



The Kids' Catholic Virginian

“Let the little children come to me” – Matthew 19:14

Scouts honor God and country

Scouts and Scout leaders from across the diocese gathered March 16 at St. John Neumann, Powhatan, for the annual Scout Mass. More than 100 Scouts attended, representing troops from Scouting America, Girl Scouts, and American Heritage Girls.

Bishop Barry C. Knestout celebrated Mass for the Scouts and their families, recognizing the Scouts' work in earning religious emblems during the past year. Father Eric Anokye, pastor of St. John Neumann, concelebrated.

Religious emblems were presented to youth ranging from 6-18 years old. This year, more than 80 Scouts across the diocese earned Catholic Religious Emblems, including Light of Christ, Parvuli Dei, Ad Altare Dei, and Pope Pius XII.

Three adults involved in Catholic Scouting were also recognized with the St. George Award for their dedication. This year's recipients were Wyn Bedall, of St. Michael, Glen Allen; Paul Ries, of St. Thomas More, Lynchburg; and Patrick Snyder, of St. Michael, Glen Allen. Ries has been involved with Catholic Scouting since the 1980s, when his sons were Scouts.

In the final months of the National Eucharistic Revival, Catholic Scouts can also earn the Eucharistic Revival Award. It was created to help Scouts revive their love of Jesus through prayer and sacraments, especially the Eucharist.

(Photos/Vy Barto)



Ask the Bishop

Q. What is your favorite outdoor activity? Were you a Scout when you were younger?

– Dominic DiMichele, 9; St. Mark, Virginia Beach

A. I enjoy walking, jogging, or just visiting sites like parks and natural wonders, beaches, rivers, forests, and mountains. I enjoy the fresh air and appreciate the beauty of God's creation. I do this for exercise and enjoyment when I have some free time.

And yes, I was a Cub Scout and a Boy Scout! But I was a Boy Scout only for a short period of time. I got involved in many other activities, like sports, school and church activities, which pulled me away from scouting after a while.

Here are some of my Cub Scout photos from 1972-1973!



Scouts on a fishing trip. I am third from the right. Three of my brothers – Bob, Tim and Tom – are also pictured.



Me (right), my twin brother Tom (center), and my younger brother Mark, all as Cub Scouts. Tom and I were Webelos then.



Me as a Cub Scout with my mother, receiving one of the religious emblems from Father Ronald Jameson (now a monsignor and rector of the Cathedral of St. Matthew the Apostle in Washington, D.C.).

Kids 12 and younger: make sure to check with your parent/guardian, then email Bishop Knestout YOUR question.

AskTheBishop@catholicvirginian.org
Include your full name, age, and home parish.