Our Background
In 1955, Archbishop Michael, of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese, Metropolitan Anthony Bashir, of the Antiochoian Orthodox Archdiocese, Bishop Orestes Chormock, of American Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Greek Catholic Diocese, and Metropolitan Leonty, of the Orthodox Church in America met with Joseph A. Brunton, Jr., the Chief Scout Executive of the Boy Scouts of America. The prelates came attired in their robes of office to bestow their blessing of the Boy Scouts and to make known to their constituents that they wanted Scouting to become a part of the youth programs of the local churches. This was one of the first cross-jurisdictional enterprises of the Orthodox Churches in North America. Later they included the Girl Scouts USA. As a result of this historical meeting, the Eastern Orthodox Committee on Scouting [EOCS] was created in 1960 by the Standing Conference of Orthodox Bishops in the Americas, whose purpose is to conduct the mission of our Lord and His Church via the Boy Scouts of America and the Girl Scouts USA programs on a national level.

In 2009 SCOBA became The Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of North & Central America. The Assembly understands itself to be the successor of SCOBA, and as such, it has assumed all of its agencies, dialogues, and other ministries.

The bishops of the USA, Canada and Central America were originally together in one Assembly, called the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of North and Central America; in April 2014 it was announced that, in order to best respond to the cultural diversity and pastoral needs in the region, the Canadian and US bishops would form separate assemblies and the Central American bishops would join the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of Latin America.

Our Mission

- Support and conduct the mission of our Lord and His church via the scouting program.

- Recognize the individual youth member as our most important member.

- Provide support, programs, and recognition to the scouts and scouters of Eastern Orthodox faith whether in units in the Eastern Orthodox Churches, or registered in units sponsored by other institutions, via the religious youth recognitions, adult recognitions for volunteer scouters and clergy, retreats, camp-o-rees, associated events and activities.

- Provide support, guidance, programs, and consultation to the Eastern Orthodox Churches that sponsor Scouting and are partners in the scouting program.

- Create, expand, enhance and project a presence of Eastern Orthodox Scouting in the Boy Scouts of America, Girl Scouts USA, and Camp Fire Boys and Girls.

- The E.O.C.S. exists to complement and supplement the youth’s program and the unit’s program. The E.O.C.S. does not exist to direct or replace a unit’s program.

- Encourage the use of the Boy Scouts of America, Girl Scouts USA, and Camp Fire Boys and Girls programs as part of the youth ministry program of the Church and community.

- Develop and extend our Scouting network with our ministry partners.

- The E.O.C.S. is the officially recognized Eastern Orthodox religious committee for the Boy Scouts of America, Girl Scouts USA, Trail Life USA, American Heritage Girls and Camp Fire USA programs.
Award Programs of the Eastern Orthodox Committee on Scouting

For more information on the individual awards visit us: https://www.eocs.org/religious-awards
The Chi-Rho Award Program

The Emblem

The Chi-Rho emblem is a white Greek cross surmounted by a red Orthodox cross, suspended from a bar pin bearing the inscription CHI-RHO in English and Greek. These two Greek letters are the first letters of the name CHRIST in Greek. From very early times, the monogram CHI-RHO became a symbol for the name of Christ.

Who is eligible?

Any Orthodox Christian boy or girl who is registered in a EOCS recognized Scouting program may earn the St. George emblem. The recipient must be in the fourth & fifth grade and must attend church, school or other formal religious instruction program. The scout must also be a communicant member of an Orthodox Christian Church recognized by the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of the United States of America formerly known as SCOBA.
For a current list of qualified Orthodox Christian Parishes see: http://www.assemblyofbishops.org/directories/parishes
Priests are encouraged to adapt these requirements for use with mentally and/or physically challenged youth members of these Scouting movements.

Presentation

The Chi-Rho Orthodox Medal is granted by the Eastern Orthodox Committee on Scouting, so it should be presented in the church by a priest or a bishop. Consult current uniform regulations of the appropriate Scouting program for the proper location of the medal on the uniform.

Instructions

This booklet is for you. As you read the booklet and work through the program, you will be learning more about yourself, your faith, your Church, and most important, about Christ's love. You may write in this booklet: it is yours to keep. There are suggested ideas, activities and resources in this program. These are noted for your help. Your own ideas and activities are welcome.
At the end of each part there is a space for comments by your parent(s) and by your priest. Any new ideas or comments can be noted there. The completed part should be signed by you, one of your parents, and by the priest after having reviewed it with you. When all the parts are completed, the priest will sign the application/order form on the last page and submit it with the required fee.

HELP
The EOCS maintains a website and Facebook page. We can be reached at www.EOCS.org or Facebook.com/EOCS23.
THE CHI-RHO CURRICULUM

Part 1: Foundations of Faith

1. What is your Baptismal name?
   ______________________________________________________

2. What does your Baptismal name signify?
   ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________

3. What day do you celebrate your Baptismal name?
   ______________________________________________________

4. What is(are) your Godparent or Godparents name(s)?
   ______________________________________________________

5. If possible, attend Divine Liturgy with your Godparent(s).
   Date: ________________________________________________

6. What is Baptism?
   ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________

7. What is Christmation?
   ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________

8. Do the sign of the Cross. What does it mean?
   ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________

9. What is the Holy Trinity?
   ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________
COMPLETION PART 1

My Signature_____________________ Date Completed __________

Comments by Parent or Guardian:

Signature of Parent or Guardian

Comments by Priest:

Signature of Priest ______________________________
Part 2: My Home & Community

A. There are______people in my family.

B. Picture of my family: (Write their names under each person.)

C. What religious items do you have in your home?

D. How and when do you use them?

E. Write the prayer you say before meals.

F. Write the prayer you say when you get up in the morning.

G. List several ways God shows His love for you.

H. List several ways you show your love for God.

I. List some ways you and your family show your love for each other.

J. Do a project with your whole family. (This may be done with Section "L" below.) Write about what you did.

K. Pictures of you doing your project.

L. Visit someone who is sick, shut-in, poor, elderly, or lonely.
   Make him or her a gift, or help that person with a task.

   Other suggested ideas: Help support any one of the many worthy organizations by earning money, such as:
   Jump Rope for the Heart Association http://www.Heart.org/Jump
   Multiple Sclerosis Read-a-Thon www.ReadaThon.com
   Bowl-a-thon or Bike-a-thon for Cooley's Anemia www.CooleysAnemia.org
   Write a couple of paragraphs about what you did.

M. Pictures of you doing your activity.
Part 2

A. __________________________________________

B. Bring in a picture of your family

C. __________________________________________
   __________________________________________
   __________________________________________
   __________________________________________
   __________________________________________

D. __________________________________________
   __________________________________________
   __________________________________________
   __________________________________________
   __________________________________________
   __________________________________________

E. __________________________________________
   __________________________________________
   __________________________________________
   __________________________________________
   __________________________________________

F. __________________________________________
   __________________________________________
   __________________________________________
   __________________________________________
   __________________________________________

G. __________________________________________
   __________________________________________
   __________________________________________
   __________________________________________
   __________________________________________

H. __________________________________________
   __________________________________________
   __________________________________________
   __________________________________________

I. __________________________________________
   __________________________________________
   __________________________________________
   __________________________________________
COMPLETION PART 2

My Signature____________________ Date Completed __________

Comments by Parent or Guardian:

Signature of Parent or Guardian

Comments by Priest:

Signature of Priest ________________________________
Part 3: My Church

The Church is God's house. The Church Family is an extension of our own family. What is the name of the Church you attend?

A. When you enter your Church building, what do you do? What are some of the things you see that make your church an Orthodox Church?

B. Pictures of the outside and the inside of your church.

C. Choose a subject in your church to study, and write about it. (Suggested ideas: How are candles made? What is an icon? How is prosphora made? Why do we sing in church?)

Being an Orthodox Christian is much more than just going to church on Sunday morning. Everything we do has a Christian meaning. God, who created us and the world, knows each one of us, what we need, and what we are doing. We feel God's creation, the world around us, and the people in it by our senses of touch, taste, smell, sight and sound.

D. List ways you participate in God's world through your senses at home and in church. Home Church
   1. Touch
   2. Taste
   3. Smell
   4. Sight
   5. Sound

E. Food is an important part of our Orthodox life. Different times of the year mean different foods in our home. List some foods you eat especially during the Nativity Lent (Advent) and Great Lent.

F. How do you prepare for a major Church Holy Day, such as Pascha (Easter), the Dormition of the Virgin Mary, or Nativity of Christ (Christmas), or Theophany?
   1. Fasting?
   2. Going to Church?
   3. Preparing the meal?
   4. Helping in other ways?
G. Name the four Gospels and tell who wrote them. Draw a picture of the Gospel Book that the priest uses in our church. Where is it kept? List four of the major feast days celebrated in your church.

From your priest, chanter, or choir director, get the words to a hymn that you can learn. Note it here (or in your notebook), and sing it for your priest.

H. Choose your favorite Bible story. Write it in your own words, and tell the story and its meaning to your priest.

Suggested books:
God is With Us by Sophie Koulomzin,
The Orthodox Children’s Illustrated Bible Reader, American Bible Society
Christian Stewardship: Everything we have is given to us by God. We can serve God in many ways to show our love and gratitude for these gifts, such as, time - by serving as an altar server; talent - by singing in the choir.

I. Decide how you can be a steward in helping your church.

   (Suggested activities: Ironing the wax off the carpet in the church, cleaning and polishing the candle stands; cleaning the icons; washing the floors; and as a group activity, making church bread for a service.)

J. Pictures of your activity maybe uploaded to our Facebook page. https://facebook.com/E0CS23
or on Instagram at: https://www.instagram.com/easternorthodoxscouting/
COMPLETION PART 3

My Signature ___________________ Date Completed __________

Comments by Parent or Guardian:

Signature of Parent or Guardian

Comments by Priest:

Signature of Priest ________________________________
Part 4

1. The Scout Oath says: On my honor I will do my best to do my Duty to God and my country and to obey the scout law to help other people at all times to keep myself physically strong, mentally awake and morally straight.

What does Duty to God mean to you? Tell how you do your duty to God in your daily Life:

____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________

2. Make a list of things you can do to practice your duty to God as you are taught in your home or Church. Select two of the items and practice them for at least two weeks.

____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________

Part 4 may be supplemented / replaced by the appropriate rank / program requirement as listed by your scouting program handbook.
1. Final Review:
When all four parts are completed, the priest should arrange a meeting between the recipient, the parents or guardians and himself. This discussion could begin with what it meant to work together as a family on the Chi-Rho Program.

2. Registration:
Visit our webpage at:
https://www.eocs.org/chi-rho-award
to download the Application form. The Application/Order Form should be filled out and mailed with payment to the following address:

Programs of Religious Activities with Youth (P.R.A.Y.)
11123 S. Towne Sq Ste B
St. Louis, MO 63123
www.PrayPub.org
tel. (800) 933-7729 fax(314) 845-0038
email: info@praypub.org

or

May be ordered online at:
https://store.praypub.org/eastern-orthodox

3. Please allow two to three weeks prior to presentation date. It should be presented in the church by an appropriate church authority.

The presentation of the medal is made only on the authority of the Eastern Orthodox Committee on Scouting through the local parish priest.
Eastern Orthodox Committee on Scouting.
Community and Individual Donation Form

The EOCS seeks donations on a yearly basis to offset the costs of its various Outreach and religious growth programs. The suggested membership donation per community is $50, which registers all the scouting units in the parish. It also entitles one designated leader of the community to be put on our mailing list (either internet or regular mail). It is recommended that you consider naming your parish priest the designated leader. Other adult leaders of the community and any other individual wishing to support the EOCS is encouraged to make an individual donation of $10 each in order to support our programs and be put on our mailing list. Please make the form available to others who may want to support the EOCS and its mission of promoting Orthodox Scouting. The EOCS makes all of its news events, meeting minutes and other announcements available via the internet (www.eocs.org). You can also visit us on Facebook.

Community Donation                                                                   $50 ________
Individual Donation (s)                                                _______X $15 ________
(list name/address of individual donors on a separate paper)
Official EOCS Patch (sent via regular mail)               _______ X $10________
Contribution to the EOCS Scholarship Fund                               $     ________
Donation to the EOCS general operational fund                        $     ________
Total donation $     ________

Please select one:
[ ]Community Leader (included in community donation)     [ ]Individual supporter

Please fill in the appropriate spaces below:
Parish name: __________________________________________________
Unit Designation: _____________________________________________
Name: _______________________________________________________
Position _____________________________________________________
Street Address: ______________________________________________
Phone # _____________________________________________________
City/St./Zip Code: ___________________________________________
Email Address: ______________________________________________

Please make your selection:
[ ]Notify me via the internet     [ ] Notify me via the USPS