

NOAC 2024

CU Boulder



Religious Emblems in Scouting

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Meet your Trainer

- Southeast Louisiana
- New Orleans, LA



Alan Smason



Learning Objectives

1. Understanding the multitude of religious emblems
2. How to Find Materials for each religious emblem
3. How to find a counselor for each faith group





1. Understanding the multitude of religious emblems



Duty to God

Religious Emblems Created by Faith Communities for Their Members, Recognized by the B.S.A.

Faith Group names are listed alphabetically. Many of our Protestant faith groups offer youth emblems through P.R.A.Y. These are listed at the bottom of page 1. Any emblems offered in addition to the P.R.A.Y. emblems for a specific Protestant faith group will be listed in the alphabetical section.

Anglican Catholic Church Ad in Dornine Cub Scouts Webelos Servus Dei Scouts BSA Senior Scouts The Order of St. Michael Adults	Anglican Church in North America St. George Cross Adults	Armenian Apostolic Church of America Saint Mesrop Scouts BSA Senior Scouts	Armenian Church of America (Eastern Diocese) St. Gregory Cub Scouts Webelos Ararat Scouts BSA Senior Scouts	Baha'i Unity of Mankind Cub Scouts Unity of Mankind Webelos Unity of Mankind Scouts BSA Senior Scouts Service to Humanity Adults
Baptist Good Shepherd Adults	Buddhist Metta Cub Scouts Webelos Sangha Scouts BSA Senior Scouts Bodhi Adults	Catholic, Roman & Eastern Light of Christ Ages 6-7 Parvuli Dei Ages 8-10 Ad Altare Dei Roman Catholic Ages 13-17 Light is Life Eastern Catholic Ages 12-17 Pope Pius XII Ages 14-21 Saint George Adults	Church of Christ, Scientist (Christian Scientist) God and Country Cub Scouts Webelos God and Country Scouts BSA Senior Scouts	
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (see Vanguard on Page 2)				
Churches of Christ Loving Servant Grades 1-3 Joyful Servant Grades 4-6 Good Servant Grades 6-8 Giving Servant Grades 9-12 Faithful Servant Adults	Community of Christ Path of the Disciple Ages 7-10 Exploring Community Together Ages 11-18 International Youth Service Award Adults	Eastern Orthodox Saint George Cub Scouts Chi Rho Webelos Alpha Omega Scouts BSA Senior Scouts Prophet Elias Adults	Episcopal St. George Episcopal Adults	
Programs of Religious Activities for Youth (P.R.A.Y.) Jesus and Me Grades K-1 God and Me Grades 2-3 God and Family Grades 4-6 God and Church Grades 6-8 God and Life Grades 9-12 Building Faith in Youth Adults				
Protestant God and Service Award Adult Recognition For: African Methodist Episcopal Church (A.M.E.) African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church Baptist Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Christian Methodist Episcopal Church Episcopal Lutheran National Association of Anglican and Traditional Catholic Scouters Nazarene Presbyterian Church in America Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Protestant and Independent Christian Churches United Church of Christ United Methodist Church United Pentecostal Church International				

Which religious emblem square knot should I wear?

Cloth, silver knot on purple, No. 5007, may be worn by youth or adult members who received the knot as a youth, above left pocket. Cloth, purple on silver, No. 5014, may be worn by adult members presented with the recognition, above left pocket. Adults may wear both knots if they satisfy qualifying criteria.

Only one youth and one adult knot is worn, but any combination of devices representing the program in which a religious emblem was received may be worn on the same knot. (See Cub Scout device, No. 926; Webelos Scout device, No. 932; Boy Scout device, No. 927; and Venturer device, No. 930.)

Religious Emblem medals are pinned to the top of the left uniform pocket (directly below any square knots) for formal occasions.

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA
 *Senior Scouts: Venturing, Sea Scouting, Exploring

view of the ems Available



Religious Emblems

Click on the Faith Name to Visit Their Website for Earning the Emblems & Ordering Items

Friends, Religious Society of (Quakers)



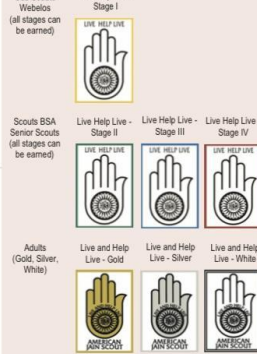
General Church of the New Jerusalem



Hindu



Jain



Islamic



Jewish



Lutheran



Meher Baba



Moravian



Polish National Catholic Church



Presbyterian (P.C.U.S.A., P.C.A.)



The Salvation Army



Sikh



Unitarian Universalist



United Methodist Church



Unity Worldwide Ministries



Vanguard International Scouting Association (LDS)



Zoroastrian



Venturing TRUST Award



*Senior Scouts are participants of the Venturing, Sea Scouting, and Exploring Programs

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Pray Awards



PROGRAMS OF RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES WITH YOUTH (P.R.A.Y.), 11123 S. TOWNE SQUARE, STE. B, ST. LOUIS, MO 63123
PHONE 314-845-3318 OR 800-933-PRAY (7729) FAX 314-845-0038 E-MAIL INFO@PRAYPUB.ORG WEB WWW.PRAYPUB.ORG

Jesus and Me (Grades K-1)

Children will be introduced to Jesus as the Son of God, but in familiar terms so that young children can see Jesus in their own everyday experiences. This curriculum uses the "Jesus Scroll Craft" as a hands-on component. After every lesson, children will create a new page to extend their scroll. The scroll will be an interactive way to not only retell the stories of Jesus, but to enter into the story and relate to Jesus.



SECTION 1: Jesus Was a Storyteller

SECTION 2: Jesus Was a Teacher

SECTION 3: Jesus Was a Friend

SECTION 4: Jesus Was a Healer

God and Me (Grades 2-3)

Children will become best friends with Jesus and tell their story of "God and Me" together. Children will make a game in each lesson and keep their games in a GAMEBOX (God And Me Exploring BOX). These games will reinforce the Bible lessons and provide opportunities for families to explore God's love together.



SECTION 1: God Created Me

SECTION 2: Jesus is God's Gift to Me

SECTION 3: I Can Talk with God

SECTION 4: Because God Cares for Me, I Can Care for Others

God and Family (Grades 4-6)

The God and Family program will help children understand the importance of family and God's role in a healthy family. Children will compare families and "pizza," and they will make a pizza as they study how families can grow together in God's love.



1. CRUST-FOUNDATION - We are God's Family

2. SAUCE - Family Heritage, Spiritual Heritage

3. TOPPINGS - Our Talents and Gifts Strengthen Our Families

4. CHEESE - In God's Family We're Loved No Matter What! Because We're Loved, We Follow Rules

5. BAKE - Being in God's Family Helps Us When Things Are Tough

6. EAT, SHARE, ENJOY! - In God's Family, We Share as a Response to God's Love

God and Church (Grades 6-8)

The God and Church program will be a journey to meet Jesus, worship God, and witness and minister for Christ. Participants will create a video or a photo album to share their faith journeys with others.



UNIT I - My Journey: Meeting Christ

- Meeting Jesus, the Person
- Meeting Jesus, the Son of God
- Meeting Jesus, the Head of the Church

UNIT II - My Journey: Worshiping God

- Learning how Christ Worshiped God
- Exploring How My Congregation Worships God
- Discovering How I Can Worship God

UNIT III - My Journey: Witnessing and Ministering for Christ

- Learning How Christ Witnessed and Ministered to Others
- Exploring How My Congregation Witnesses and Ministers to Others
- Discovering How I Can Witness and Minister to Others

God and Life (Grades 9-12)

The God and Life study is based on the life of the Apostle Paul as recorded in Acts 9:1-31.



SECTION 1: God calls all kinds of people.

SECTION 2: God doesn't expect us to do it on our own.

SECTION 3: Each of us must make a personal response to the call of God

SECTION 4: God gives strength to face adversities.

SECTION 5: God can accomplish great things through those who are willing to do God's will.

Four-Star Recognition

A special recognition is available for young people who complete the four core programs in the P.R.A.Y. series: God and Me, God and Family, God and Church, and God and Life (Jesus and Me does not count toward the Four Star Award). Start now: students cannot go backwards to earn younger awards!



VISIT WWW.PRAYPUB.ORG FOR INFORMATION AND TO ORDER BOOKLETS ONLINE.



Pray Awards FAQ

Who may earn a P.R.A.Y. award? Girls and boys in grades K-12.

Do I have to belong to a scouting group to earn a P.R.A.Y. award? No, girls and boys may earn this award even if they do not belong to a Girl Scout, Boy Scout, or American Heritage Girls group. Members of youth groups and Sunday School classes may participate in these programs.

Do I have to belong to a church to earn a P.R.A.Y. award? No, you do not have to have official membership in a congregation to earn this award; however, the program requires that a pastor review all work and oversee the program.

Which denominations use the P.R.A.Y. program? Protestant and Independent churches. The following is a partial listing of the denominations that use the P.R.A.Y. program: African Methodist Episcopal, African Methodist Episcopal Zion, Assembly of God, Baptist, Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Christian Methodist Episcopal, Church of God, Episcopal, Lutheran, Pentecostal, Presbyterian, United Church of Christ, United Methodist Church, and Independent Christian churches.

Who may serve as counselor? The pastor, or someone appointed by the pastor (such as a parent, Sunday School teacher, congregational lay leader, or other qualified adult).

May I earn more than one award (for the different grade levels)? Yes, you may earn all five awards as long as you are in the appropriate

grade at the time (you may not go backwards and earn younger awards).

How long does it take to complete the program? It depends. The younger programs may take 4 to 8 weeks to complete. The older programs may take 3 to 6 months to complete.

How do I order the booklets? Booklets may be purchased at your local scout store, the AHG store, or directly from P.R.A.Y. at <https://store.praypub.org>.

Does each child need a booklet? Yes.

Is the Counselor Manual required? Yes.

What is the difference between the Counselor Manual and the Mentor Workbook? The Counselor Manual is the "teaching" guide with answers, suggested activities, resources, etc. The Mentor Workbook is for parents with lessons and questions to complete.

How do I order the awards? The awards come from P.R.A.Y. (the local scout store will not have these awards). The application form is found in the Student Workbook or online at <https://store.praypub.org>.

How is the award presented? The award is usually presented by the pastor in a worship service.

How are adult awards different? Adult awards are by nomination only and generally require 3-5 years of service to both church and a national scouting agency. Find nominations here: www.praypub.org/adult-nominations.



Starting the Program is Easy!

- Order the appropriate program booklets based on your grade.
- Meet with the pastor: show your pastor the P.R.A.Y. booklets and together choose a counselor.
- Complete the requirements under the supervision of your counselor.
- Present your work to the pastor for final approval.
- Order the recognition items by sending the application form to P.R.A.Y.
- Plan a special ceremony in church to receive your award.

Visit www.praypub.org for information and to order booklets online.

RECOGNITIONS FOR ADULTS

www.praypub.org/adult-nominations



Adult Mentor Program

The Adult Mentor program is an optional program for parents and/or guardians who have their children enrolled in the P.R.A.Y. Series. Parents and guardians will have a workbook to complete as they work side-by-side their children.



Building Faith in Youth Award

This recognition is for P.R.A.Y. Counselors who have taught 3 years or more. Nominations must come from a Protestant congregation. A pastor's signature is required.



National Adult Awards

Adults who have served youth through their church and a national Scouting agency may be nominated to receive an Adult Recognition. The nomination requires signatures from the church and the local scouting office.

P.R.A.Y. 11123 S. TOWNE SQUARE, STE. B, ST. LOUIS, MO 63123 • 1-800-933-7729 • WWW.PRAYPUB.ORG

JUNE 2019





2/
How to find
materials and a
counselor for
each



Religious Emblems Programs

Available to Members of the Boy Scouts of America

A Scout is reverent. They are reverent toward God.

They are faithful in their religious duties and respects the convictions of others in matters of custom and religion.

To encourage members to grow stronger in their faith, religious groups have developed the following religious emblem programs. The Boy Scouts of America has approved these programs and allows its members to use them for the official uniform of the religious group to administer the programs. Check with your local council service center or contact the religious committee to obtain the curriculum information.

For additional information about religious emblems and materials, please contact your religious organization or click on the faith name on pages 1/2.

Some faiths have materials available from your local council service center or from the BSA National Distribution Center toll-free at 800-323-0732. www.scoutstuff.org as well as at the contact information listed below.

The Venturing TRUST Award is part of the Venturing awards program. This youth award is not part of the BSA religious emblems programs. For additional information, refer to the TRUST Award Handbook, available from your local council service centers or the BSA National Distribution Center.

How Do We Get Started on These Programs?

1. Youth members or their parents obtain the specific information for their religious emblems.
2. Parents review the program guidelines.
3. Families talk with their religious leaders or emblem counselors and show them the requirements before beginning the program.
4. The youth member completes the requirements and the family obtains the proper signatures and orders the emblem.

Interested in making a presentation on the religious emblems?

Promotional resources (including a DVD and scripts) are available from the BSA (www.scouting.org/awards/religious-awards/) and P.R.A.Y. (www.praypub.org).

Faiths Ordered through P.R.A.Y. Website

P.R.A.Y., 11123 S. Towne Square, Suite B, St. Louis, MO 63123
toll-free telephone 800-933-7723; fax 314-845-0036;
email: info@praypub.org; website: www.praypub.org

African Methodist Episcopal Church

website: <https://amescscouts.org/>

African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church

Anglican Church in North America
website: <https://www.praypub.org/Data/Sites/1/media/resource-library/award-applications/saintgeorgecrossanglican2020.pdf>

Baptist

website: www.baptistscouters.org

Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

website: <https://www.discipleshomemissions.org/congregations/agencies-serving-youth/the-association-of-disciples-scouts-and-scouters/>

Christian Methodist Episcopal Church
Church of Christ, Scientist (Christian Scientist)
website: www.christianscience.org/youth

Community of Christ

Community of Christ, 1001 W. Walnut St., Independence, MO 64055;
816-833-1000; website: <https://cdchrist.org/world-community/>

Eastern Orthodox

website: www.oca.org

Episcopal

website: www.brothersandrew.net/Ministries/scouting.html

Jewish

website: www.jewishscouting.org

Lutheran

website: www.rilas.org/lga

National Association of Anglican and Traditional Catholic
Scouters

Nazarene

Presbyterian Church in America
website: www.presbyteriancouters.org

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

website: www.presbyteriancouters.org

Protestant and Independent Christian Churches

United Church of Christ

website: www.ucc.org/scouting_working_group/

United Methodist Church

website: www.methodistscouter.org

United Pentecostal Church International

Anglican Catholic Church

Anglican Parishes Association, 705-546-6910
800 Timothy Road, Athens, GA 30606

Armenian Apostolic Church of America (Western Prelacy)

6252 Honolulu Ave., Suite 100, Los Angeles, CA 91214, 818-248-7737

Armenian Church of America (Eastern Diocese)

Department of Youth and Education, Diocese of the American Church of
America, 530 Second Ave., New York, NY 10016, 212-686-0710

Baha'i

Baha'i Committee on Scouting, Baha'i National Center, Education and Schools
Office, 1233 Central St., Evanston, IL 60211-1611; 847-733-3492;
email: schools@usbnic.org;
website: www.bahai.us/bnuc-of-marking-scouting-award-program

Buddhist

National Buddhist Committee on Scouting, 1710 Octavia St., San Francisco, CA
94109-4341; email: bsascoutinginfo@gmail.com; website: www.bsascouting.org

Catholic, Roman & Eastern

National Catholic Committee on Scouting, P.O. Box 949, Rosinda, NM 87742;
214-714-6950; websites: www.praypub.org and www.catholicscouting.com

Churches of Christ

Members of Churches of Christ for Scouting, 401 Cypress, Suite 406, Abilene,
TX 79601; 325-370-1679; email: info@goodservant.org;
website: www.goodservant.org

Friends, Religious Society of (Quakers)

email: clerk.quakerscouting@yahoo.com;
website: <https://quakerscouting.org/youth-programs/the-american-program/>

General Church of the New Jerusalem (The New Church)

Chairman, Boy Scout Relations Committee, General Church of the New
Jerusalem, P.O. Box 277, Bryn Athyn, PA 19009; 215-938-2542;
fax: 215-938-2617

Hindu

North American Hindu Association, 847 East Angela St., Pleasanton, CA
94566-7968; 925-846-3811; email: info@naha.us; website: www.naha.us

Islamic

National Islamic Committee on Scouting, 732-801-1283;
email: islamicbsa@aol.com; website: www.islamicscouting.org

Jain

JAINA, Federation of Jain Associations in North America, Jaina HQ, 722 S.
Main St., Milpitas, CA 95035; 510-730-0204; email: scouting@jaina.org;
website: www.jaina.org

Meher Baba

Meher Spiritual Center, 10200 N. Kings Hwy., Myrtle Beach, SC 29572;
843-272-5777; website: <https://www.mehercenter.org/>

Moravian

The Moravian Church, Drawer Y, Winston-Salem, NC 27108, 336-722-8126

Polish National Catholic Church

Mr. Richard Daum, 11 Everette Place, Wayne, NJ 07470; 973-694-9457;
email: rodaum@verizon.net

The Salvation Army

P.O. Box 269, Alexandria, VA 22313; Eastern Territory, 914-620-7427; Central
Territory, 847-294-2112; Southern Territory 404-728-1363;
Western Territory, 310-544-6434; website: www.hsquad.com/programs/scoutbsa.html

Sikh

American Sikh Council, P.O. Box 932, Voorhees, NJ 08043; 609-269-7454;
856-235-8717; email: contact@americansikhcouncil.org or
sikhscoutsusa@gmail.com

Unitarian Universalist

website: www.uua.org/children/scouting

Unity Worldwide Ministries

P.O. Box 610, Lee's Summit, MO 64063; 816-524-7414; email: kid@unity.org;
website: www.unity.org/temple

Vanguard International Scouting Association

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
website: www.vanguardscouting.org

Zoroastrian

The Zoroastrian Association of Greater New York, c/o Ms. Temilyn Mehta,
National Coordinator, The Good Life Program, 12 Rockwell Circle, Marlboro, NJ
07746; 732-972-6527; email: tgad@nmail.com

Planning a Scouting Event?

Did you know the B.S.A. has a calendar that lists all the
major faith observations for our 42 religious partners?
Avoid scheduling on major observations by viewing the
calendars at <https://www.scouting.org/resources/relationships/religious-observances/>



Frequently Asked Questions

What are the religious emblems programs?

The religious emblems programs are programs created by the various religious organizations to encourage youth to grow stronger in their faith. The religious organizations—not the Boy Scouts of America—have created the religious emblems programs themselves.

The Boy Scouts of America has approved of these programs and allows the recognition 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. Interested in making a presentation on the religious awards? Find sample scripts at www.praypub.org.

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 bodies at the national level created the religious emblems programs, 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 earn the emblems of younger age 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 uniform. Cloth badges and embroidered square knots are representative of the medal award. When a cloth badge is worn, the medal award is not worn.

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 his or her 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 in this brochure).

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. 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. All counselors must have either Youth Protection Training or a faith approved youth safety training.

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 is the adult religious recognition program?

An adult religious recognition award is presented by nomination only. The recognition is presented 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. They are nominated to receive an award by submitting the required application, letters of recommendation, and resume. Please check eligibility requirements for specific awards.

What is R.E.C.?

Religious Emblems Coordinator (REC) positions exist at the Council, District and Unit levels. The REC's are responsible for educating, motivating, evaluating, and expanding the usage of the religious emblems programs.

Purpose of R.E.C.:

- Encourage all youth to earn the emblem of their faith
- Promote religious emblems usage like B.S.A. promotes other youth advancement
- Establish goals and track the number of religious emblems to be completed every year

Get More Information about the Religious Emblems Coordinator positions at www.praypub.org/rec-info. This is an official B.S.A. Position with a registration code and position patch.



Brochure Produced by Guide Book Publishing
Available on www.scouting.org, www.praypub.org, and
www.dutytoGodBSA.org



Takeaway Challenge

Encourage the Scouts in your troop and lodge to seek the new height of a religious emblem!

