

Programs and Recognitions

Youth Recognition Programs

Family of God

The *Family of God* program is an activity series developed to complement the catechetical efforts of the parish and families with children in grades two and three. The program helps children discover the presence of God in their daily lives as members of their family and parish. Parents and guardians play a large role in assisting the young person in completing this program. The program book includes a guide for adults.



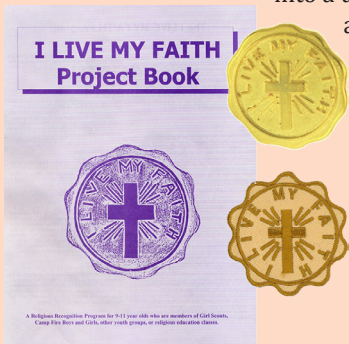
Mary, the First Disciple

The *Mary, the First Disciple* program is written for young Catholics, grades seven through ten, to grow in appreciation of Mary and in understanding themselves. They will meet Mary in Scripture as a young teenager and follow her journey, as she becomes a woman and the Mother of God. Through various projects, discussions, and liturgical celebrations over a period of months, the participants are provided with a unique opportunity to develop new insights into their personalities, friends, parents, and the world around them. This revised version of the Marian Medal program book demonstrates the importance of Mary for all generations and cultures. A separate leaders guide for adults is available.



I Live My Faith

The *I Live My Faith* program is designed to help youth, grades four through six, appreciate more deeply the place that God and religion occupy in their daily life. The action-oriented program activities focus on developing awareness within the individual of his/her potential as growing person, friend, family member, citizen, and a participant in the community of faith. The program is divided into three chapters, "Stretching," "Seeking," and "Finding" each of which blends the dimensions of discovery, prayer, service, and sacrament into a unified whole. To assist adults working with groups of participants, an adult guide is included in the program book.



The Spirit Alive

The Spirit Alive is a program designed for Catholic youth, grades nine through twelve. It assists them in discovering how the Holy Spirit moves in their lives, calling them to greater participation in the church's ministry. A separate guide book is available for adult advisors.



Adult Recognitions

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Medal

The *St. Elizabeth Ann Seton* recognition was inaugurated in 1980 to recognize the meritorious contributions of adults who serve Catholic youth through national organizations. This medal affirms the work of those who help youth develop their spiritual lives within the context of these organizations. It is ordinarily received before the St. Anne Medal is earned, but is not a requirement for receiving the St. Anne Medal.



St. Anne Medal

The *St. Anne Medal* is the highest national recognition for adults who serve Catholic youth through national organizations. The recognition was inaugurated in 1957. The purposes of the St. Anne recognition are to honor the outstanding services of adults who contribute to the spiritual development of Catholic young people in these organizations and to further Catholic adult leadership in youth ministry through these national youth-serving organizations.



Recognition Medals

Religious recognitions are administered and awarded by the local diocese according to local requirements and traditions. Youth and adults must contact the diocesan youth ministry office for more information on local requirements.

The National Catholic Committee for Girl Scouts and Camp Fire (NCCGSCF)

The Catholic religious recognition programs administered by the NCCGSCF, under the auspices of the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry (NFCYM), allow young people to explore and become more involved in their Catholic faith. All programs are designed to support and complement the catechetical efforts of Catholic parishes and schools. In particular, the *Family of God* is an excellent supplement for children preparing for the reception of their first Eucharist. The *I Live My Faith* and *The Spirit Alive* programs provide substantial and creative activities to augment preparation for the sacrament of confirmation, depending on the age requirement in your diocese.

These programs may be utilized by members of national youth-serving organizations and others as designated by the diocesan authorized administrators.

The religious recognition program books and adult guides may be purchased by any individual via the NFCYM online store. However, the religious recognition medals and patches may only be purchased and conferred by the diocesan authorized administrators upon completion of all necessary requirements and applications.

National and Local Leadership

The National Catholic Committee for Girl Scouts and Camp Fire is a management committee of the NFCYM and is comprised of fourteen regional representatives.

Each diocese designates a liaison who serves as the local contact for those wishing to use these materials.

Partnering with Youth Ministry

Today, when youth ministers and national youth-serving organizational leaders get together, they share resources and learn from one another. This positive, cooperative relationship enables these adults to effectively serve Catholic young people. Partnerships include work on service projects, retreats, program activities, leadership, and camping to name only a few.

Ordering Program Books

Program books may be purchased directly from the local diocesan liaison or the NFCYM. Order online at <http://store.nfcymoffice.net/shop/pc/home.asp> using a credit card. The NFCYM also accepts prepaid orders by mail and fax. However, you still must contact your local diocese for details on how to proceed and receive medals.



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Catholic Religious Recognitions



National Catholic Committee for Girl Scouts and Camp Fire