

Catholic Committee on Scouting

ARCHDIOCESE OF SANTA FE



Help Support the Catholic Committee on Scouting for the Archdiocese of Santa Fe

Each year the Archdiocese of Santa Fe Catholic Committee on Scouting holds several events to promote Scouts growing in their Catholic Faith. These Catholic faith formation activities include: Youth Religious Retreats in Albuquerque & Santa Fe; training adults to serve as Religious Emblems Counselors; and culminating with the Religious Emblem Conferral Mass held at the Cathedral Basilica of St. Francis of Assisi that is celebrated by Archbishop John C. Wester. We can accomplish these events because of the many dedicated leaders that donate their time and energy to providing a quality program.

Our desire is to put the "Outing" in Catholic Scouting by promoting key events each year: Peace Light distribution to parishes during the advent season, National Catholic Youth Leadership Development (NCLD) and Chimayo Pilgrimage Project. Peace Light is the distribution of candle light from the grotto in Bethlehem where Jesus was born and is distributed by Scouts to parishes throughout the world. NCLD is a daylong training to teach adult Scout leaders tools to effectively use Scouting as Catholic youth ministry. The Chimayo Pilgrimage project is where Scouts gather on Holy Thursday and throughout the night into Good Friday morning to distribute more than 3,000 crucifixes blessed by Archbishop Wester. Many pilgrims on the way into Chimayo on Good Friday look forward to the Scouts providing encouragement and receiving the blessed crucifixes on the final hill into Chimayo.

In July 2017 Scouts from Dioceses across these United States will arrive at the Catholic Center in Albuquerque to embark on the St George Trek. The Trek is a 12 day vocations retreat at Philmont Scout Ranch near Cimarron. While hiking with priests and seminarians, they will experience a program that is designed to encourage the integration of morality, values, spirituality, faith, scripture and vocation in their lives as young Catholic Men and Women. Before returning home they will be asked to commit to their own continued discernment as well as bringing their experiences home to their respective dioceses, so they can become effective peer leaders and role models for scouts and other youth in their parishes. With funds currently available the Catholic Committee has provided a partial scholarship for one Scout from our Archdiocese.

Today I am asking for you to support the Catholic Committee for the following activities: Chimayo Pilgrimage Project, Religious Emblems and St. George Trek. Individuals and Catholic organizations have contributed \$50, \$100, \$500 and some have earmarked a fundraiser specifically for the Catholic Committee. Donations for the Chimayo Pilgrimage Project will help purchase 3,000+ crucifixes, along with snacks and hot chocolate for the Scouts working throughout the night. Support for the Religious Emblems Retreat and Conferral Mass will offset printing and material costs. We are also looking to raise \$400 to support a second Scout from the Archdiocese of Santa Fe to continue their vocation discernment while on the St. George Trek.

Checks can be made out to the Catholic Committee on Scouting and mailed to Chair:

Matthew Unsworth
29 1st Street NE
Rio Rancho, NM 87124

Thank you for your consideration.

www.catholicscoutsnm.org