

# Ad Altare Dei Emblem Program



## About the Emblem

The purpose of the Ad Altare Dei (to the altar of God) program is to help Catholic Youth of the Roman Rite develop a fully Christian way of life in the faith community. The program is organized in chapters based on the seven sacraments. The seven Sacraments are a primary means toward spiritual growth.

## Program Objectives

The most important aspect of the program is that the Scout grows in his spiritual experience of his relationship to God and the church.

## Eligibility

- Registered youth in a Troop of the Catholic Faith.
- The content of the program is designed for boys ages 13 and above.
- Active member of Troop for 6 months.
- Completed 6th grade before starting the program.

## Requirements

- Each Scout must have his own Activity Book. The book is designed for the youth to work on with the guidance of a counselor.
- It takes 6 to 8 months on average to complete the program which starts in January and continues through September, followed by the required annual diocesan scout retreat in October — held each year.
- Each scout must attend either a Scout day of recollection or a religious/spiritual retreat during the program. This cannot be a CCD or local parish activity.
- An external social ministry project.
- The New American Bible is the preferred translation for the Bible citations.
- Regular participation in Sunday worship.

- Complete the requirements in the Ad Altare Dei Scout Manual.
- Successfully complete an Ad Altare Dei Board of Review.

### **Getting Started**

- Complete the application to begin working on the Emblem program. The application is in the Ad Altare Dei Emblem book. The approval application must be signed by the applicant, parent, counselor, Troop leader, and pastor.
- Ad Altare Dei Emblem book may be obtained most economically and quickly from Scout Shop at Patriots Path Council offices. Alternatively, they can be obtained directly from BSA Supply at <http://www.scoutstuff.org>.

### **Responsibility for Scout**

- Attend monthly mandatory meetings at St. Luke Parish. There are 8 chapters of material, all with homework, counselor sessions, readings and review, self-study activities, project assignments and external activities.
- Meetings are held on the second Monday of each month beginning in January.
- Be prepared to share experiences at the Board of Review.
- Attend a retreat or Day of Recollection while working on the AAD program.

### **Program Completion**

- After all sections have been completed, the counselor will contact the Diocesan Catholic Committee on Scouting to find out the schedule for the AAD Board of Review.
- The Scout will sit before the Board of Review at St. Phillip Church in Clifton.
- The awards are made at a formal presentation in March (of each year) following the successful diocesan Board of Review.
- Scouts who earn this Religious Emblem are also entitled to wear a BSA Religious Knot over their left pocket. If they are not presented with the Religious Emblems, then they can be purchased at your local BSA Council Service Center Scout Shop with proof that the scout received the emblem.