

Orthodox Religious Scouting Retreat

66th Annual Cub, Boy and Girl Scout Retreat

Celebrating 35 Years of the Green Patriarch



OCTOBER 10-11, 2026

Saint Basil Academy • Garrison, New York

Retreat information • Schedule • Unit forms

THE WEEKEND AT A GLANCE

Faith, fellowship, and service

Scouts, leaders, families, and seminarians gather at Saint Basil Academy for prayer, learning, confession, service, and shared meals. The 2026 theme honors the 35th anniversary of Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew, known as the Green Patriarch.

WHEN	WHAT TO KNOW
Friday, October 9	Units may arrive in the evening.
Saturday, October 10	Check-in begins at 11:15 a.m. at the flagpole. Bring a bag lunch and filled water bottle.
Sunday, October 11	Divine Liturgy begins at 9:30 a.m. in Saint Basil Chapel; closing and brunch follow.

Location

Saint Basil Academy, Route 9D, Garrison, NY 10525. Chapel services are at Saint Basil Chapel; dinner and Sunday brunch are in the gymnasium.

Registration and cost

The retreat fee is \$30 per person, Scout or adult, for one day or the full weekend. It covers Saturday dinner, Sunday brunch, patches, and EOCS expenses. Leaders should send approximate Scout and adult counts to Peter Hilaris by Wednesday, October 7, including Saturday dinner and Sunday brunch counts. Bring one check per unit and completed forms to registration.

Important preparation

- Full uniform is expected throughout the retreat and at Vespers and Divine Liturgy.
- Scouts should prepare for confession and Communion. Participants are asked to abstain from meat on Saturday in preparation for Sunday Communion.
- Leaders should bring completed permission and medical release forms for each Scout; use the forms supplied by the organizers or your unit.

PROGRAM

Weekend schedule

Friday October 9

TIME	ACTIVITY
Evening	Arrival of units

Saturday October 10

TIME	ACTIVITY
11:15 a.m.	Registration and check-in at the flagpole; hand in forms.
11:30 a.m.	Units form at the main house by the statue. Bring bag lunches and filled water bottles.
11:40 a.m.	Opening prayer and program.
Noon	Retreat groups meet with seminarians. Younger Scouts eat lunch with seminarians; older groups help set up dinner tables in the gym, then eat.
12:45 p.m.	Retreat rotations and confession begin.
2:00 p.m.	Adult program with Holy Cross Ambassadors; location to be announced.
4:00 p.m.	Retreat rotations and confession end.
5:00 p.m.	Vespers at Saint Basil Chapel in full uniform; religious award certificates and group photo.
About 6:00 p.m.	Dinner in the gymnasium after Vespers; put away tables and chairs afterward.
After dinner	Campfire songs and skits with Scouts and seminarians. Grades 10–12 meet with seminarians in the library afterward; adult unit leaders have a cracker-barrel gathering after campfire.
11:00 p.m.	Taps.

PROGRAM

Sunday and retreat activities

Sunday October 11

TIME	ACTIVITY
9:30 a.m.	Divine Liturgy at Saint Basil Chapel in full uniform.
After Liturgy	Closing ceremonies, recognition of religious award recipients, and closing prayer.
To follow	Sunday barbecue brunch at the gymnasium.

Saturday rotations

Retreat groups rotate through a hike and discussion suited to their ages, confession, and a service project. Leaders should help Scouts prepare for confession before the retreat.

Service project

Participants will help clear an overgrown, fenced garden area near the soccer field. Each Scout and adult should bring work gloves and bug spray. Leaders may bring hedge trimmers, shovels, and weed whackers.

Supervision

Scouts must stay with their assigned groups and remain in the rotations until activities are complete. Two or three parents should accompany each group. Adults should be ready to help with retreat functions as needed.

Meals and water

Bring a bag lunch and filled water bottle for Saturday. Water is available outside the gym. Saturday dinner and Sunday barbecue brunch are included in the retreat fee.

FOR UNIT LEADERS

Before arrival and at check-in

Before Wednesday October 7

- Email Peter Hilaris with approximate numbers of Scouts and adults, including who will stay for Saturday dinner and Sunday brunch.
- Collect one completed, signed permission and medical release form per Scout.
- Prepare the unit roster with each Scout's name and grade; identify older Scouts who can help with the program.
- Prepare one campfire song or skit form for each participating patrol or group.
- List Alpha Omega, Chi Rho, and St. George recipients from the past year who will attend; include name, unit, and church.

At registration Saturday 11:15 a.m.

- Turn in the unit summary form, Scout roster, campfire form or forms, and award recipient list.
- Bring one check per unit for the \$30 per-person retreat fee.
- Confirm daytime, Saturday dinner, and Sunday brunch counts on the unit form.

During the retreat

- Keep Scouts with their assigned group, support the rotations, and help with set-up and clean-up.
- Model respectful conduct at Saint Basil Academy and at all services. Adults should not smoke in front of Scouts.
- Attend opening prayer, confession, Vespers, and Sunday Divine Liturgy with your unit.

Retreat contacts

ROLE	CONTACT
Retreat co-chair	Christine Triant • Chrystallot@msn.com
Retreat co-chair	Peter Hilaris • HilarisPB@aol.com • 551-486-7489
Retreat co-chair	Gregory Gounardes • Gregory.Gounardes@gmail.com • 347-267-5025
Retreat host	Rev. Protopresbyter of the Ecumenical Throne Constantine L. Sitaras • Director of Saint Basil Academy
Saint Basil Academy	Deacon Kyriakos Ioannou • 914-645-8823
EOCS chair	Kyriakos Bournis • KBournis@gmail.com

Retreat location

Saint Basil Academy • Route 9D • Garrison, NY 10525 • 914-424-3500

Please share your approximate unit attendance with Peter Hilaris by October 7.

DETACH OR COPY FOR REGISTRATION

Unit information form

Eastern Orthodox Committee on Scouting | Saint Basil Academy Retreat | October 10–11, 2026

Unit number _____

Unit type Cub Scouts / Boy Scouts / Girl Scouts _____

Church or community _____

Unit leader _____

Street address _____

City, state, ZIP _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

Attendance counts

ATTENDANCE	SCOUTS	ADULTS
Daytime Saturday	_____	_____
Saturday dinner	_____	_____
Sunday brunch	_____	_____

Adults attending

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Please submit with your Scout roster, campfire forms, and award recipient list at Saturday registration. Make copies as needed.

DETACH OR COPY FOR REGISTRATION

Scout roster and awards

Unit number _____

Unit leader _____

Church or community _____

Scouts attending

Make copies of this page if additional roster space is needed.

#	SCOUT NAME	GRADE
1	_____	_____
2	_____	_____
3	_____	_____
4	_____	_____
5	_____	_____
6	_____	_____
7	_____	_____
8	_____	_____

Older Scouts available to help

Names and grades _____

Religious award recipients present

List Scouts who received Alpha Omega, Chi Rho, or St. George awards during the past year and are present at the retreat. They will be recognized at closing ceremonies.

SCOUT NAME	AWARD	UNIT / CHURCH
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

DETACH OR COPY FOR REGISTRATION

Campfire song or skit

Complete one form for each participating patrol or group and submit it at registration.

Unit number _____

Church name _____

Patrol or troop name _____

Song or skit title _____

Performance details

Type Song / Skit / Both _____

Approximate length _____

Leader or contact name _____

Notes for campfire organizers (optional)

Hand this page in at Saturday registration. Make one copy for each patrol or group performing.

DETACH OR COPY FOR PATCH ORDER

Retreat patch order form

Each Scout registered for the retreat receives one patch. Units may order additional patches for \$10 each. A flat \$10 shipping fee applies to the order.

Unit number _____

Church or community _____

Unit contact _____

Contact email _____

Contact telephone _____

Patch quantities and payment

CALCULATION	QUANTITY / AMOUNT
A Scouts registering for the retreat (patches included)	_____
B Total patches needed by the unit	_____
C Additional patches to order (B minus A)	_____
Additional patches C × \$10	\$ _____
Flat shipping fee	\$ 10.00
Total amount due for additional patches and shipping	\$ _____

The total patch count in B includes the patches provided to registered Scouts. If B is no greater than A, enter 0 for additional patches.

Shipping address

Recipient name _____

Unit or organization _____

Street address _____

Apartment or suite _____

City _____

State _____

ZIP code _____

Please include this completed page with your unit registration materials and payment.