



ARCHDIOCESE of OMAHA

**OFFICE OF EVANGELIZATION
AND CATECHESIS**

GIRLS' RELIGIOUS AWARD PROGRAM



NEW ADVISOR ORIENTATION MEETING

SEPTEMBER 22, 2016

7:00 PM

MERCY HALL, 3300 N. 60TH ST. 68104

WHAT IS THIS PROGRAM?

The Girls' Religious Award (GRA) is a national award program, coordinated in the Archdiocese by the Office of Evangelization and Catechesis, for any girl ages 7-18. This program allows Catholic girls to explore and become more involved in their Catholic faith. All programs are designed to support and complement the catechetical efforts of Catholic parishes and schools.

Any girl between the ages of 7 to 18 may participate in the GRA program as an individual or as part of a group such as Girl Scouts, Camp Fire, or American Heritage Girls. A Catholic adult advisor is required to supervise the program and may be an individual's parent or a troop leader. Upon completion of the program, it is encouraged that medals be presented in an award ceremony at the girls' parish.

We request that girls do not work on their medals during the year in which they prepare for sacraments (First Communion and Confirmation) as this is a special time and the focus should be on the sacrament.

PARTICIPATION GUIDELINES

1. A girl will work individually, or in a group of girls with a parent or Catholic adult advisor through the activities in the workbook.
2. Following completion of all activities, the workbook is reviewed by the parent/adult advisor and *pastor* (or designated parish representative) and the application, located in the back of the workbook, is signed by each.
3. The signed application is returned to the Office of Evangelization and Catechesis with medal/patch payment; medals and patches may be picked up at that time.
4. Medals and patches are presented in an awards ceremony at the girls' parish. This can be done on Scout Sunday or at any other time in the Spring.

ADULT ADVISOR INFORMATION

All adult advisors must be Safe Environment Certified with the Archdiocese of Omaha.

To streamline ordering materials, we follow the school calendar year for specific deadlines. These deadlines also allow Girl Scout Troops to schedule their medal ceremony on Girl Scout Sunday (on or near March 12th).

However, it is possible for anyone to start and complete the GRA programs at any time though you might be subject to additional shipping fees.

PARENT OR ADULT LEADER RESPONSIBILITIES:

Register your group by September 22nd - to do so please a) attend the orientation—new leaders encouraged to attend or b) call the Archdiocese with your group information (contact info on back—for those who have already helped with the program.

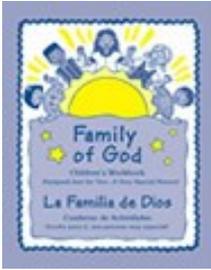
Order workbooks at the time of registration and pick up as necessary - the Archdiocese does have some books on hand. If more books are needed the Archdiocese will place an order after the orientation meeting on September 22nd. Any orders placed after September 30th will be subject to the addition of shipping fees. **Workbooks must be paid for at the time of pick up (\$7.00 per book).**

Oversee program completion and schedule medal ceremony
- We wish to encourage recognition of girls and awarding of medals at a Mass or ceremony at their local parish.

Order medals and patches for participants by February 17th
to ensure they will arrive by Scout Sunday. Medals/patches can be ordered at the same time as workbooks—you will not be charged for those that do not complete the program.

Pick up medals and patches - **signed applications and medal/patch payments (see costs on back page) are due to the Archdiocese at this time for each participant.**

FAMILY OF GOD



Age of Participants: 7-9 years-old or
Grades 2 & 3

Workbook: \$7.00

Medal & Patch: \$8.00

Family of God is a bilingual activity series developed to complement the catechetical efforts of the parish and families with children in the second and third grades.

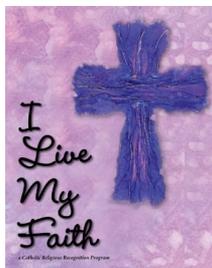
Revised and translated into Spanish in July 2004, the program helps children discover the presence of God in their daily lives as members of their family and parish. Parents and guardians play an important role.

Adult guide included in the workbook along with instructions on how to complete the program.

The six chapters are titled:

1. I Am Special to My Family
2. I Am Special to God's Family
3. I Belong to My Family
4. I Belong to God's Family
5. I Can Help My Family
6. I Can Help God's Family

I LIVE MY FAITH



Age of Participants: 9-11 years old or
Grades 4-6

Workbook: \$7.00

Medal & Patch: \$8.00

The I Live My Faith program is designed to help girls appreciate more deeply the place that God and religion occupy in their daily lives.

The program is structured on the Catechism of the Catholic Church with the themes of: Belief, Sacraments, Catholic Christian Living, and Prayer. Each theme provides a variety of opportunities for young people to explore the Catholic faith including art, technology, research, drama, and prayer.

Within each chapter, the youth are challenged to Discover, Learn, and Connect Catholic Church teaching to their lives while incorporating Prayer throughout the process. I Live My Faith complements and supports the more formal religious education provided in Catholic schools and parish programs.

Adult guide included in the workbook along with instructions on how to complete the program.

The five chapters are titled:

1. Belief
2. Sacraments
3. Catholic Christian Living
4. Prayer
5. Conclusion

MARY, THE FIRST DISCIPLE

Age of Participants: Grades 7-10



Workbook: \$7.00

Leader Guide: \$3.00

Medal & Patch: \$11.00

Mary, the First Disciple is written for young Catholics to enable them to “proclaim the greatness of the Lord.” This is accomplished by actively involving the participants in an understanding of Mary as a model of openness and spirituality—a woman of the church.

Through various projects, discussions, and liturgical celebrations over a period of months, the participants are provided with a unique opportunity to develop new insights into their personalities, friends, parents, and the world around them.

Adult guide sold separately.

The four chapters are titled:

1. Called and Chosen
2. God with Us
3. Mary Made a Difference
4. Mary, a Woman for All Time

SPIRIT ALIVE



Age of Participants: Grades 9-12

Workbook: \$7.00

Leader Guide: \$3.00

Medal & Patch: \$12.00

This program is designed for Catholic youth in high school to assist them in discovering how the Holy Spirit moves in their lives, calling them to greater participation in the church's ministry.

There are four categories of activities to choose from for chapters 1-3: written, artistic, interactive, and digital. The activity in Chapter 4 is a service component.

Adult guide sold separately.

Its four chapters are titled:

1. The Holy Spirit Alive in Scripture
2. The Holy Spirit Alive in the Catholic Church
3. The Holy Spirit Alive in Prayer
4. The Holy Spirit Alive in Your Life

IMPORTANT DATES

DATE	ACTIVITY
September 30, 2016	Deadline for ordering materials with no additional shipping fees
February 17, 2017	Deadline for ordering materials with no additional shipping fees
March 12, 2017	Girl Scout Sunday

COSTS

All fees must be paid in full before receiving materials.

All checks are made payable to:

Office of Evangelization and Catechesis

	Books	Medal Only	Patch Only	Medal & Patch
Family of God	\$7.00	\$7.00	\$3.50	\$8.00
I Live My Faith	\$7.00	\$7.00	\$3.50	\$8.00
Marian Medal	\$7.00	\$10.00	\$3.50	\$11.00
Spirit Alive	\$7.00	\$11.00	\$3.50	\$12.00

CONTACT INFORMATION

The Girls' Religious Awards Program is coordinated by the:

Office of Evangelization and Catechesis

Mercy Hall

3300 N. 60th Street

Omaha, NE 68104

All book & medal orders are placed through this office by the adult advisors.

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