



Eastern Orthodox Committee on Scouting
Chi Rho Religious Award
for Scouts in Grades 4 through 7

in Webelos, AOL, and Scouts BSA, Juniors and Cadettes GSUSA, and
comparable levels of Trail Life USA, American Heritage Girls, and Campfire USA

In Collaboration with
The ORTHODOX YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT MINISTRIES
an Agency of the Assembly of Canonical Bishops of the U.S.A.

www.theOYM.org

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Revised Dec 2024

The Chi Rho Award Workbook

To the scout: Print this workbook, single sided. Put the workbook and your answer pages into a notebook, and it will help you remember what you have learned and what it means to you. We will call the person who is helping you work on this award (your priest, your parent, or another adult) your *advisor*. If you have special learning needs, talk with your advisor about different ways of answering the questions. When you work on this award, you are showing your love to our Lord Jesus Christ, and you will feel His love more and more. The closer you feel to God, the stronger your Orthodox Christian Faith will become.

Part 1: Getting Close to God

- a. The story of Adam and Eve in the Old Testament's Book of Genesis tells how the very first people disobeyed God and turned away from him in their minds and hearts. Because of this, they could no longer live in Paradise. Read the story of Adam and Eve in the Bible or a Children's Bible. Then, in your notebook, write one or two sentences OR draw a picture showing what happened.
- b. Throughout many, many centuries, people did not manage to turn back to God and get close to Him. They often did bad things and did not care about each other. God understood that people needed more help, although it would always be their own choice whether or not to get closer to Him.
 - 1) What did God do to help us? He sent His S__ to be born into this world.
 - 2) What is the name of His Son? J_____ C _____
- c. Jesus Christ is both God and a human being like us. He came into the world to help us get close to God again. He opened up the gates of Paradise, so that we can turn back to God and live close to Him forever, when our life on earth is over. His life is filled with special, unusual events. We call the special days in His life, "Feast Days," and we celebrate them every year.



These are five of the major Feast Days. What happened on each of these days? When do we celebrate this Feast? Write the answers in your notebook.

https://orthodoxwiki.org/Great_Feasts

- 1) The Annunciation
- 2) The Nativity (Christmas)
- 3) The Epiphany (Theophany)
- 4) Palm Sunday
- 5) Pascha (Easter)

d. Jesus often told stories as a way of teaching people. These stories are called **parables**.



1) Read or watch a video of the Parable of the Good Samaritan.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aSfm2xdKau4>

2) Tell the story to your family, advisor, or priest. Tell them what Jesus was trying to teach.

3) Write a sentence about what He was teaching.

e. Jesus performed **miracles**, great actions that seemed impossible, to help people and to show the power of God.



1) Read or watch a video showing some of Jesus' miracles.

<https://youtu.be/Xz7lOuXuStU?t=361> (from minute 06:00 to 24:50)

2) Tell one of the miracles to your family, advisor, or priest. Talk with them about what Jesus did, that seemed impossible.

3) Write down a few words to tell which miracle you chose.

f. Jesus also taught us how to pray. The prayer Jesus gave us is called the **Lord's Prayer**.

1) Learn to say the Lord's Prayer by heart. Say it to your parents, advisor, or priest. Put a copy of the prayer in your notebook.

*Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.
Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit,
now and ever and unto the ages of ages.
Amen.*

2) Underline a part of the Lord's Prayer where we:

- Show that we feel like His children
- Give glory to God
- Show that we want what He wants
- Ask for what we need

3) Say the Lord's Prayer once every day, perhaps at a meal or at bedtime.



(Optional) Find a video or a song, using the words of the Lord's Prayer, that you like. For example, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fcg3ey7FdJI>. Say it and pray with the singer.

You have finished Part 1!

Part 2: Becoming an Orthodox Christian

a. You became an Orthodox Christian when you were baptized. What is your baptismal name?



b. Which Saint are you named after?

Put a picture or drawing of your Saint's icon in your notebook.

<https://www.monasteryicons.com/> or <https://blessedcelebration.com/collections/icons>



c. Read about your Saint's life and write a sentence or two in your notebook about why they are special and what day your Saint's Feast Day is celebrated. This is called your Name Day.

<https://oca.org/saints/lives> or <https://www.goarch.org/chapel/search>

d. What are some ways that people celebrate Name Days? Which ways do you like best? Talk with your family about celebrating Name Days.



e. Describe what happens in the church when a child is baptized. What does the priest do? What does the Godparent (or Godparents) do? Why do we get baptized? Watch this video explaining Baptism. It is Greek Orthodox. Other Orthodox services are similar.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W3fbMDU0fec>



f. Together with the Baptism, your Chrismation was celebrated. What does the priest do when he chrismates a person? Why do Orthodox Christians get chrismated? Watch the video of Chrismation from minute 27:00 to 37:30.

<https://youtu.be/W3fbMDU0fec?t=1617>

g. About your Godparent(s):

1) What is (are) your Godparent's or Godparents' name(s)?

2) Put a picture in your notebook of you at your Baptism with your Godparent(s).

3) If possible, attend the Divine Liturgy at church on a Sunday with your Godparent(s). Write the date and put a picture of you with your Godparent(s) in your notebook.

h. Orthodox Christians believe in **one** God. We know Him as **three** Divine Persons, but they are all together as **one** God. This is hard to understand, but it is a little like the way you are one human person, and you are a student, a scout, and a son or daughter, all at the same time. What do we call these three Divine Persons, who are one God?

The H___ T_____: The F_____, the S___, and the H___ S_____.



i. Review how to make the sign of the Cross. What does each part mean? When should you make your Cross? <https://www.saintjohnchurch.org/how-to-make-the-sign-of-the-cross/#h-how-to-make-the-sign>

You have finished Part 2!

Part 3: Knowing More about Your Orthodox Church

- a. Our Church is more than a building. It is made up of all the people who are baptized Orthodox Christian. The church building is also where we go to worship God together.
- 1) What is the name of your church?
 - 2) When you enter your church building, what do you do?
 - 3) Together with your priest, advisor, or parent, go into your church when there is no service and find these items. Take a picture of them, then put the pictures in your notebook.
 - The icon of your church
 - The icon screen or iconostasis
 - The Royal Doors
 - The icon of Christ the Pantocrator (the Ruler of All), if present.
 - The chanter's stand or area
 - The choir loft or area
 - The Bishop's throne
 - The Pulpit, if present
 - 4) What is the area behind the Royal Doors called? What is one of the most important things that happens there?
 - 5) What is the Hymn of your church? Listen to it, sing along, and get familiar with it.
- b. Name the writers of the four Gospels. Find the icons of the four Gospel writers in your church. Put a picture in your notebook of a Gospel Book like the one the priest uses in your church.
- c. Your Church has leaders at several different levels. Your priest(s) and your Bishop or Metropolitan/Archbishop are the leaders you probably see or hear about most often. (Your church may also have deacons helping the priest.) Write their names in your notebook.

d. Our Church gives us the chance to have special, sacred (holy) experiences that God uses to bring us closer to Himself. These experiences are called Sacraments. Another word we use is Mysteries, because they are beyond human understanding.

1) Two of the Sacraments you already learned about for this Award are: B _____ and C _____.

Another important Sacrament you may participate in every Sunday is H ____ C _____.

We also call this the Holy Eucharist. What does the word "Eucharist" mean?
TH _____.

2) Learn about Holy Communion and discuss it with your advisor. What happens during Holy Communion?

3) When was the first time Holy Communion was celebrated? Put the icon of the Mystical Supper (sometimes called the Last Supper) in your notebook.

4) What does it mean when we say that the bread and wine become the "Body and Blood" of Jesus Christ?

5) How should we prepare ourselves to receive Holy Communion?

e. Our church building is a House of God because we come together to worship Him and celebrate the Sacraments there. Do a service activity to help your church or take part in a church service project.

1) Take a photo or draw a picture of what you did to help.

2) How do you think God feels about what you did?

Examples of ways to help your church: take away leftover papers and arrange the books in the pews after the Liturgy; plant flowers in front of the church; make get-well cards for shut-in parishioners; clear off tables at a church festival.

You have finished Part 3!

Part 4: Loving, Serving, and Doing Your Duty to God

- a. God loves us, and we love God. Scouting programs have words in their promises or oaths that talk about loving God, serving God, and doing your duty to God.
- 1) In your notebook, write three things you do to show your love to God, serve Him, and do your duty to Him in your everyday life.
 - 2) Do something good that helps another person, which is what scouts consider a “good deed.” Write a sentence in your notebook describing who you helped and how you helped them.
 - 3) Tell your parents, advisor, or priest who you helped and how you feel about it. How do you think God feels about what you did?
- b. Learn an Orthodox prayer to say before meals and say it with your family every day. Write the prayer in your notebook. Example: *O Christ our God, bless the food and drink of your servants, for you are Holy always; now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*
- c. Learn an Orthodox prayer to say before bedtime every night. Write it in your notebook. Example: *The Father is my hope, the Son is my refuge, the Holy Spirit is my shelter. Holy Trinity, glory to You. Lord, Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me. Amen.*
- d. Your Scouting Religious Award is named Chi (pronounced either “Hee” or “Ky”) Rho. What does Chi Rho mean? How was it used by early Christians? Find the two Greek letters **X** (the H or K sound) and **P** (the R sound) as they are written on the bar of the Chi Rho Award and circle it on the big picture below.



**Congratulations! You have finished Part 4
and the whole Chi Rho Award Packet!
The next award is Alpha Omega.
You can earn it in Grades 7 – 12.**

Completion and Presentation Instructions

1. Final Review

When all four parts are completed, the Scout should arrange to meet with the priest. This can be a group meeting of a number of Scouts who have completed the same award. The priest should have a chance to look at the Scout's notebook prior to or during the meeting, to admire the work and use it as a basis for discussion. The meeting, however, is not a test, but a chance to make a personal connection and help the Scout feel that their work was valued highly. As appropriate, parents and/or advisor may also attend the meeting (in the background).

Signatures upon Completion:

Scout: _____ Date: _____

Parent: _____ Date: _____

Priest / Advisor: _____ Date: _____

Please include this page as the final sheet in the notebook.

2. Ordering the Medal

When the scout has completed the review with the priest, the parent or church can order the medal from: Programs of Religious Activities with Youth (P.R.A.Y.)



Contact P.R.A.Y. at 314-845-3318, info@praypub.org, or

Order online at: <https://store.praypub.org/eastern-orthodox>

Please order *at least three weeks* prior to the presentation date. The award should be presented in the church by an appropriate church authority using the short service below. **Presentation of the medal is made only on the authority of the Eastern Orthodox Committee on Scouting through the local parish priest.** After the church presentation, a scout may optionally have the award presented by the priest or advisor at a scouting awards ceremony.

**Eastern Orthodox Committee on Scouting
Patch, Scholarship, and Membership Donation Form**



A) Official EOCS Patches: \$15 each

B) Contributions to EOCS Scholarship Fund:

The EOCS offers scholarships to 12th-grade scouts who have earned their Eagle, Gold, or comparable highest award in their program, and have also earned **the EOCS Alpha Omega Religious Award**. Scholarship applications are available at www.EOCS.org. Contributions of any amount are welcomed (see form below), to help the EOCS award more scholarships to these outstanding young people.

C) Membership Donations: The EOCS organizes outreach and religious growth programs in its mission of promoting Orthodox Christian Scouting. Membership includes receiving all communications about EOCS events and activities, and the opportunity to attend National Board Zoom meetings. Memberships are at two levels:

1) Community Level: \$100
Covers all scouting units in your parish.

2) Individual Level: \$25
For Adult Leaders or Individuals wishing to support the EOCS.

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Parish Name and Designated Contact Person for Community Membership:

Individual Member Name*: _____

*For additional Individual Memberships, please add a separate sheet of paper

Address: _____

Cell Phone #: _____

Email Address: _____

Scouting Program (e.g., Scouting America, GSUSA) & Unit Number:

DONATIONS: Patches: #___ @ \$15 \$ _____

Scholarship Contribution: \$ _____

Memberships _____

Group: \$ _____

Indiv.: #___ @ \$25 \$ _____

Total: \$ _____

**Mail to: Eastern Orthodox Committee on Scouting
149-57 Powells Cove Blvd Whitestone NY 11357
or complete online at: www.EOCS.org/donate**