

# Dubuque Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women

## Religious Youth Awards



Dear Scout leaders, American Heritage leaders, CCD class leaders, and Catholic student teachers, and Catholic youth leaders,

Thank you for your interest in the Religious Awards for our youth in the Dubuque Archdiocese. As you know the Archdiocesan Council of Catholic women (ACCW) administers the Religious Awards program for the Archdiocese.

Troop leaders order their books **online**. Most programs take 6-9 months to complete...longer for the upper classes. The web site for ordering books is: [www.nfcym.org](http://www.nfcym.org). Enter store then 'Shop by Department and click on GS-CF-Rel-Rec-Program-Books. The exact link address is <http://store.nfcym.org/shop/pc/GS-CF-Rel-Rec-Program-Books-c8.htm>.

There is a bundle of information on the site as well as other aids to assist you.

When you troop/class has completed its program, fill in the Religious Medals Order form and send along with fees for the medals and patches. At the same time send in the application in the back of the project book which has been signed off by both the scout/class leader and pastor/parish rep. Send these to the ACCW Awards Chair and a medal and (patch if wanted) will be ordered by ACCW from NFCYM (National Federation of Catholic Youth Ministry).

You can start at any time. Many leaders start with the beginning of a school year...others carry over...some youth need the extra time.

As your troop/class completes their program, have your parish set a date for presentation of the medals at a Sunday Mass such as at a Girl Scout Sunday Mass or at another appropriate ceremony. Work with your pastor and parish liturgy committee well ahead of time regarding the ceremony and its specifics. (At a Mass **medals** are awarded, **patches** typically are presented at a Scout meeting by the troop leader.)

Let ACCW know (give me a call or e-mail) at least a month to six weeks ahead of when the ceremony will take place and an ACCW representative will be there at the function to award the medals along with your pastor. If ACCW can't be there we will send the awards out to the troop leader and she may assist Father at Mass or other ceremony with presenting the Awards. *(For example the troop may march in at the beginning of Mass with the celebrant. The Awards are always given at the appropriate and prearranged time during Mass. The Awards are typically presented with the troop leader coming to the ambo (lectern) microphone, announcing the names one by one, with the ACCW representative handing Father the medal and he presents these as the girls come up.)*

I hope this is helpful. Call or email me with any concerns.

The ACCW thanks you for your interest in assisting our youth to grow in their faith. If you know of other youth leaders wanting info, please have them contact me.

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