



# National Catholic Committee on Scouting®

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## 2020 Member Recognition Report

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### **NCCS Honor Roll of Donors**

July 1, 2019 to June  
30, 2020

### **NCCS Chairman/Chaplain's Circle**

**(\$5,000 and up)**

Mary Martha and  
Emmett J. Doerr  
Charitable Trust

### **St. George Award Circle**

**(\$2,500 to \$4,999)**

Cynthia  
and John Anthony  
John and Julie Doerr  
Brian Girskis  
Mr. George Hyde  
Mr. Edward Martin  
Davis Wright

2020 has been a challenging year. The health crisis has impacted each of us, and as we have each learned to adapt, so has the National Catholic Committee on Scouting. Under the leadership of Jim Weiskircher, National Chairman, and Father Joe Powers, National Chaplain, our Executive Committee, members and volunteers have utilized online video conferencing and webinars to carry on our mission and break new ground in how we deliver our programs.

In this report, we'd like to recognize our members and supporters, whose generosity made all things possible this past year. We'll also highlight some of NCCS' success stories.

Finally, an overview of NCCS' financial status will provide you with the knowledge and confidence that we can continue our mission in the coming years through your continued support.

[\*\*View Complete NCCS Honor Roll of Donors\*\*](#)

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## 2020 NCCS Success Stories

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## 270 Families Participate in First Virtual Religious Activity Workshop

Theresa Dirig is  
NCCS'  
Religious Activities  
Chair and a member of  
the Fort Wayne/South  
Bend  
Diocesan Catholic  
Committee. She also  
serves on several other  
Diocesan committees.



The Religious Activities Committee partnered with the Fort Wayne/South Bend Diocesan Catholic Committee on Scouting in presenting online virtual lessons of our faith. Our Diocesan Committee normally presents a faith lesson to our youth approximately every 6 weeks. When COVID prevented that we looked to our local partner, Our Sunday Visitor, to provide online lessons. Our first lesson was on St. Faustina and Divine Mercy on April 17<sup>th</sup>. We reached out to the National Shrine of the Divine Mercy in Stockbridge, MA and Fr. Anthony Gramlich, MIC agreed to lead the lesson.

We had 270 families participate in our first virtual lesson. We were able to open up the lesson to questions from the youth and Fr. Gramlich answered them graciously. We have continued to offer virtual lessons on Our Lady of Good Help, St. Kateri Tekakwitha and a new Religious Activity is being offered the end of September – Eastern Catholic Awareness. All of the events are posted on the NCCS Facebook page!

Being able to find ways to reach our youth during our period of isolation has been very fulfilling for our committee. We have even added the recording to our website so our youth can go back and view these lessons later or use the videos to complete the requirements for the patch. We plan to continue these virtual lessons through the end of the year.

Electronic AAD Launched Nationally



Kathy Polowski is the NCCS Vice-Chair over Religious Emblems and Vocations, Phoenix DCCS Chair, and Vice-President of Vocations for the East Serra Club. She is also the National e-AAD administrator.



The opportunity to create an interactive workbook, accessible online, came about in 2013 when Mark Healy, a PhxDCCS committee member, and Fr. Dennis J. O'Rourke, former local Scout Chaplain and past National Chaplain for NCCS, discussed the concept. A year later a sample chapter was presented and approved by the Executive Committee. After thousands of hours developing, programming and editing, the e-AAD was born. Tested for several years with Ad Altare Dei groups in the Phoenix area and it was later expanded to several groups in other dioceses. This year, with the pandemic at hand, the NCCS Executive Committee approved the launching of the e-AAD nationally.

Since July 1, thirteen (13) Ad Altare Dei groups from around the country have been established using the electronic manual, serving about 105 youth. There are currently 10 additional groups that are in the process of starting up to serve 70 youth. Eighteen (18) Archdioceses and 24 dioceses have had groups form or have inquired about the workbook. In addition, 24 states and 2 countries are represented!

We are off to a great start! Counselors and scouts have expressed their gratitude for providing this electronic Ad Altare Dei manual because, although it works well with in-person groups, it has been a blessing to use for distance learning in today's environment! Most have mentioned that they would not have been able to offer Ad Altare Dei this year if the e-AAD was not available. I would love to have groups using the workbook in dioceses across the country and in every state! What a blessing it is to help our youth learn about His loving kindness and our Catholic Church by participating in this program. Truly youth ministry!

## NCCS Awards 7 Doerr Scholarships Totaling \$20,000

Julie Doerr is the NCCS Scholarship Chair and one of the founders of the Emmett J Doerr Memorial Scout Scholarship. She is also a former Flint, Michigan and Nashville, Tennessee Scout leader.



In 2005, Emmett Doerr was recognized by the NCCS and his family for his support of Catholic Scouting by establishing a scholarship in his honor. Catholic education and Scouting were his passions, so creating a service scholarship through NCCS seemed the best way to remember him.

Beginning in 2005 three scholarships were awarded totaling \$5,000 with only 5 applicants. As the number of applicants grew, so did the scholarship and in 2008, \$10,000 was awarded through 5 scholarships. In 2016, we added an additional award, increasing the total to \$12,000. Starting in 2019, the NCCS began awarding \$20,000 in scholarships to seven Scouts each year. The top award, \$5,000 for first-place, \$4,000 for second-place, \$3,000 for third, and four additional \$2,000 scholarships.

107 Scouts applied in 2020. The merit-based awards are given to scouts for outstanding service to their church, community, school, and Scouting. [Learn more about the scholarship here.](#)

The Emmett J Doerr Memorial Scout Scholarship has continued to grow through the generous support of annual charitable giving and the Doerr Scholarship endowment. Thank you to all NCCS members for your prayers and support. May God bless you!

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**NCCS Financial Summary**

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Fiscal 2019 was a positive year for the National Catholic Committee on Scouting. Revenues (excluding investment gains/income) exceeded expenses by \$10,743. These proceeds were added to our NCCS General Investment fund. Overall, NCCS investments and endowments (restricted for specific purposes) earned income of \$72,029 which represents only 26% of 2019 operating expenditures. Contributions from individuals, corporations, and foundations cover only 35% of NCCS operating needs. The remainder comes from dues, meeting fees, and sale of religious emblems, patches and books.

Contributions from NCCS members and friends is critical in supporting our clergy and religious, the work of the standing committees, and meeting day to day operating expenses. With the help of the upcoming Annual Appeal, 2020 can set the stage for future growth in NCCS' mission to utilize and ensure the constructive use of the BSA program as a viable form of youth ministry with Catholic youth of our nation.

