trying something different. The newsletter will now be on-line at the Catholic Committee's website. E-mails to the members will have a link to the website location of the newsletter. This will also allow us to up-load many more pictures to the gallery on the site. The website address is: www.catholicscouting-kcsj.com

As you can see, the Piercing Arrow newsletter holds an important breadth of information inside each issue. We would love to spread the news of all of the opportunities and accomplishments of Catholic Scouts throughout our diocese, but we lack current email and/or postal addresses of many Catholic Scout leaders and parents. If you are not receiving this Piercing Arrow newsletter by e-mail or link to the website and would like to, please contact Mary Stoner at: mstoner2005@comcast.net or R. Scott Smith at ssmith@furrysmithlaw.com to be sure that you are added to the list.

Diocese earns NCCS Award

The Diocese of KC/SJ earned the National Committee on Catholic Scouting Quality Diocese Award for 2015. Requirements are similar to the Quality BSA District and Council Awards.

Chaplain's Report

Knights of Columbus Ending Role as Chartering Organizations

Due to a new initiative focusing on the family, the Knights of Columbus will no longer be available as a chartering partner for Scout units. They will continue to support Scouting on the parish level. This decision affects ten (10) of our units in the diocese.

Parishes Role as Chartering Organizations

In 2006, Bishop Finn gave permission allowing a parish to be a chartered partner. I scheduled a meeting with Father Charles Rowe, Vicar General, to review the current situation with the hope that Bishop Johnston would be agreeable with parishes as chartered organizations. We were joined by Kenn Miller, our Scout Executive and Keith Sickendick, Council Commissioner and Central Region Vice President, Membership. We discussed BSA's chartering procedures, its liability insurance for volunteers and its child protection requirement. 'Scouting as Youth Ministry' was also part of our discussion. I was asked to compose a draft letter for Bishop Johnston to send to the priests. Unit leadership will be receiving a letter from me as well.

Father Joe Powers

Catholic High Adventure

The St. George Trek is the National Catholic Committee on Scouting's (NCCS) high adventure Catholic leadership program for older Catholic Boy Scouts and Venture Crew members held at Philmont Scout Ranch. The program brings Catholic high school youth from around the country together with selected priests, religious and seminarians for eleven days of backpacking in the context of a vocation retreat. The Trek will begin on July 5 in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Then it's off to Philmont, returning to Albuquerque on July 20th.

Two participants from each diocese will be

accepted on a first-come basis. The Catholic Committee makes the selections from received applications. A female crew is planned, pending sufficient female registration.

Registration fee will be paid by the Catholic Committee. Each participant is responsible for transportation and personal expenses.

It has been many, many years since our diocese was represented. It's time to start again.

General information and application can be found at www.nccs-bsa.org/aboutUs/php under 'Youth' or by contacting Father Powers.

Religious Emblems Counselor Training Available this Spring

We are planning to hold a Catholic Religious Emblems Counselor training session this coming April or May on either a Saturday morning or possibly a Sunday afternoon. If you know anyone who is interested in being trained, please contact Thomas Jewitt at oubrioko@yahoo.com or 816-537-6104 so that we can nail down an appropriate date.

Board of Directors Election

The election of the 2016 Catholic Committee on Scouting Board of Directors has taken place. The new officers are:

Chair, John Swartz

Vice-Chair, Mike O'Neil

Treasurer, Joe Griggs

Secretary, Thomas Jewitt

Member-at-Large, Bill Kattner

Committee Chairs are listed in the Committee Contacts Section below.

Summer Camp Mass Schedule Change

Second and sixth session Masses will be held on Saturday, June 18 and July 30th at 4:00 p.m.

Membership Report

You Can Still Support Us

Membership cards were mailed to the one hundred sixty-seven (167) current members of the Catholic Committee on Scouting (CCS) along with our annual request that each member affirm their continued interest and support of Catholic Scouting in our diocese by donating \$10.00 or more.

As of February 29th, we have received donations from forty-four (44) members totaling \$1,290.00. Thirty-one (31) of those forty-four (44) members donated more than \$10.00.

Many thanks to each of you for your continued interest and support.

Remember, your response reaffirms your continued interest in our mission of serving Catholic scouting. Your response is just as important as your donation to the Committee. We look forward to hearing from as many members as possible.

If you have not yet responded, you may do so by mailing your tax deductible donation to the address below. Checks should be made payable to: "Catholic Committee on Scouting." If you did not receive your 2016 CCS membership card in the mail, please contact Thomas Jewitt at oubrioko@yahoo.com or 816-537-6104.

Thomas Jewitt
Catholic Committee on Scouting
4384 SW Breezy Point Lane
Lee's Summit, MO 64082-4716

Thomas Jewitt

Scouting Sunday at St. Peter's Parish

– A signature event

Scouting Sunday is a major event at St. Peter's. St. Peter's parish celebrated Scouting Sunday with Cubs, Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts participating.

Our celebrant, Fr. Bryan Amthor, is a Firebuilder in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say. Four servers included two junior high Boy Scouts and two junior

high Girl Scouts. Seventh grade Girl Scouts joined the cantor in front of the congregation announcing the songs and leading the singing. Senior Patrol Leader Patrick Hayes and Assistant Senior Patrol Leader Colin Safley presented the readings from the ambo.

Cub Dens greeted parishioners before Mass and distributed program cards. Other Dens collected the cards following Mass along with the weekly bulletin. The Webelos I Den passed the collection basket preceding the Offertory.

Dave & Julie Kennedy have boys in both Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts and were chosen to present the gifts. Dad and boys in uniform made a nice presence.

Finally, Scoutmaster Mike Lisac gave the Scoutmasters Benediction following Communion. By the time he asked for former Scouts, former Scout leaders, and current Scouts to stand, a majority of the congregation admitted to a history in the organizations. Mike then lead Scouts in the very familiar ending to all of our Boy Scout meetings, "... and now may the blessings ...".

Troop 221 Earns Quality Unit Award

Troop 221 has earned the Quality Unit Award for 2015.

Cooperation, development, and program are the key words in the recognition of Catholic chartered units in earning the National Catholic Quality Unit Award - Pope Paul VI. The adult leadership responds to training not only in Scouting lore, but training in religious counseling and Catholic National Catholic Leadership Development.

The Scouts in each Pack, Troop, Team, and Crew/Ship respond by participating in the religious emblems program respective of their status in Scouting.

Father Powers Appointed to NCCS Post

Long active in the National Committee on Catholic Scouting, Father Joe Powers, our Chaplain, has been appointed Associate National Chaplain of the NCCS effective April 10, 2016.

We are indeed proud of his service to our diocese and his recognition at the national level. It is anticipated that he will rise to National Chaplain when his tour of duty as Associate ends.

Record Religious Emblems Awarded

More than One hundred fifty (150) religious emblems were awarded in the diocese in 2015. These included fifty-nine (59) Parvuli Dei Emblems and three (3) Pope Pius XII emblems.

Congratulations to Mike O'Neil, last year's Religious Awards Chair, for a job well-done in managing the distribution of these awards. The new Awards Chair, Mary Stoner, looks forward to the continued growth in the Scouting religious programs.

Religious Retreat Date Set

Mark your calendars. The annual Catholic Retreat for Scouts is set for September 9-11, 2016. The event will be held at Camp Prairie Schooner in Eastern Jackson County. Last year's attendance was encouraging. Expectations are high that participation will increase this year.

The Retreat Committee could use your help in designing and presenting the event. Volunteers, please.

Philmont Programs Available

There are two great programs open to Catholic Scouters at Philmont.

Scouting the Catholic Church will be held in July 24-30, 2016. It will be held at the Philmont Training Center near Cimarron, New Mexico.

St. George Trek is available in odd-numbered years to high school age Scouts who are considering a Catholic religious vocation. The event includes a retreat in Albuquerque, New Mexico, and a complete hiking trek at Philmont.

See www.nccs-bsa.org for details on each of these programs.

Chapel Clean-up Troop Volunteers Needed

As the summer sessions at Bartle approaches, we once again need troops to volunteer to tidy and clean up at the chapel at each of the sessions. Troop 118 (St. Peters) has volunteered for the Second Session and Troop 180 has the Fourth Session covered. Please contact Father Joe Powers to volunteer your troop for the other sessions. Depending on the size of the troop, we may need more than one troop for the sessions.

Religious Emblems Recognition Service

Scouts and Scouters from around the diocese gathered at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception on Sunday, February 28 to recognize adult leaders that have given their time and talent to Catholic Scouting.

The Bronze Pelican is awarded to any adult who has contributed to Scouting as Youth Ministry in the Catholic Church.

This year's Bronze Pelican Emblem recipients are:

Kim Sixta-Barrera, Bill Kattner, Stephen Marsh, Candace Ott, and Randy Rotert

The St. George emblem is awarded to members of the laity and clergy, Scouters and non-Scouters alike, who have made significant and outstanding contributions to the spiritual development of Catholic youth through Scouting.

This year's St. George Emblem recipients are:

Alex Pope, Bob Stockdell, Mary Stoner and John Swartz

Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts and Venture Crew were also recognized for their efforts in earning Catholic Religious Emblems. The following were awarded at the ceremony.

St. John Bosco Emblem

Tristan Spooner, Troop 221
Peter Morgan, Troop 221

Light of Christ Emblem

Andrew Ampon, Pack 261
Blair Parker, Pack 111
Joseph Stoverink, Pack 111

Parvuli Dei Emblem

Adam Ampon, Pack 261
Jason A. Esclamada, Pack 261
Octavious Soriano, Pack 261

Ad Altare Dei Emblem

Gavin Darby, Troop 111
Josh McAnerney, Troop 362
Gavin Ott, Troop 261
Tristan Ott, Troop 261
Charles Pfeffer, Troop 32
Katie Pfeffer, Crew 2010
Victor Rangel, Troop 221
Matthew Revers, Troop 261
Adam Suskind, Troop 362
Nathan Tracewell, Troop 261

Other un-named scout-age recipients of these

awards in 2015 chose to receive the recognition from their parish priests at Mass.

St. Joseph Catholic Committee Emblems Recognition

The Catholic Committee in St. Joseph (Pony Express Council) awarded 29 religious emblems to youth. They were:

Light of Christ 10
Parvuli Dei 12
Ad Altare Dei 4
Pope Pius XII 3

The following Scouts received the Pope Pius XII Religious Emblem:

Adam Reardon Troop 47
Brandon Schiermeyer Troop 47
Kaleb Wagner Troop 47

COMMITTEE CONTACTS

Chair: John Swartz: 816-523-5758
Vice Chair: Mike O'Neil, 816-436-4804
Chaplain: Fr. Joe Powers, 816-842-0416
Secretary: Thomas Jewitt, 816-537-6104
Treasurer: Joe Griggs 816-651-4869
Member-at-Large: Bill Kattner
Religious Emblems: Mary Stoner, 816-509-7702
Religious Activities: Ken Fuenfhausen, 816-529-29711
Membership: Thomas Jewitt, 816-537-6104
Unit Relations: Cathy Albers, 816-313-9953
Scouter Development: John Ryan, 816-833-1141
Vocations: Vacant
Communications: R. Scott Smith, 816-588-3377 & Mary Stoner, 816-509-7702
Bartle Maintenance: Scott Baird, 816-363-3742
Emblem Counselor Training: Dave Tracewell
John Pileggi, John Wesling
St. Joseph Committee Chair: Shannon Clark, 816-232-0477
Director, Diocesan Youth Ministry Office: Michael Nations 816-756-1850
Heart of America Council Liaison: Nick Traxler 816-942-9333



St. George Emblem Recipients

Left to right, Alex Pope, Venture Crew 553; Mary Stoner, Troop 161; Bishop James Johnston; Bob Stockdell, Troop 161; John Swartz, Troop 118.



Bronze Pelican Emblem Recipients

Left to right, Kim Sixta-Barrera, Pack 98; Bill Kattner, Troop 763; Candace Ott, Troop 261; Bishop James Johnston; Stephen Marsh, Pack 391; Randy Rotert, Troop 391.



Scout Sunday at St. Sabina Parish

Scouts from Troops 32, Troop 54 and Troop 111, and a Venturer from Crew 2010, who earned Ad Altare Dei this past December, celebrated Scout Sunday at St. Sabina parish in Belton, Missouri. Pictured are: Trevor Carbaugh, Nathan Conroy, Gus Costanzo, Gavin Darby, Robbie Keays, Charlie Licata, Jack Lintz, Brennen McDowell, Reece Perkins, Charles Pfeffer, Katie Pfeffer, Benito Rodriguez, Efrén Rodriguez, John Samson, Joseph Samson, Vincent Srader, and Andrew Tait with St. Sabina Pastor Father Jeff Stephan, Seminarian Jared Samson, and CCS religious emblems counselor Forrest Bolles).