

DIOCESE OF VENICE IN FLORIDA



CHILD OF GOD CERTIFICATE

For all Youth in Kindergarten, Grades 1 & 2

CHILD OF GOD CERTIFICATE INSTRUCTION/APPLICATION

Introduction

The **CHILD OF GOD** is a religious certificate for a very special person....**YOU**.

This program is designed to help each young girl and boy to understand how they fit into the life of the Church and how the Church fits into their life along with a greater understanding of how important God is to them and how important they are to God.

The Diocese of Venice in Florida reaffirms the beliefs set forth in the Preamble of the Constitution that the motivating force of scouting is a spiritual one. It intends to stress the ethical and spiritual ideals expressed in the Scout Promise and Law.

Eligibility

1. Any Catholic youth (boy or girl) in kindergarten or first grade, registered as a youth member in a parish in the Diocese of Venice.
2. Any non-Catholic Scout with written parental permission.
3. It is recommended that all youth should be receiving regular religious instruction either through a Catholic school, religious education program or Sunday school.

Fees

There is no fee for the certificate that the youth will receive.

Instructions

1. Ask your Pastor or Leader for the name of the religious emblem counselor for your parish. With your parents, read and familiarize yourself with all the parts of the program. A most important part of your participation in the Child of God program is the **SUPPORT, APPROVAL, and INVOLVEMENT** of your parents and family.
2. Each youth participating in this program must have their own separate book as described below. Use a permanent notebook or scrapbook for all written requirements and artwork.
3. You may work on all parts individually or you may do it as an interest group, but each girl or boy must do her/his own individual work. If necessary, seek assistance or help from your parents, your counselor or your parish priest.

NOTE: Because of the age of the girls and boys involved in this program, it is very important that the parents or guardians of the child be involved in helping to complete this project. Please read the instructions to the child and explain what they mean. It will be a very rewarding experience for you both.

Activities:

1. On the first page of your notebook draw or paste a picture of yourself. Write your name under your picture. You are a *child of God*.
2. God gave us a very special friend, Jesus. Jesus loves us all. On the next page in your notebook, draw a picture of your friend, Jesus.
3. Jesus' Mother's name was Mary. She loved God very much. We say special prayers to Mary and go to church on special days to honor her. In your notebook, draw a picture of Mary.
4. On Christmas Day we celebrate a very special birthday. Jesus was born a very long time ago in a stable. In your notebook, draw a picture of the birthday present you would like to give Jesus.
5. When Jesus was a little boy, he helped Joseph in the carpenter shop. He also helped his mother Mary in the house. Jesus liked to play with his friends. He was always fair and shared. Draw and color a picture of you playing with your friends.
6. When Jesus grew up, he told many stories. We can still find these stories in the bible. Have someone read you a story from the New Testament in the bible. Draw a picture of the story.
7. On Good Friday, Jesus died on the cross so we could be forgiven for the wrong things that we do. Three days later Jesus rose from the dead. We celebrate that day and call it Easter Sunday. Oh, what a happy day! Draw a picture of Jesus.
8. When we begin and end our prayers we make the Sign of the Cross. We also do this during Mass. As your mom or dad to teach you the Sign of the Cross. When you learn how to make the Sign of the Cross properly, draw a picture of yourself with a very happy face.
9. We say prayers to start the day, to thank God for all his gifts, at meals, to ask God's help, at bedtime and lots of other times. When we pray we are talking to God and Jesus. Be sure you talk to them several times a day. Draw a picture of yourself praying to God.
10. Tell your mom or dad what you have learned while you were working on this **Child of God** program. Draw a whole page of stars to show that you have done a good job. You are a **Child of God**.

When all work is completed, please forward the Application to the Diocese of Venice in Florida, Office of Youth and Young Adult Outreach, Attn: Scouting, 1000 Pinebrook Road, Venice, FL 34285. Make copies for your records.



DIOCESE OF VENICE IN FLORIDA

Youth and Young Adult Outreach

APPLICATION – CHILD OF GOD CERTIFICATE

Please print clearly or type

Name of applicant _____

Street Address _____

City and State _____ Zip code _____

Date of Birth _____ Phone no. _____

School attending _____ Present grade _____

Parish you are a member of _____

I hereby make application for the CHILD OF GOD certificate. On my honor as a Catholic and a Scout/American Heritage Girl, I certify that I have faithfully fulfilled all the requirements for the CHILD OF GOD to the best of my ability.

Applicant's Signature

Parent or Guardian Signature

Parish Counselor Signature and phone no.

To be completed by the Troop Leader:

This is to certify that _____ is registered and is an active member of the American Heritage Girls/Boy Scouts of the U.S.A. and has shown a high level of sprit and participation in the program.

Signature of Troop Leader

Troop Number

Sponsoring Institution

Mail to: Diocese of Venice in Florida, Office of Youth and Young Adult Outreach,
Attn: Scouting, 1000 Pinebrook Road, Venice, FL 34285.