

DIOCESE OF VENICE IN FLORIDA



OUR LADY AWARD

For Youth in Grades 6, 7, or 8
Ages 10-14 years

Introduction:

Mary is a model to all Christians. Her “Yes” to God’s will brought about the Incarnation and subsequent salvation offered to all of humanity. The “Our Lady Award” is designed to assist the Scout in living a life of saying “Yes” to God. The award consists of 3 sections: 1) Prayer; 2) Worship; and 3) Acts of Charity.

Part I: Prayer***How is prayer a part of your day?***

Prayers are often created for a special need or purpose. As a child, you may have recited the Lord’s Prayer and the Hail Mary at bedtime, and prayed a blessing before meals. As you grew older, you may have found new meaning in these traditional prayers, or used them as a springboard to meditate on the mysteries of our faith. You may have discovered your own words and your own times to talk with God. You may have found comfort from prayer during a difficult time, and an extra boost of joy from a spontaneous prayer of praise.

Through history, Christians have asked Mary to intercede for them to her Son. Many beautiful prayers to her have come down to us, including the Angelus, the Magnificat, and the Memorare. Each is a different expression of faith and love.

1. Read the Angelus, the Magnificat, the Memorare, the Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and Regina Coeli.
2. Discuss with your religious emblem counselor the source of each prayer, and when they were traditionally prayed.
3. Learn two of the prayers.
4. In your notebook, describe how each prayer speaks to you.

Part II: Worship

1. Choose one award (badge, challenge, interest project patch, or other award offered in Scouting) and discuss with your religious emblem counselor and parents how it relates to Catholic teaching and how it can help you grow closer to God. Use your imagination. You may refer to one activity in an award or the entire award. Earn the one award which you have chosen.
2. Discuss with your religious emblem counselor the different parts of the Mass and how it enters into Christ’s Passion and Resurrection. Write in your notebook how you actively participate in the Mass.

3. Describe in your notebook proper guidelines for dress and etiquette during Mass. Why is dress and etiquette important in Church? Share your thoughts with your religious emblem counselor and your parents. If it requires changing your own dress and etiquette at Mass, challenge yourself to do so each Sunday.
4. Volunteer as a lector, usher, or server at Mass. In your notebook, describe your new role in the Liturgy. You might ask a priest to celebrate a special Mass for your group/troop at which you can assist in this special way.

Part III: Acts of Charity

How can I bring Christ to others through a gift of my time, energy, and love?

Now it's time to put your prayer and worship to good work. Service is an outward expression of your inward love of neighbor. As you grow in a Christian life, service becomes a natural extension of all you believe.

Use your creativity. Look around your neighborhood, your church, and your school. Where is there a need for service? Choose one or more projects to offer your service, so that your service time amounts to at least 15 hours. Try to serve people of different ages and different needs. You may want to consider:

- Assisting with religious education or babysitting at church
- Helping with a church picnic, bazaar, or fundraising drive
- Singing in a choir, or teaching songs to a younger group of youth
- Volunteering at a Crisis Pregnancy Center and organizing a diaper drive
- Raising money for a particular service provided by Catholic Charities and donating the money to them
- Visiting the elderly in assisted living.

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Ask your Pastor or Leader the name of the trained religious emblem counselor for your parish.
2. With your religious emblem counselor, read and familiarize yourself with all parts of the program.
3. A most important dimension of your participation in the ***Our Lady Award*** is the support and involvement of your parents and family.
4. You may work on all projects individually with your religious emblem counselor, or you may do it in an interest group but each Scout must do her/his own individual work. If necessary, seek assistance or help from your parents, your religious emblem counselor, or your parish priest.
5. Use a permanent notebook or scrapbook as a diary or journal for all written requirements and art work.
6. Pray for the Mother of God to intercede on your behalf as you complete this award.
7. Have your parents and religious emblem counselor sign the bottom of each entry in your notebook.

WHERE TO SEND THE APPLICATION:

After you have completed all the work in order to earn your Award, the application form must be submitted to the Office of Youth and Young Adult Outreach at the Diocese of Venice in Florida.

Send your application form to:

Diocese of Venice in Florida
Office of Youth and Young Adult Outreach
1000 Pinebrook Road
Venice, FL 34285



DIOCESE OF VENICE IN FLORIDA
Youth and Young Adult Outreach

APPLICATION – OUR LADY AWARD

Name of Applicant _____

Address _____

City and State _____ Zip code _____

Date of birth _____ Phone number _____

School Attending _____ Present Grade _____

Parish you are a member of _____

I hereby make application for the **OUR LADY AWARD**. On my honor as a Catholic and a Scout I certify that I have fulfilled all the requirements for the **OUR LADY AWARD** to the best of my ability.

Applicant's signature _____

Parent or Guardian signature _____

Religious Emblem Counselor signature _____

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/Girl Scouts/Boy Scouts and has shown a high level of spirit and participation in the program.

Signature of Troop Leader _____

Troop Number _____ Sponsoring Institution _____

Please mail this application to: Diocese of Venice in Florida, Office of Youth and Young Adult Outreach, 1000 Pinebrook Road, Venice, FL 34285

Diocesan Record:

Date Application received: _____ Date recorded: _____

Signature: _____