

Special Initiative for Scouting Emblem

by Mel Chapman, Vice President of Brotherhood Scouting Ministry • August 19, 2026

The mission of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew is to bring men and youth to Christ. The Brotherhood endeavors to accomplish this mission through the threefold disciplines of Prayer, Study, and Service. One of the key areas of service is the support of Scouting. Our Brotherhood Scouting Committee is engaged in a new initiative to enroll more youth the Religious Emblems program. We hope to reverse the decline in the number of youth participating in this program of Christian formation. Last year, only 57 Cub Scouts and 53 Scouts completed the program! We can, should and must do better!

The core of this initiative is the content of the program. We are working to enhance the materials with more emphasis on the liturgical and sacramental life of our Church. The outward and visible sign of the program is the emblem Scouts are awarded upon completion.

The emblem we have been using for several years is a lovely generic emblem awarded to Scouts from a variety of communions. Before this emblem, the Episcopal emblems displayed the shield of The Episcopal Church. We have been coordinating with P.R.A.Y., the organization that administers the program, to design a set of emblems that reflects the earlier Episcopal emblem with the shield by which this Church is known and recognized. Here are images:



Earlier



Current



Proposed

Emblems for Cub Scouts do not have a ribbon. Instead, the Shield is suspended from a bar with the name of the program (God and Me, God and Family). The shield of The Episcopal Church will replace the generic shield on all emblems.

To accomplish this part of the renewed emphasis, we need to supply P.R.A.Y. with an initial inventory of emblems. When that supply is depleted, it will be the responsibility of P.R.A.Y. to replenish it. Our aim is to have 500 of each of the four emblems (God and Me, God and Family, God and Church, God and Life) produced and given to P.R.A.Y. for distribution to Scouts who have completed the programs.

Here's where we need your help. We need to raise \$8,000 to produce the initial supply of Episcopal emblems. A challenge gift of \$1,000 has already been committed for this endeavor. We are hoping you will see the value of this renewed emphasis and make a generous contribution today. You can give online at

https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=2AAYVEDGPVKFJ

or by mailing a check made to the Brotherhood of St. Andrew, P.O. Box 1382, Louisville, KY 40201. Be sure to write "Religious Emblems" in the memo line.