

Folks,

I want to send out a note that I hope you will share around the Council about what is happening in the Catholic Committee on Scouting over the next couple of months.

1. **TRAINING**...Rita Murphy and I are formally trained to teach new counselors for Ad Alteri Dei and Pope Pius XII. Please reach out to us if you want to run a program but haven't been trained within the last 3 years. We will work to put as many folks together as possible to conduct the training.
2. **Religious Emblems Groups Forming**...In order to keep track of how we are doing with the Religious Emblems programs in Suffolk County Council, I'd ask that if anyone is conducting a class or know of one that is being held or planned, that I get a note about who is doing it and for what Troop. Not every Troop offers REs to their Scouts and if there is a Scout out there that wants to pursue one, I'd like to try to link them up with another group in their area. Please let me know about both AAD and PPXII.
3. **National Catholic Unit Excellence Recognition**... I'm sure all of us strive to provide a Quality program for our Scouts and use the requirements for a National Quality Unit as our guidelines. Did you know that for Units that are chartered by a Catholic organization, there is another form of recognition called the [National Catholic Unit Excellence award](#) (The requirements are contained in the link). Many of you who receive this letter may already be on the path to achieving sufficient activities to receive it at the end of the year. How about looking it over and working it into your plan?
4. **Eagle Recognition**...Does everyone know that the Diocese will send a special recognition and rosary to Eagle Candidates that contact them in advance of the ceremony? Like most special guests, please get your requests into the Scout Office at the Diocese at least 6 weeks early ([Scouting@drc.org](mailto:Scouting@drc.org)). We also need representatives to deliver the recognition and rosary on behalf of the Catholic Committee on Scouting, so watch for emails asking for volunteers on a monthly basis and please volunteer.
5. **Cub Scout All Saints Day 26 October**...Please save the date for a special event hosted by Rita Murphy to learn about the Saints through crafts and stories. It will be run on 26 October at St Hughes of Lincoln in Huntington Station from 9-12 AM. We will look to bring Catholic Cub Scout Award Books for Light of Christ and Parvuli Dei so that Cubs can get a start on completing their Religious emblems in time for Scout Sunday in February.
6. **Cub Scout Pack Religious Emblems Initiative...November Pack Meetings**. Some of you have heard that I like to encourage Cub Packs to consider making a special effort during their November Pack meetings to offer Cub Scout Religious Emblems to their Cubs so that they can be completed and awarded by Scout Sunday in February. I am attaching some great aides to help Parents with their Cub Scout REs as well as to explain the process we use in the Diocese to have them awarded. Please don't forget to encourage Cubs of all Faiths to do their appropriate RE and demonstrate their Duty to God. Light of Christ is for younger Cubs like Wolves and the next higher one (Parvuli Dei for Catholics) is perfect for first year Webelos.
7. **Scout Day of Recollection. 16 November**...The theme this year is a Journey with St George. It will be held at Blydenburg County Park in Smithtown and will begin at 8 AM and continue to 12. Scouts should come prepared to hike 5 miles and bring a small backpack with the 10 essentials. The event will be held rain or shine. Scouts will learn about Saints, Baden Powell, Who St George is and have time to reflect on the lessons the Saints and St George in Particular can teach us. Cost will be \$10 at the door please. Look for registration soon.  
Each candidate for AAD need to attend one of a couple religious experiences. Either a Day of Recollection or a Scouting Retreat. This year we are doing the Day of Recollection in the Fall and the Catholic Camporee/Retreat in the Spring. All Scouts are invited to attend this event regardless of whether or not they are working on their AAD.
8. **Peace Light Ceremony...8 December**. Each year, a candle is lit in the Holy Lands and it is passed along from place to place as the light of peace spreads across the land during Advent. Eventually it is flown to JFK using a very special carrier and you will all have the opportunity to bring your carrier (candle, lantern, etc) to bring the light to you home, your church and your friends and family. Watch for detailed announcements as to location and time.
9. **Venture Crew 333...The Bishop's Crew**. Every year, I search for new Scouts that would like to help bring the good news to their fellow Scouts in the form of Youth leaders for Catholic Scouting activities. Do you know someone that might like to help out and hang out with other like minded young men and women? If so, please have them contact me so I can put them in touch with the Crew to get more information. In addition to Catholic Program support and PPXII BORs we also do High Adventure with trips in the summer and throughout the year and we work with a charity called Friar Suppliers to support a community ion Haiti that Scouts are welcome to go and serve for a week.
10. **Monthly SCC CCOS meeting**...Out next meeting will be 26 September. Look for an invite with dial in information to participate.

11. **Suffolk County Council CCOS Membership**... know that everyone who receives this email is in the 20% of the folks that do 80% of the work. Nonetheless, I am looking to reform the committee as we currently have a couple of people trying to pull everything together and filling a few of the committee roles. The committee roles are as follows:

-SCC Sub-committee Chairman (Eric Hansen...I report to the Diocesan Committee and coordinate the activities of the Council Sub-committee),

-Religious emblems(OPEN...Responsible to for coordinating the collection and review of completed AAD and PPXII workbooks at the end of the year and arranging Boards of Review),

-Religious activities (OPEN...Overall coordinator for each of the events laid out in the yearly calendar and Masses at Camporees and major events),

-Membership (OPEN... Someone to identify prospective new members to help sustain the CCOS in the years to come),

-Training (Right now Rita and I are covering Training, but would like to find some new people that have taught classes for several years and let them pass on their lessons to new facilitators),

-Communications/publicity (OPEN...I could really use some to help me make flyers, get them posted to District sites as well as the Council site and coordinate with the Diocese on making sure that our activities are highlighted).

-District Reps (OPEN...These people are our links to the Districts to make sure our message is passed down to the units in each District at Round tables and to help the other committees by identifying adults and youth that might help the committee continue in the future.)

-Crew 333 Adults and Youth...The Crew is instrumental in developing and running the program. They are Chartered by the Diocese with this principal mission. They plan and execute the major Council Level RE events. Additionally they do High adventure and mission work. If this sounds interesting to you, or if you know of a Youth that might want to share the good news with others, please let me know so the Crew can engage with you or them.

Yours in Christ and Scouting,

Eric Hansen  
(631) 290-1314  
[eric.george.hansen@gmail.com](mailto:eric.george.hansen@gmail.com)