

New Catholic Scouting News List and Discussion List Created

A nationwide group of Catholic adult leaders involved in the Boy Scouts Of America and Girl Scouts of the USA have created a new e-mail service for news and announcements relating to Catholic Scouting, and a related e-mail discussion list where Scouters can discuss Catholic Scouting issues.

The new lists are focused on Scouting as an important component of the Church's youth ministry. The lists are intended to serve parishes and Catholic organizations that sponsor Scouting units as well as Catholic Scouts and Scout leaders in troops, packs, and other units who wish to enhance their Scouting experience through Catholic Scouting programs. Because many such issues are common to Scouts and leaders of other Faiths and participants in non-Scouting youth ministry programs, news and discussions will benefit those audiences as well.

Subscribers to the news and announcements email list, Catholic-Scouting-News, can learn about Catholic Scouting activities, programs, and events in their own area and nationwide. These may include retreat weekends sponsored by their local Diocesan Catholic Committee on Scouting, religious emblems classes, and the St. George Trek backpacking expedition at Philmont Scout Ranch in New Mexico. Subscribers can also Post their own news and announcements.

Subscribers to the discussion list, Catholic-Scouting, will automatically receive copies of all messages posted to the news and announcement list, and can ask questions and comment on such issues as how a Cub Scout pack fits into a parish youth program, how to promote Catholic programs to Catholic Scouts in non-church-sponsored units, and the most recent guidance in operating the religious emblems and awards programs of the National Catholic Committee on Scouting.

The lists are hosted at the University of Notre Dame and are subject to the University's list service policies <<http://listserv.nd.edu/policies.html>>. The lists are moderated and maintained by volunteers, and are not sponsored by the University of Notre Dame, the Boy Scouts of America, the Girl Scouts of the USA, the National Catholic Committee on Scouting, or any other Scouting organization.

Persons interested in viewing list contents or joining the lists can access them through the internet at <http://listserv.nd.edu/archives/catholic-scouting-news.html> for the news and announcements list, and <http://listserv.nd.edu/archives/catholic-scouting.html> for the discussion list.

Both Catholic-Scouting-News and Catholic-Scouting are in operation and accepting subscribers. The formal "launch" of the two lists is scheduled for November 30, 2003, the First Sunday of Advent.