



National Catholic Committee on Scouting®

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PRESS RELEASE

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EUCCHARISTIC REVIVAL AWARD AND PATCH

In support of the National Eucharistic Revival, the National Catholic Committee on Scouting has initiated a Eucharistic Revival Award. The goal of this award is to find a way for all Catholics, young and old, to revive their faith and love of Jesus through prayer and the sacraments, especially the Eucharist.

The concept of revival is to “bring to life” what was dead, which is something only God can do. (The word revival means “pertaining to life again” – RE = again; VIV=life; AL=pertaining to).

Revival is not a renewal which is improving on something in poor condition nor is it a reform which implies change in structure in hopes of improvement. Bill Bright, founder of Campus Crusade for Christ, defined revival best. He said, “Revival is a divine visitation, a sovereign work of God in answer to sincere, prevailing prayer. During a revival, God will: 1. Grip His people with deep conviction, repentance, forgiveness and deliverance from personal sins; 2. Fill His people with the Holy Spirit and manifest through them the fruits and graces of the Holy Spirit; 3. Fill the Church and the community with His presence and power; 4. Cause non-Christians to earnestly seek Him; 5. Ignite in His people, young and old, a passion to bring the lost to Christ at home and around the world.”

As Mary Healy said in the National Catholic Register, the key words are ‘Divine Visitation’ and ‘Sovereign Work of God.’ Revival happens when and how God chooses. But we can hasten it by sincere and prevailing prayer and personally inviting other people to Jesus. We need to bring Jesus in the sacraments to others. This is true evangelization. Many times, the tendency is to treat evangelization as a program. That type of evangelization does not work because evangelization is not a program but a way of life.



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A positive way to evangelize about the Eucharist is to offer an incentive to people to be open to God's call for their personal revival. In scouting, one way to incentivize people, youth, and adults, is with recognition. So, the National Catholic Committee on Scouting developed the idea of a Eucharistic Revival Award. This award has a main central patch and an opportunity to earn eight auxiliary patches, five of which can be worn surrounding the central patch. Hopefully, while earning the main patch and auxiliary patches, everyone will grow in knowledge of the Eucharist and, more importantly, grow in a desire to have a personal experience of Jesus in the Eucharist.

Recent surveys have shown that only 31% of Catholics believe in the Real Presence in the Eucharist. In fact, 50% of American Catholics think that the Church teaches that the bread and wine are but symbols or they are not sure what the Church teaches about the Eucharist.

To earn the central patch and any of the auxiliary patches, there is only one requirement for each. For the main patch, the requirement is: Attend Sunday Mass and receive the Eucharist (if made First Communion and have no moral impediment) for 12 weeks, preferably consecutively.

Studies have shown that doing something ten times or more frequently makes that something habit-forming. It is hoped that if someone were to go to Mass and receive Communion for twelve consecutive weeks, a church-going habit will be formed. Hopefully, by earning this award, the lives of Catholics, whose faith and belief in the true meaning of Eucharist are weak, will change in positive ways.

The themes and requirements for each of the auxiliary awards are as follows:

- Reconciliation – Receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation (or study the ten commandments if applicant has not made First Penance).
- Rosary – Pray one rosary of each of the joyful, luminous, sorrowful, and glorious mysteries.
- Family Prayer – Participate in a family prayer at least weekly for 12 weeks.
- Parish Ministry – Be active in ministry in your parish, such as altar server, choir member, lector, extraordinary minister of Holy Communion, usher (as age appropriate).
- Eucharistic Adoration – Attend a Eucharistic Adoration (preferably with family).



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- Eucharistic Miracles – Learn about and discuss five Eucharistic miracles.
- Eucharistic Procession – Participate in a Eucharistic procession.
- Eucharistic Activity – For younger youth, attend a Catholic activity where the theme is the Eucharist; for older youth and adults, attend a retreat where the theme is the Eucharist.

This award is open to all Catholics from first grade level and older. The award can be earned from now until the end of the National Eucharistic Revival in 2025. Each applicant can self-verify completion of the requirements for the central award and the auxiliary awards. The actual patches can be purchased at the National Catholic Committee on Scouting's website (<https://nccshop.org/product-category/patches/faith-series/>) While the eight auxiliary activities can and should be earned while working on the central patch award, the central patch activity – regular attendance at Sunday Mass – is the foremost goal of any of these activities. Hence it needs to be earned first before any other awards are given. Once the central patch is earned, work on the auxiliary patch requirements may continue until the conclusion of the National Eucharistic Revival.