# Bronze Pelican / St. George Award Nominations

**THE ROLE OF RECOGNITION**

Recognition has been a fundamental part of Catholic Scouting from its beginning. Done well, it is a powerful tool that can help catholic leaders set goals, define accomplishments, celebrate commitment and achievement, and inspire others to strive for similar success.

Effective recognition supports developing a catholic team that will help build strong, sustainable catholic adult leaders that will enable them to serve more youth through Scouting.

**ADULT RECOGNITION**

Adult recognition objectives:

1. Establish recognition opportunities for catholic adult facilitators and leaders*.*
2. Provide easy access to information concerning available recognition items.

There are two catholic adult recognitions at the diocesan level:

* The Bronze Pelican Award
* The Saint George Emblem Award**.**

**The nominee should not be told of the nomination.**

**All nominations should be kept confidential.**

**The Bronze Pelican Award** **Award Age Group:** 21+

**Time Requirements**: None specified.

**Knot is Not Awarded.**

**Overview:** A diocesan recognition that is presented to any adult who is working with the Scouting program under Catholic auspices; to Catholics in Scouting units not operated by the church; and to those who have made a significant contribution to Scouting in the field of Catholic relationships.

**Purpose:** A diocesan recognition is presented to any adult who is working with the Scouting program under Catholic auspices, to Catholics in Scouting units not operated by the church, and to those who have made a significant contribution to Scouting in the field of Catholic relationships. It may be given to men, women, priests, and non-Catholics.

**Qualifications:** It may be presented to any adult who has made a significant contribution to using the Scouting program as a Catholic youth ministry.

A Scouter does not earn the Bronze Pelican Award but is recommended by another person by nomination to the local Catholic Committee.

A limited number of emblems can be presented by the diocese each year. This emblem is presented only once to a given individual.

Membership in a Catholic chartered unit is not required.

**Requirements:** Nomination Only. A completed nomination form can be submitted any time during the year. Nominations will be submitted to the diocesan Catholic Committee on Scouting for review and approval.

Any person may submit a nomination. A person cannot self-nominate.

Approval of the pastor or significant church official is required before nomination will be considered.

Work accomplishment and dedication rather than a specific number of years in Scouting should be the criteria for receiving this emblem. The nominee usually has served Catholic Scouting for a number of years.

No honorary recognitions are to be made.

The local diocese determines the number of awards allowed based on the number of Catholic chartered units or fractions thereof in the diocese, with emphasis on the importance of being selective. There is no requirement that the full quota must be used every year.

The emblem is presented by the diocese at the Annual Scout Mass.

Nominations that were not selected will be retained for 1 year. If not selected in the second year, the nomination must be resubmitted.

**The** **Saint George Emblem Award Award Age Group:** 21+

**Time Requirements:** None specified.

**Knot:** Adult Religious Knot

**Overview:** The St. George Emblem is a national recognition for adults developed by the National Catholic Committee on Scouting and presented by the local Catholic Committee on Scouting.

**Purpose:** The purpose of the St. George Emblem is to recognize an individual's outstanding contribution to the spiritual development of Catholic youth in the program of the Boy Scouts of America.

It may be presented to any adult who is working with the Scouting program under Catholic auspices, to Catholics in Scouting units not operated by the church, and to those who have made a significant contribution to Scouting in the field of Catholic relationships. It may be given to men, women, priests, and non-Catholics.

**Qualifications:** It may be presented to any adult who has made a significant contribution to using the Scouting program as a Catholic youth ministry.

A Scouter does not earn the St. George emblem but is recommended by another person by nomination to the local Catholic Committee.

A limited number of emblems can be presented by the diocese each year. This emblem is presented only once to a given individual.

Membership in a Catholic chartered unit is not required.

**Requirements:** Nomination Only. A completed nomination form can be submitted any time during the year. Nominations will be submitted to the diocesan Catholic Committee on Scouting for review and approval.

Any person may submit a nomination. A person cannot self-nominate.

Approval of the pastor or significant church official is required before nomination will be considered.

Work accomplishment and dedication rather than a specific number of years in Scouting should be the criteria for receiving this emblem. The nominee usually has served Catholic Scouting for a number of years.

No honorary recognitions are to be made.

The National Catholic Committee on Scouting permits one emblem annually for each diocese plus one for every 20 Catholic chartered units or fractions thereof in the diocese, with emphasis on the importance of being selective, and that there be no feelings that the full quota must be used every year.

The emblem is presented by the diocese at the Annual Scout Mass.

Nominations that were not selected will be retained for 1 year. If not selected in the second year, the nomination must be resubmitted.

**How to Write a Nomination for the Bronze Pelican or the Saint George Emblem Awards.**

**Who deserves an award?**

The Bronze Pelican / St George Award may be presented to any adult who has made a significant contribution using the Scouting program as a Catholic Youth Ministry.

If you think your nominee demonstrates these criteria and that their contribution stands out from other catholic Scouters, please consider nominating them.

**How do I write a compelling nomination?**

In order for your nomination to stand out, you must explain and include evidence and clear examples of what makes your nominee so exceptional.

**Don’t just say your nominee is outstanding – prove it with documentation!**

It’s important to use specific and concrete examples to illustrate how your nominee meets each of the eligibility and award criteria. Provide examples of how your nominee has demonstrated outstanding character and is a deserving candidate for the award.

**Show how they have:**

* encouraged and exemplified the virtue of catholic beliefs and standards
* show on-going initiative assisting in the catholic religious emblem program as a facilitator or assistant
* earned the respect of their peers and become a role model for Catholic Scouting

A compelling nomination should also describe as vividly and precisely as possible why your nominee’s contribution beyond normal service and show why it has been important.

**Include details such as:**

* actualdates of provided service
* The nominee commitment to religious grow of catholic Scouts and leaders
* the achievement’s sustainability and impact on the unit’s growth and sustainability.

**Keep it simple.**

Remember that longer doesn’t necessarily mean better. When presenting your nominee, keep your explanations clear and to the point while ensuring there is enough information for the review committee to make their decision.

**How do I find the right words to present my nominee?**

Strong nominations will often include **Persuasive Nouns** such as:

* determination
* drive
* innovation
* impact
* visionary
* pioneer
* commitment
* sustainability
* creativity
* mentor
* teamwork
* hidden hero
* respect
* recognition
* selflessness
* performance
* leadership
* role model

**Adjectives** such as**:**

* trusted
* dedicated
* persuasive
* resourceful
* persevering
* unflustered
* positive
* generous
* inspirational
* passionate
* enthusiastic
* sympathetic
* supportive
* articulate
* conscientious
* incomparable
* exemplary
* fair
* admired
* vibrant
* diligent

and **phrases** such as**:**

* making a difference
* succeeding against the odds
* overcoming obstacles
* mentor and role model

**What shouldn’t I do?**

The Bronze Pelican / St George Award Review Committee evaluate nominees’ merits based on the information provided to them. There must be enough convincing information in the nomination package to make a good case.

Therefore, your nomination **should not be**:

* an extended Scouting resume
* a list of educational achievements or transcripts
* a job description showing what the person has been recruited to do

Because weaker nominations often list these things, it gives the impression that the nominee was “simply doing their job” or “nothing exceptional was demonstrated.”

Instead, you should describe what is outstanding about your nominee’s achievements and show memorably and persuasively how and where they have made a difference.

**Ready to Nominate?**

The Richmond Diocese Committee for Scouting hope that you have found this guide useful. If you are now ready to nominate someone:

* Read the eligibility criteria and instructions carefully.
* Contact the Diocese Scouting Committee for assistance.
* Prepare in advance and give yourself time to complete the nomination package.
* Fill out the form and gather any additional materials, if applicable.
* Submit your nomination package. Please include a point of contact in case the Review Committee has questions or needs more information.
* Remember that nominations are accepted all year.