Light is Life
Summary Overview

Purpose

The Light is Life program respects the cultural and ritual differences among the various Eastern Catholic Churches. The goal of the program is to bring about a deeper awareness of his share in faith-life. Going forth, he will witness this life through maturity in communal worship and in Christian formation of this world.

Eligibility

- Scout is a member of an Eastern Catholic Church
- A 12 –18 year old Boy Scout registered in a troop for at least 6 months
- This program is an alternate to the Ad Altare Dei program

Youth's Role

- Attend scheduled meetings
- Record all journal entries, reports and written work legible and neat
- Work through the Light is Life Youth Manual with your Counselor, use the Bible when appropriate
- Review each chapter with your Counselor as it is completed
- Prepare to share your experiences at the Board of Review

Counselor's Role

- Religious Emblems Counselors should be approved in advance by their Pastors, the Scout Chaplain or the Catholic Committee on Scouting
- All Religious Emblems Counselors must have current BSA Youth Protection and local Diocesan Youth Protection Training
- Hold regular meetings, 60-90 minutes long, with the Light is Life group
- Facilitate the general discussions, keep it on track and moving forward
- Refer to the Counselor's Guide for integral information and necessary resources
- Review each chapter with the youth, sign and date the certification of completion

Process to earn Light is Life Emblem

- Find a Religious Emblems Counselor through the Catholic Diocese of Richmond Office for Evangelization of Youth and Young adults at *evangelizerichmond.org/youth*.

- Purchase the Light is Life Manual at the Tidewater BSA Store.

- Complete the Application to Begin Working on the Light is Life Emblem in the front of the Youth Manual. Make sure you get all the necessary signatures—Parent, Counselor, Scoutmaster and Pastor. Do NOT remove the application from the Youth Manual.

- After all the requirements have been completed, contact the Office for Evangelization of Youth and Youth Adults at *scouting@richmonddiocese.org* or 804-622-5159 to arrange the Light is Life Board of Review.
    - * The Diocesan Chair or Chaplain should lead the Board of Review.   The panel should consist of one priest, one lay person and two youth who have previously received the Light is Life Religious Emblem.
    - * The Board of Review should last approximately 10-15 minutes. In that time, the panel can determine whether the scout is ready for the emblem.
    - * After a successful Board of Review, members of the panel should sign the Application for Review and Presentation Light is Life Emblem certifying that the scout passed the review and is recommended for the award.

- Make a copy of the completed application for your records.

- Forward the completed Application, Order Form and payment for the religious emblem to:
    Office for Evangelization of Youth and Young Adults
    Catholic Diocese of Richmond
    7800 Carousel Lane
    Richmond, VA 23294

- The Religious Emblems Order Form can be found at *evangelizerichmond.org/youth* under Scouting.

- Scout mails the Participant Evaluation Form to the National Catholic Committee on Scouting at the address in Irving, TX on the evaluation form.

- The presentation of the emblem is done at the parish. Scouts are encouraged to attend the Annual Diocesan Scout Mass where they will be recognized. If the scout plans to attend the Diocesan Mass, allow at least one month lead time to process that application prior to the Mass.

- Scouts who earn this Religious Emblem are also entitled to wear a BSA Religious Knot over their left pocket. If the scout already earned the knot, there is a device for subsequent emblems. The knot/device should be presented at a Court of Honor or Troop/Crew meeting.

For more information, visit:

Catholic Diocese of Richmond, Office for Evangelization of Youth and Young Adults
evangelizerichmond.org/youth

National Catholic Committee on Scouting
nccs-bsa.org under *Religious Emblems*