

# NAPS Awards Honor Churches, Units, Adults, Youth

The National Association of Presbyterian Scouters not only provides adult recognitions to Presbyterian Scouts through the Celtic Cross Award program, it also provides certificates for Churches and Units for long service and letters from NAP's president to those earning the Eagle Scout Award.



The **Celtic Cross Award** is given to adults active as a youth leader associated with a Presbyterian Church program, including Scouting, and demonstrating exceptional Christian character, or, has given faithful service to a youth program(s) of a congregation by serving in church leadership positions.

**“Complete Program”** Certificates are provided to Presbyterian Churches which sponsor all three of the Scouting programs, Cub Scouting, Boy Scouting and either Varsity Teams or Venture Crews.

In 2004, three were awarded, and thus far in 2005, one.

The **Presbyterian Unit Award of Excellence** was established in 1990 to recognize outstanding leadership and youth participation in Cub Scout Packs, Boy Scout Troops, Varsity Teams and Venturing Crews and Ships chartered by Presbyterian congregations or associated organizations

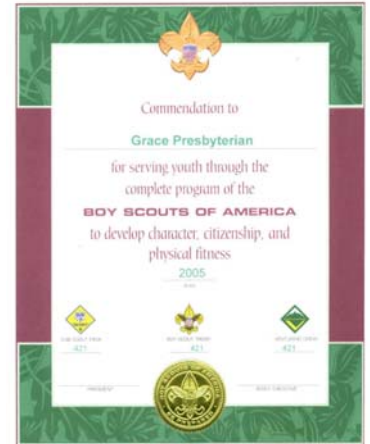


This recognition is made on an annual basis from applications submitted jointly by the Chartered Organization Representative, The Pastor or Head of the Chartered Organization, and the Unit Leader.

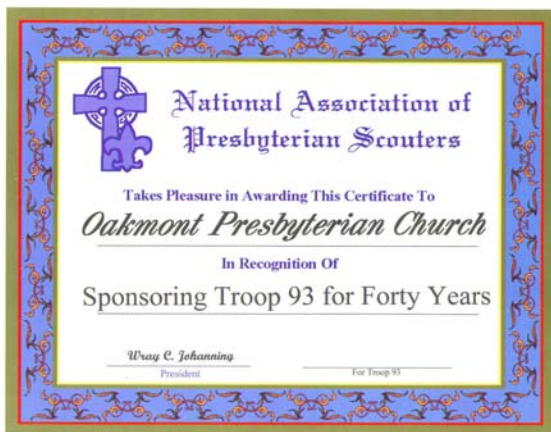
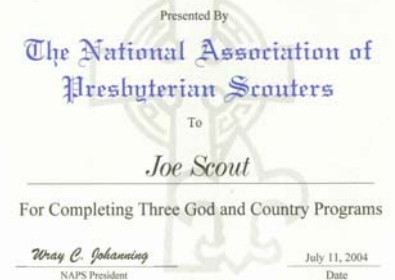
Factors considered in the awarding of this recognition include:

1. Quality Program as recognized by the Boy Scouts of America.
2. Youth membership participation in the appropriate religious growth program for their age level.
3. Unit participation in worship services.
4. Representation of chartered partner members on the unit leadership team.
5. A unit service project of significant contribution to the church.

The **God & Country Spiritual Growth Certificate** is presented to any boy or girl that is a member of the Presbyterian Church or a member of an unit sponsored by a Presbyterian Church, and has completed three of the four God and Country programs.



## Spiritual Growth Certificate



**Special Recognition Certificates** are presented to note significant activities and events, as the one presented this year to the Oakmont Presbyterian Church for sponsoring its Boy Scout Troop for 40 years, shown above the article headline.

**Eagle Scout Congratulation** letters are sent by the current NAPS president, to be presented at the Eagle Scout Court of Honor, and personally signed by the President.

(Requests for the awards should be sent to Rush Hart, NAPS treasurer, except for the Celtic Cross and the Unit Award of Excellent which should be sent to NAPS Unit Award Committee (P.R.A.Y.), PO Box 6900, St. Louis, Mo 63123)



# The Celtic Cross Award

Sponsored by the  
National Association of Presbyterian Scouters (NAPS)  
c/o P.R.A.Y.  
8520 Mackenzie Road, Ste. 3  
St. Louis, MO 63123-3413  
1-800-933-7729  
[www.praypub.org](http://www.praypub.org)

## THE PURPOSE OF THE AWARD

Leaders of children in Christian Education programs have given countless hours to prepare and teach values. Therefore it is appropriate to recognize their service to God and the Church and to affirm how much they mean to us and to our children.

The Church Session will recognize adult leaders who have given exceptional service to children and youth and will grant them **The Celtic Cross Award**. Self and spouse nominations will not be accepted.

These adults can come from the church's own programs, i.e. Sunday School and Youth Fellowship. They may also come from the Boy Scouts of America, Girl Scouts of the U.S.A., Camp Fire USA, and other youth serving agencies.

## THE EMBLEM

The Celtic Cross was used in the Church of Scotland and has had special significance through the history of the Presbyterian Church. The bronze medallion has a yellow cross against a dark blue background. It hangs from a blue and green plaid ribbon. The recipient of the Celtic Cross Award is entitled to wear the Religious Knot on the Boy Scout uniform. The adult award package contains a medal that can be worn around the neck and an 8 ½" x 11" personalized color certificate.

## CRITERIA FOR NOMINATION

The nominee should have an outstanding record of service to youth as determined by the following criteria:

1. The nominee is an adult active as a youth leader associated with a Presbyterian Church program and demonstrates exceptional Christian character OR has given faithful service to a youth program(s) of a congregation by serving in church leadership positions.
2. The nominee has a continuous record of using and supporting youth ministry with a minimum tenure of two (2) years. These ministries may include Sunday School, Youth Fellowship, Boy Scouts of America, Girl Scouts of the U.S.A., Camp Fire USA and other youth serving agencies.
3. The nominee has served the organization at a level where he or she works directly with youth.
4. A nominee from the Boy Scouts of America, Girl Scouts of the U.S.A. and other youth serving agencies has encouraged religious growth (i.e. promoted the God and Country religious award program, promoted the use of religious services when camping or at other activities that have taken youth from regularly scheduled worship services, etc.).
5. The award seeks the individual; the individual does not seek the award. Self nominations and spouse nominations will not be accepted.

# CELTIC CROSS AWARD APPLICATION

## NOMINATION PROCEDURE

- Completed Application:** The nomination form for the candidate is completed along with history and supporting information and submitted to the appropriate committee or Charter Organization Representative for review. Self and spouse nominations will not be accepted.
- Required Signatures:** Signatures of both the Pastor and Clerk of Session are required. The approved application is submitted to the Session for review of the Celtic Cross Award for the candidate. The Session approves the award, submits the application on this brochure for each individual to be honored along with the appropriate fees, and mails the application(s) to P.R.A.Y., 8520 Mackenzie Road, Ste. 3, St. Louis, MO 63123.
- Payment Information:** The award package is **\$30.00** plus **\$5.00** postage/handling per application. Payment by check, money order, MasterCard or Visa is accepted. Make checks payable to P.R.A.Y. To pay by credit card, please provide the following information:  
Circle One:            MasterCard            Visa  
Acct Number: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ (MM / YY)  
Cardholder's name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Cardholder's Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Special Fees</b></p> <p><b>FAX SERVICE 314-638-7250</b> All fax orders are assessed \$6.00. Faxes received by noon CST will be processed and shipped within 3 business days, upon approval of award.</p> <p><b>SHIPPING UPGRADES:</b> Additional fees apply. Visit <a href="http://www.praypub.org">www.praypub.org</a> for rates &amp; explanations.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> USPS Priority Mail 2-3 days not guaranteed <input type="checkbox"/> Ground 3-5 days – No PO Boxes <input type="checkbox"/> Overnight 1-2 days – No PO Boxes</p>
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## NOMINEE INFORMATION

Name of nominee \_\_\_\_\_  
(Printed exactly as it should appear on the certificate)  
Street Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

## CHURCH INFORMATION

The Session of (Nominee's Congregation) \_\_\_\_\_  
has considered the qualifications of the nominee and confirms their completion for the Celtic Cross Award.  
Street Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

*Pastor's Signature* \_\_\_\_\_ *Date* \_\_\_\_\_  
*Clerk of Session Signature* \_\_\_\_\_ *Date* \_\_\_\_\_

## AGENCY INFORMATION (if applicable)

National Youth Agency in which adult is a member (circle one):  
Boy Scouts of America    |    Girl Scouts of the U.S.A.    |    Camp Fire USA    |    Other Youth Agency

## MAILING INFORMATION (Person to whom recognition items are to be shipped)

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number (Day Contact) \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Ceremony \_\_\_\_\_

# Presbyterian God & Country Series Awards

A series of Religious Awards for Scouting youth from grade one through 12 are offered from the Protestant Religious Awards for Youth program, in cooperation with the Boy Scouts of America and the Presbyterian Church, USA.

Detailed materials may be found on the P.R.A.Y. website at <http://www.praypub.org> or from your local Council Service office.

## Youth Awards



Girls and boys in grades 1, 2 & 3 are eligible to participate in the **God and Me** program even if they do not belong to a Girl Scout, Boy Scout or Camp Fire group (church youth and Sunday School members are eligible to participate in this program). Each participant must have his or her own copy of the Student Workbook. A pastor's signature is required on the application/order form.

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Girls and boys in grades 4 & 5 are eligible to participate in the **God and Family** program even if they do not belong to a Girl Scout, Boy Scout or Camp Fire group (church youth and Sunday School members are eligible to participate in this program). Each participant must have



Girls and boys in grades 6-8 are eligible to participate in the **God and Church** program even if they do not belong to a Girl Scout, Boy Scout or Camp Fire group (youth group and Sunday School members are eligible to participate in this program). This program requires that students have original workbooks and present their work to the pastor for final approval.



Young women and men in grades 9-12 are eligible to participate in the **God and Life** program even if they do not belong to a Girl Scout, Boy Scout or Camp Fire group (youth group and Sunday School members are eligible to participate in this program). Each participant must have his or her own copy of the student workbook. A pastor's signature is required on the application/order form.



## Adult Awards

***The Adult Recognition Awards are by nomination only (they are not work/study programs like the youth awards). These are honors given to worthy adults for their outstanding service to youth both through their church and one of the national youth agencies. Recipients of these awards are unaware that they are being nominated: an outside party must nominate them to receive an award by submitting the required application, letters of recommendation and resume.***



Parents have the option of enrolling in the **Adult Mentor Program**. In this program, the parent is an active learning participant alongside the child. The parent would have lessons and projects to complete in the Mentor Workbook just like the child, and then both parent and child would work on the student curriculum together. The mentor program is designed to provide the adult with additional opportunities to model his or her Christian faith and to help a young child talk about his or her belief in God.

*What is the difference between a “counselor” and a “mentor?” The counselor is the pastor (or other adult assigned by the pastor). The counselor serves as an instructor who gives assignments to the young people, and it is the young people who do all the work.*

*Mentors are parents who have chosen to work alongside their children on the God and Country curriculum. Mentors are active learning participants (students) with lessons to complete in their own workbooks just like their children. Both mentors and children work under the supervision of the pastor or counselor.*

*What is the difference between the mentor pin and an adult recognition award? The mentor pin may be worn by parents who have successfully completed the Adult Mentor Program. This is a program for parents to work on while they lead their children through the God and Country Series. There is an adult workbook that must be completed.*

**The God and Service Award is a national recognition awarded by churches and agencies cooperating in Programs of Religious Activities with Youth (P.R.A.Y.). It is given for distinguished service by adults in ministry to young people through service to the church and one or more of the national youth agencies (Boy Scouts of America, Girl Scouts of the U.S.A., and Camp Fire, Inc.).**

**A God and Service recipient should:**

- 1. Have a minimum of 5 years of service to the church.**
- 2. Have a minimum of 5 years of service to a national youth agency (be fully trained and exhibit past and present leadership in the youth agency program).**
- 3. Encourage and assist young people in earning the God and Country award.**
- 4. Promote religious observances at youth agency functions at all levels.**
- 5. Encourage youth to participate in community service projects.**
- 6. Recruit volunteers to give leadership to national youth agency programs.**
- 7. Promote the organization of youth agency units among churches other than his or her own congregation.**
- 8. Be a person whose Christian example is highly regarded by others in the church and whose lifestyle is a model for young people.**



**For applications and detailed information contact P.R.A.Y. at P.R.A.Y. 8520 Mackenzie Road, Ste. 3, St. Louis, MO 63123-3413  
314-638-1017 ●? 800-933-7729 ●? [www.pravpub.org](http://www.pravpub.org) ●? [prav@pravpub.org](mailto:prav@pravpub.org)**



# P.R.A.Y. Awards Also Are Available to Presbyterian Scouts, Scouters

The “Duty to God” patch is at the heart of the Scouting movement. Religious emblems reinforce this spiritual component and promote many of the values found in the Scouting program.



Youth and adults must:

1. Attend or coordinate a presentation or information seminar on religious emblems (sample resources and suggestions are available at [www.praypub.org](http://www.praypub.org)).
2. Make a commitment to fulfill their “Duty to God.” For example:
  - a. Adults can commit to having 50% of families participate in the religious emblems programs, commit to nominating a worthy adult to be recognized with an adult religious award, serving, for example as counselor.

b. Youth can commit to earning the religious emblem of their faith at an appropriate time, making a presentation on religious emblems to another unit, helping younger Scouts earn their religious emblem, helping to establish a religious emblems program in their local congregation, etc.

**Patch -** The Duty to God Promotion Patch is a four-segment puzzle patch with 8 to 10 colors per segment and is 100% embroidered. Only one segment will be offered in any given year. For this year, the "Scout" segment will be available. Participants are encouraged to earn all four segments over a four year span. Patches may be pre-ordered for distribution at the presentation / information seminar.

**DVD -** The Duty to God Promotion DVD contains the resources to make a presentation on the religious emblems programs. These resources include the video “Promoting Duty to God (Religious Emblems),” Duty to God brochure/chart listing all religious emblems (No. 05-879D), scripts (for presentations to Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, and Venturers), and Parent Handout.

## The Four Star Award



For those who have earned all four levels of the God and Country series, there is a certificate and letter of congratulations from P.R.A.Y. A special pin is available at additional cost.

Candidates must submit a special application form to P.R.A.Y. in order to be confirmed as “Four Star Recipients.” P.R.A.Y. will verify that candidates have earned all four levels of the God and Country program and then send a letter and certificate of special recognition.

This application form is available online at [www.praypub.org](http://www.praypub.org). It must be printed out and then mailed to P.R.A.Y.