

# Circle of Life

## A Weekend Retreat for Scouters

The title "Circle of Life" was chosen because it reflects the need for Scouters to improve their own relationship with God and to also pass their religious beliefs on to the next generation.

This retreat was used as a NCCS Region 3 retreat June 26, 27 & 28, 1998. Most of the activities were developed by the Retreat Program Staff of the Diocese of Trenton Catholic Committees on Scouting.

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A.

# PLANNING

# A 1

## Origination of Project

# A 2

## Approval of Project

This retreat was proposed at the September 1997 meeting of Region 3 National Catholic Committee on Scouting. At this meeting, it was decided to ask John and Joanne Tyne from the Diocese of Trenton Catholic Committees on Scouting to present a retreat weekend with 2 purposes:

1. The spiritual enrichment of those attending.
2. Learning techniques which can be used with youth retreats.

It was decided that the retreat would be held June 19, 20, & 21, 1998 at the Trinity Spiritual Center on Carlisle, Pennsylvania.

At the 1998 Biennial Convention, those from region 3 decided to change the date to June 26, 27, & 28.

This event was endorsed and approved by the Regional Chairperson and the Regional Chaplain.

# A 3

## Planning Steps

### Organizational Chart

- A. Communications and Publicity - Frank Koller
- B. Registration/Facilities Arrangement - Frank Koller
- C. Program - John & Joanne Tyne
- D. Hospitality/Food Services
  - 1. Meals - Trinity Spiritual Center Staff
  - 2. Cracker Barrel - Frank Koller

At the 1998 Biennial Convention, Region 3 met to discuss this events. Discussed were:

- What would be the date of this event?
- How can we better publicize this event?
- What style would this event have?

It was decided that the date would be June 26, 27 & 28 with a registration deadline of May 30.

A mailing would be done to everyone on the Region 3 mailing list.

This retreat would not use a traditional, meditative style. It would use many different, active presentation styles.

# A 4

## Cost & Financing

### Materials

Publicity materials provided by Region 3 NCCS.

Program Materials provided by the Diocese of Trenton Catholic Committees on Scouting.

Facilities were rented from the Trinity Spiritual Center.

Meals were provided by the Trinity Spiritual Center.

Cracker Barrel was provided by Region 3 NCCS.

### Financing

Each participant paid \$100 for the use of the facility and the meals.

B

# Implementation of the Activity

# B 1 Communications & Publicity

## B 2 Registration

The following fliers were sent to everyone of the NCCS Region 3 Mailing List.



# CATHOLIC COMMITTEE ON SCOUTING

## Region III

Chaplain - Rev. Lawrence L. Manchas  
87 Sixth Street Ext.  
Herminie, PA. 15637

Chairman - Frank Koller  
511 Valmore Road  
Fairless Hills, PA. 19030

April 30, 1998

**TO: MEMBERS OF REGION 3 CATHOLIC COMMITTEE**

**SUBJECT: SCOUT RETREAT TRAINING -- JUNE 26-28, 1998**

A subject that many of you expressed interest in is the planning and conducting of Scout Retreats. While many dioceses continue to run retreats with positive results, it is also true that most of you would be receptive to new approaches to strengthen your retreat program.

We have been able to secure the services of National Training Specialists to present the weekend program that can add a new dimension that you will find useful. The program will be conducted from Friday evening through Sunday morning, June 26-28, 1998. The sessions will be held at the Trinity Spiritual Center, Camp Hill, Pa.

If you and members of your diocesan Catholic Scouting organization would like to participate, please complete the enclosed registration form and return it to me no later than Saturday, May 30, 1998. Time is short and space is limited. A flyer for your use is also enclosed for convenience.

Yours In Catholic Scouting,

  
Frank Koller  
Chairman

cc: Rev. Lawrence Manchas, Chaplain  
Ron Turo  
John and Joanne Tyne

**TIME IS SHORT ! SPACE IS LIMITED !**  
**PLEASE READ AND RESPOND QUICKLY**

**REGION 3 SCOUT RETREAT TRAINING**

**DAYS/DATES:** FRI. EVENING THRU SUN. MORNING  
JUNE 26-28, 1998

**LOCATION:** TRINITY SPIRITUAL CENTER  
3601 SIMPSON FERRY ROAD  
CAMP HILL, PA. 17011  
(717) 761-7355

**COST:** \$100.00/PERSON  
**INCLUDES:** SLEEPING ACCOMODATIONS  
FOR 2 NIGHTS - 4 MEALS (SAT. BREAKFAST,  
LUNCH & DINNER; SUNDAY BREAKFAST)

**PRESENTERS:** JOHN AND JOANNE TYNE  
NCCS TRAINING COMMITTEE

**GENERAL OUTLINE OF PROGRAM:**

- o AN ACTIVE, SPIRITUAL WEEKEND PROGRAM.
- o EXPERIENCE RETREAT ACTIVITIES YOU CAN USE WITH YOUR SCOUTS.
- o THIS WILL NOT BE A TRADITIONAL, QUIET, MEDITATIVE RETREAT

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**FILL OUT & RETURN REGISTRATION FORM NO LATER  
THAN SATURDAY, MAY 30, 1998**

**REGION 3 RETREAT TRAINING**

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**TRINITY SPIRITUAL CENTER  
3601 SIMPSON FERRY ROAD  
CAMP HILL, PA. 17011  
PHONE: (717) 761-7355**

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**FRIDAY EVENING THRU SUNDAY MORNING -- JUNE 26-28, 1998**

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\_\_\_\_\_  
(Diocese)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of Diocesan Contact)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Contact Street Address)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(City/State/Zip Code)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Contact Phone Number)

I/We would like to participate in Region 3 Retreat Training:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(No. People)

@ \$100.00/person

\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(Total Enclosed)

(Make Check Payable To The Catholic Committee On Scouting)

List Names of Participants:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

(Attach Additional Sheet, If Necessary)

**MAIL TO FOLLOWING ADDRESS NO LATER THAN MAY 30, 1998:**

**FRANK KOLLER  
511 VALMORE ROAD  
FAIRLESS HILLS, PA. 19030  
(215) 943-6175**

**TRINITY SPIRITUAL CENTER**  
**3609 Simpson Ferry Road**  
**Camp Hill, PA, 17011**  
**Phone: (717) 761-7355**

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## **Directions:**

**From Harrisburg:** Take Route 83 south; right after you cross the Susquehanna River, follow the sign that says "Exit 20, Routes 11 and 15, Camp Hill". (Do not exit at the sign 83 South, York.) About two miles down the road you will see an overpass. In front of the overpass is a sign **Routes 11 & 15 North, Camp Hill. DO NOT EXIT HERE.** Go under the overpass and immediately exit to the right at the sign **Route 15 South, Gettysburg.** As soon as you are up on the overpass, you will pass a sign **83 Hershey-York.** About a hundred yards past this sign, you will see a sign on the right for **Shiremanstown.** Exit here. At the end of the exit ramp, turn right. You are now on **Simpson Ferry Road.** Go through the first light. About 300 yards past this light, you will see **Trinity Spiritual Center** on your left. It is the small building right next to **Trinity High School.**

**FROM THE NORTH (e.g. Scranton):** Take 81 South; exit at 83 South and follow the above directions.

**FROM THE NORTHEAST AND EAST (New York City and New Jersey):** Take I-78 West to 81 South to 83 South and then follow directions from Harrisburg.

**FROM THE EAST (Philadelphia and Southern New Jersey):** Take the Pennsylvania Turnpike (I-76) West to Exit 17. Take Route 15 North about three miles; exit at **Shiremanstown.** At the end of the exit ramp, turn right; you are now on **Simpson Ferry Road.** Go through the first light. About 300 yards past the light, you will see **Trinity Spiritual Center** on your left.

**FROM THE SOUTH (Baltimore and Washington):** from Washington — Take 95 North off 495. Take 83 North off 695 to Exit 20. Follow the sign for **Routes 11 & 15, Camp Hill.**

Pass the exit sign for **Routes 11 & 15 North, Camp Hill;** go under the overpass and immediately exit at the sign **Route 15 South, Gettysburg.** Follow the second half of the directions above in the first paragraph. From **Baltimore,** take 83 North off 695 and follow as above.

**FROM THE SOUTH-SOUTHWEST:** Take 81 North to 76 East to Exit 17. Take Route 15 North about three miles. Exit at **Shiremanstown.** At the end of the exit ramp, turn right. You are now on **Simpson Ferry Road.** Go through the first light. About 300 yards past the first light, you will see **Trinity Spiritual Center** on your left.

**FROM THE WEST:** Take 76 East to Exit 17. Follow the remainder of the directions in the above paragraph.

**FROM THE NORTH-NORTHWEST:** Take Routes 22 & 322 East to Routes 11 & 15 South. Take 11 & 15 South into **Camp Hill.** About 4½ miles past the intersection of Routes 11 & 15 take a sharp right-hand turn on to **Walnut Street.** Continue to follow the signs for **Routes 11 & 15.** After you enter **Camp Hill,** 11 & 15 will curve around to your left. Right after you pass the **Camp Hill shopping mall** on your right, you will see a sign **Route 11 South, Carlisle.** Do not exit here. Continue straight ahead past the sign for **83 Hershey-York.** A short distance past this last sign, you will see a sign for **Shiremanstown.** Exit here. At the end of the exit ramp, turn right. You are now on **Simpson Ferry Road.** Go through the first light. About 300 yards past the first light, you will see **Trinity Spiritual Center** on your left.

**FROM THE SOUTHEAST (Lancaster, PA):** Take 283 North. Exit at the sign **83 South, Harrisburg, 322 West.** Follow the signs for **83 South.** Confer the first paragraph for the remainder of the directions.

# B 3 Program

## Schedule

### Friday

8:00 P.M.      Retreat Session 1  
9:00 P.M.      Evening Prayer  
10:00 P.M.     Cracker Barrel

### Saturday

8:00 A.M.      Breakfast  
9:00 A.M.      Retreat Sessions 2 & 3  
10:30 A.M.     Coffee Break  
10:45 A.M.     Retreat Sessions 4 & 5  
12 Noon        Lunch  
1:00 P.M.      Penance Service & Confessions  
3:00 P.M.      Mass Preparation  
4:00 P.M.      Mass  
5:30 P.M.      Supper  
7:00 P.M.      Retreat Session 6  
8:30 P.M.      Prayer Service  
9:00 P.M.      Cracker Barrel

### Sunday

8:00 A.M.      Breakfast  
9:00 A.M.      Retreat Session 7  
10:00 A.M.     Retreat Concludes

## **Program Staff**

The program was given by John and Joanne Tyne of the Diocese of Trenton Catholic Committees on Scouting. John & Joanne were known to the NCCS Region 3 Chairman and Chaplain through their presentations about retreat programs at the NCCS Conventions. They have also received the NCCS Religious Activities Committee "Award of Excellence" for several of their retreat programs.

## **Summary of Purpose**

The purpose of the retreat was:

1. For the spiritual enrichment of the participants.
2. To experience various retreat activities which could be used at youth retreats.

The title "Circle of Life" was chosen because it reflects the need for Scouters to improve their own relationship with God and to also pass their religious beliefs on to the next generation.

# Retreat Session 1

## Bible Verse Ice Breaker

### Purpose:

- To have participants think about the meaning of various Bible verses.
- To have the participants meet each other.

### Materials:

- Index Cards - Each index card has a single word from a Bible verse written on it.
- The Bible Verses used were:
  - “Honor your father and your mother.”
  - “So God created humankind in his image.”
  - “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.”
  - “The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.”
  - “Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs.”
  - “Whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will not enter it.”
  - “Take, eat; this is my body.”
  - “For a child has been born for us, a son given to us.”

### Procedure:

- The index cards are randomly given out to the participants. Each person must find the other people who have the cards to complete their Bible verse.
- The group that forms each Bible verse discusses what the Bible verse means to them.
- Each small group reports back to the large group.
- The procedure is repeated with other Bible Verses.

## Needs Assessment

### Purpose:

To find out what individuals expect from this retreat experience.

### Materials:

Small cards (multi colored), tape, foam board

### Procedure:

Divide the large group into smaller groups of 5 or 6 people. Let each group discuss the following questions:

- What do you expect from this retreat?
- What activities are appropriate for a Catholic retreat?

Have each group write each answer on one of the cards.

The small groups report back to the large group. The cards are attached to the foam board, and are referred to by the retreat directors during the weekend to make sure that the program is meeting the needs of the participants.

The following were some of the reports:

- Get in touch with spiritual feelings
- The Holy Spirit
- Theme Activities
- How to get scouts interested in attending retreats
- Want ideas for retreat themes and related activities
- Want suggestions for millennium themes
- How can we include adults in youth retreat activities?
- How to hold Cub Scout retreat days.
- How to use youth in retreat planning
- Learn more to pass on to the scouts
- How to start a Girl Scout/Boy Scout retreat program
- How to get parish support for retreats

### Evening Prayer

The following prayer was used at the Diocese of Trenton Catholic Committees on Scouting 1991 Girl Scout/Boy Scout Retreat



## **Evening Prayer**

**LEADER (L): WE GOTTA TALK! IS THAT RIGHT?**

**STAFF (S): RIGHT**

(L) WE GOTTA TALK TO GOD! (S) RIGHT!

(L) WE GOTTA TALK TO JESUS! (S) RIGHT!

(L) WE GOTTA TALK TO THE HOLY SPIRIT! (S) RIGHT!

(L) WE GOTTA TALK TO MOTHER MARY! (S) RIGHT!

(L) WE GOTTA TALK TO THE SAINTS! (S) RIGHT!

(L) WE GOTTA TALK TO EACH OTHER! (S) RIGHT!

(L) WE GOTTA TALK! (S) RIGHT!

(L) YOU WILL PRAY WITH MORE JOY.  
YOU WILL FEEL CLOSER TO GOD WHEN YOU PRAY.

(L) WE GOTTA TALK!

(S) RIGHT!

(L) HERE !

(S) RIGHT!

(L) NOW!

(S) RIGHT!

## Saturday Morning Ice Breaker

### Purpose:

- To have participants get to know each other better
- To have participants discuss their experience with Scouts and the Religious Emblems program.

### Materials:















- The game sheet printed on the next page
- pencils

### Procedure:

- Give a game page to each participant
- Have them find a different person to sign each square

# Diocese of Trenton

## Catholic Committees on Scouting

<p>Find someone who is registered with BSA.</p> 	<p>Find someone who is registered with G.S. USA.</p> 	<p>Find someone who is registered with both BSA and G.S. USA.</p>  
<p>Find someone who has been a Troop Leader, Den Leader or Scout Master.</p> 	<p>Find someone who has helped a scout earn their religious emblem.</p>  	<p>Find someone who earned a scout religious emblem as a youth.</p>  
<p>Find someone who has earned a Scout religious emblem as an adult.</p> 	<p>Find someone who was a scout as a youth.</p>  	<p>Find someone who has attended a Retreat or Faith Day sponsored by the DOT-CCS.</p>  

*Find a different person to sign each space*

**Getting to know Mary.**

**Getting to know you.**



<p>We celebrate Mary's birthday in September. Find someone who has a September birthday.</p>	<p>The Hail Mary is a prayer to Mary. Find someone who can recite the Hail Mary.</p>	<p>Mary helped people. Find someone who has done a good deed today.</p>
<p>Mary cooked meals for Jesus and Joseph. Find someone who likes to cook.</p>	<p>We ask Mary to pray for us when we say the Hail Mary. Find someone who will pray for you.</p>	<p>Elizabeth was Mary's cousin and friend. Find someone who has a friend or cousin named Elizabeth.</p>
<p>Mary's mother's name was Anne. Find someone whose mother's name is Anne.</p>	<p>Mary prayed often. Find someone who has prayed today.</p>	<p>Mary took care of the child Jesus. Find someone who likes to take care of children.</p>

*Find a different person to sign each space.*

## Morning Prayer

FLAG CEREMONY - A flag ceremony including Pledge of Allegiance and the Boy Scout Oath.

MORNING PRAYER (ALL CAMPERS RESPOND WITH THE CAPITALIZED, UNDERLINED RESPONSES. THEY ARE SIMPLE RESPONSES AND SO NO PAPERS ARE REQUIRED. A DIFFERENT READER READS EACH NUMBERED PART.)

1: This is a service that may be very different from any you have been to before. We would like to invite you to participate with us in every way the Spirit moves you. If you want to wave your hands in the air, wave them. If you'd like to stand up and praise, stand. If you'd like to kneel, or sing or shout or laugh or cry, whatever! Be open to the spirit and pray with us.

2: Can I hear everyone shout AMEN!

AMEN

3: Shout ALLELUIA!

ALLELUIA!

4 Ian: PRAISE THE LORD!

PRAISE THE LORD!

5: Praise the Lord indeed! Let us pray in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, AMEN!

AMEN!

Dear God, We are gathered here together as we are. Bless each one of us here, yes, please bless us Lord. Help us to see ourselves as You do, and lead us to You and Your saving Love. Please send down your Spirit and be pleased with the praise we send to you today. Help us to be open to You today and grow to be more loving and giving people. AMEN!

6: A reading from the 47th Psalm:

SHOUT TO GOD WITH SHOUTS OF GLADNESS!

All you peoples clap your hands,

SHOUT TO GOD WITH SHOUTS OF GLADNESS!

For the Lord is the Most High, the Awesome, is the great king over all the earth.

SHOUT TO GOD WITH SHOUTS OF GLADNESS!

He brings peoples under us; nations under our feet.

SHOUT TO GOD WITH SHOUTS OF GLADNESS!

He chooses for us our inheritance, the glory of Jacob, whom he loves.

**SHOUT TO GOD WITH SHOUTS OF GLADNESS!**

7: God mounts His throne to shouts of joy!

**SHOUT TO GOD WITH SHOUTS OF GLADNESS!**

Sing Praise to God our King, Sing Praise!

**SHOUT TO GOD WITH SHOUTS OF GLADNESS!**

For the king of all the earth is God: Sing hymns of praise!

**SHOUT TO GOD WITH SHOUTS OF GLADNESS!**

God reigns over the nations and sits upon His holy throne.

**SHOUT TO GOD WITH SHOUTS OF GLADNESS!**

8: The princes of the peoples are gathered together with the people of the God of Abraham.

**SHOUT TO GOD WITH SHOUTS OF GLADNESS!**

For God's people are the guardians of the earth; and HE is supreme!

**SHOUT TO GOD WITH SHOUTS OF GLADNESS!**

**SHOUT TO GOD WITH SHOUTS OF GLADNESS!**

**SHOUT TO GOD WITH SHOUTS OF GLADNESS!**

9: From the beginning of time, God has called people to do His work.

10: From Genesis chapter 6 and 7, God said to Noah, "I have decided to put an end to all the people of the earth because they are wicked. Come and build an Ark of gopher wood and go into it with your wife and sons and your sons' wives and two of every animal. For I will destroy the world by flood."

11: From Genesis chapter 12, The Lord said to Abram, "Go forth from the land of your kinsfolk and follow me into the land that I will show you."

12: From Exodus chapter 4, God called out from the burning bush, "Moses! Remove your shoes, for the ground you stand on is holy ground! Come now! I will send you to Pharaoh and to lead my people out of Egypt!"

13: Moses said, "Lord I don't know how to speak!"

14: From Samuel chapter 3, the Lord called, "Samuel! Samuel!"

15: Samuel thought it was Eli the Priest calling him.

16: From Jeremiah chapter 1, The Lord said to me thus: "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, Before you were born I dedicated you, a prophet to the nations I appointed you."

17: But Jeremiah, said "I am too young!"

**18:** From Luke chapter 1, "Mary, rejoice! The Lord is with you. God has called you to bear His Son who shall be called Jesus Emmanuel, the Prince of Peace!"

**19:** Mary said, "How can this be since I am not married?"

**20:** In The gospels Jesus says,

"Simon! Andrew! Come and follow me, for I will make you fishers of men.

James and John! Come and spread my word!

Matthew! Leave your tax table, come follow me!

Philip, Bartholomew, Thomas, Thaddious, Simon Zealot, Judas Iscariot and James, come and follow me. I have work for you to do!

**21:** All these people were just people, imperfect people, who were scared to answer God's call. Young people and old people, people like you and people NOT like you are called to be WHO THEY ARE to praise and glorify God. Who are you? Are you a scout? Are you a son? Are you a daughter? Are you an athlete? Are you a scholar? Are you an artist? Are you a musician? Are you a cook? Are you a cleaner? Are you a driver? Are you a volunteer? Are you a preacher? Are you a storyteller? Are you a friend? WHO ARE YOU?

At the ends of your rows there are cards and pencils. If the spirit moves you, take a card and write on it just what you've told us here, and offer up here.

Music is played while campers write on the card what they are.

The cards are collected in a bag marked "Who R U?"

This bag will be part of the decorations at Mass.

**22:** PRAISE THE LORD WITH SHOUTS OF JOY!

Let us all join hands and raise our voices in the prayer Jesus gave us! OUR FATHER . .

**23:** You all have arrived as you are, continue now with God to do his will. ALLELUIA!  
AMEN!

**ALLELUIA! AMEN!**

(IT IS HARD TO DESCRIBE ALL OF THE EXUBERANCE THAT WAS SHOWN DURING THIS PRAYER WHEN IT WAS ORIGINALLY USED AT THE DIOCESE OF TRENTON SCOUT RETREAT IN 1993. STAFF MEMBERS DIDN'T JUST READ THEIR PARTS, THEY PROCLAIMED THEM. THEY WALKED AMONG THE CAMPERS, SPREADING THE WORD OF GOD.

THIS SERVICE IS MEANT TO BE A VERY JOYFUL AND EXCITING EXPERIENCE.)

**Retreat Sessions 2**  
**Living Saints**

**Purpose:**

- To have participants realize that every person is a very special creation of God.
- 

**Materials:**

- Bible Verse Cards
- Pencils
- Paper
- Large Paper Bag
- Can with "Can-O-Nice Saints" written on it.
- 

**Procedure:**

EPHESIANS 2:10 - God has made us a work of art . . . and in our union with Christ Jesus he made us for a life of good deeds . . .

1. Work of art - Discussion

Can you name a work of art?

What about music?

What about people?

What makes something a work of art?

Are you a work of art?

How are works of art NOT recognized . . . or made to appear to not be good enough?

Who tells people whether they are works of art?

What kinds of words make people believe that they are not works of art?

2. Drawing Activity

Have 2 volunteers draw something. While they are drawing "gently" mock their drawing efforts. Then with great flourish, crumple their pictures.

Ask the "artists" how they feel about the staff destroying their picture. Why should we as staff not act the way we did?

Who made you? If God is your creator, how do you suppose He feels when his works of art are put down or destroyed?



Even when we are not perfect, we are worthwhile, because we are God's own creation.

Give out cards with Ephesians 2:10 written on them.

### 3. Masks

Put a paper bag over the head of a volunteer. Read the following poem, removing the paper bag from the volunteer at the appropriate spot in the poem.

I keep my bag right with me everywhere I go,  
In case I might need to wear it, so ME doesn't show.  
I'm so afraid to show you ME, afraid OF WHAT YOU'LL DO.  
You might laugh at ME, or say mean things . . .  
Or I might lose you.

I'd like to take my bag off, to let you see ME.  
I want you to try to understand, and please, love what you see.  
So if you'll be patient and close your eyes, I'll pull it off so slow  
Please understand how much it hurts, to let the real me show.

Now my bag is taken off. I feel so naked! Bare! So cold!  
If you still love all that you see, you are my friend, pure as gold.  
I want to save my bag, and hold it in my hand.  
I need to keep it handy in case someone doesn't understand.  
Please protect me, my new friend, and thank you for loving me true.  
But, please let me keep my bag with me until I love me too.

(author unknown, as quoted in Fresh Elastic for Stretched Out Moms, Barbara Johnson)

Discuss above poem

### 4. Can-O-Nice Saints

Discuss - What is a saint?  
Who is a saint?  
What qualities make a person saintly?  
Who are the saints among us today?

Everyone gets a card that says: "I thank God for you every time I think of you;  
and every time I pray for you . . . I pray with joy."                      Philippians 1:3

Only certain people can be "Canonized Saints" but many saintly people live among us. They are "nice" people. We have here a can that says "Can-O-Nice-Saints" on it.

Write the name of a saintly person on the card and put it in the "Can-O-Nice Saints".

Give out cards with the following written on them:

EPHESIANS 2:10 - God has made us a work of art . . . and in our union with Christ Jesus he made is for a life of good deeds . . .

Encourage participants to carry the card with them to remind them of their value of God's creations.

## Retreat Session 3

### Answers to Prayers

#### Purpose:

- To have participants realize that we must listen for God's answers after we pray.
- To have participants realize that God doesn't always answer our prayers the way we want him to.

#### Materials:

- Scripts
- These skits can be done with or without props

#### Procedure:

- Act out the following skits and follow each with a discussion.

## Tent Skit

Narrator: Once upon a time, there was a Boy Scout Troop that went on a camping trip. Here we see Jason, a tender foot scout, trying to set up his tent. He tries and tries, but he can't seem to get it up.

Jason: Mr. Scoutmaster, I can't get this tent up, please help me!

Scoutmaster: OK Jason, go back to your site and I'll help you.

(Jason goes back to his site.)

Scoutmaster: Hey quartermaster, go over there and help Jason set up that tent.

Quartermaster: OK. (He walks over to Jason.) Jason, let me show you how to do that.

Jason: I don't need your help.

Quartermaster: Well, it looks like you're having problems.

Jason: Don't bother me. I asked my Scoutmaster to help me.

Quartermaster: Well, OK, but let me know if you want my help.

Jason: I don't need your help! Mr. Scoutmaster! I need help.

Scoutmaster: Tom, you're the ASPL. Go see if you can find out what's wrong with that new scout.

Tom: OK, Sir. (Walks over to Jason.) Well Jason, what seems to be the problem.

Jason: No problem.

Tom: Well you're going to have trouble sleeping in that tent the way it is.

Jason: No problem, though, my scoutmaster is going to help me.

Tom: Well, OK

Jason: I don't need his help. I want to go straight to the top. Mr. Scoutmaster, I really need your help!!!

Scoutmaster: Rob, you're the SPL. Can you solve that boy's problems? Go over there and help him!

Rob: Jason, let me help you put your tent up.

Jason: I don't need your help. Mr. Scoutmaster!!!

Scoutmaster: (Walking over to Jason.) Jason, what is your problem?

Jason: I need help putting up my tent, and you won't help me.

### Discussion

1. Did the Scoutmaster help Jason? (yes)
2. How did he help Jason? (Sending Quartermaster, ASPL & SPL)
3. Why didn't Jason let them help him? (He didn't recognize the Scoutmaster's form of help.)
4. Who does the Scoutmaster symbolize? (God)
5. How does this skit relate to prayer?

### Flood Skit

In this skit, use campers to act out some parts of the skit.

Narrator: There once was a town where there was a great flood. The flood waters rose higher and higher. Poor Amanda didn't know what to do, so she climbed on the roof of her house.

Amanda: God, please help me. I'm really in trouble here. The flood waters are rising and I can't swim. I'm afraid that I might drown.

Narrator: So there sat Amanda on her roof, praying that God would help her. Soon she saw a Boy Scout rowing along in a canoe.

Camper 1: Hello! I have room in my canoe and the flood waters are rising. Come, let me give you a ride to safety.

Amanda: Oh, don't worry about me. God is going to save me.

Camper 1: Ok, but I wish you'd come with me.

Narrator: So Amanda continued to sit on her roof, praying for help. Soon a Girl Scout came along in a row boat.

Camper 2: Hello there. Let me give you a ride to a safe place. I'm afraid that if you stay on your roof you will drown.

Amanda: Thanks, but I'm going to wait here for awhile. I know that God will answer my prayers and save me.

Camper 2: Well OK. Have it your way, but I really think that you should come with me.

Narrator: The flood waters were still rising and Amanda still sat on her roof. By now, the flood waters had almost reached her toes. She sure hoped that God answered her prayers soon. Then, a helicopter flew overhead.

Camper 3: Hey, you. You look like you need help quick. Hurry up and grab this rope. I'll pull you to the safety of my helicopter.

Amanda: No thanks.

Camper 3: But you're in danger. The flood waters are rising.

Amanda: Don't worry. I have faith in God.

God: Amanda, why are you sitting on your roof? Don't you see the flood waters rising?

Amanda: Well God, the real question is why haven't you saved me?

God: I've been trying. I sent you a canoe, a rowboat, and a helicopter. What more do you want?

Amanda: Oh.

### Discussion

1. Did God help Amanda?
2. Has God ever sent someone to help you?
3. Have you ever waited for a miracle to happen instead of using the help God gave you?
4. Do you think Amanda felt ignored by God?
5. How do you think that Amanda expected to be rescued?

6. Do you think that we are sometimes blind to the ways god is helping us?
7. What are some ways that God has helped you?

To wrap things up we will remind the campers that prayer is important, not only when we need things, but always. We will remind them that even when they don't get what they want from God every time, God still loves them and is listening.

### Prayer Cards

As each camper leaves give them a prayer card with the following prayer written on it:

Nothing is going to happen to me today that you and I can't handle together, Lord.

## **Retreat Session 4** **Meditation & Our Father**

### **Purpose:**

- To have participants experience different kinds of prayer
- To have participants think about the prayers they say

### **Materials:**

- Scripts
- Quiet music and a CD player
- A microphone and amplifier for the voice of God in the Our Father script.

### **Procedure:**

## **Meditation Prayer**

Find a comfortable place where you can sit comfortably. Relax and close your eyes. Breathe normally, but comfortably. Breath in and out. In and out.

Listen to the quiet music in the background, but be most conscious of your breathing. Relax your toes and your feet. Relax your legs. Continue to sit up straight, but relax your torso. Make sure that your arms and hands are relaxed. Relax all of the muscles in your face.

Think about someplace at home where you store things. Maybe it is your desk, or a closet, or the basement, or the garage. Think of one place where you keep many things.

Think of being at that storage place and picture the things you would see there. While we think of the things that are there, continue to relax.

Think about something that is there that should have been thrown out a long time ago. Maybe it is old papers. Or maybe some old magazines or old mail or old clothes or some other thing that serves no current purpose in your life. (Allow time to think)

Think about some forgotten treasures that are in your storage place. Maybe it is a greeting card that you had forgotten about. Maybe it is a program or a ticket stub from a show you attended. Maybe it is something else that reminds you of a special time or a special person. Take some time to think of a forgotten treasure. (Allow time to think)



Now let's think about your heart. Is there anything in your heart that should have been thrown out a long time ago? Are there unkind thoughts about another person? Is there a grudge that should be forgiven? Is there a plan to do something mean to another person? If there is anything in your heart that shouldn't be there, take time to discard it. (Pause)

Are there any forgotten treasures in your heart? Did you forget how good you are at making other people happy? Did you forget that you were going to help someone this week? Did you forget how much Jesus loves you? Did you forget how many talents the Lord has given you? Take a minute to think about these treasures in your heart. (Pause)

Continue to think about your breathing - in and out. It's almost time to continue with other things, but first take a minute to talk to God about these thoughts that you've had. (pause)

As you continue through the day remember to select carefully the things you keep in your heart and remember the hidden treasures that are in your heart.

Now quietly open your eyes and sit still for just a minute more before we continue with other activities.

# If God Should Speak

by Clyde Lee Herring

Note: Reader 2 should be heard but not seen.

Reader 1: "Our Father who art in heaven . . ."

Reader 2: Yes.

Reader 1: Don't interrupt me. I'm praying.

Reader 2: But you called me.

Reader 1: Called you? I didn't call you. I'm praying. "Our Father who art in heaven . . ."

Reader 2: There, you did it again.

Reader 1: Did what?

Reader 2: Called me. You said, "Our Father who art in heaven." Here I am. What's on your mind?

Reader 1: But I didn't mean anything by it. I was, you know, just saying my prayers for the day. I always say the Lord's Prayer. It makes me feel good; kind of like getting a duty done.

Reader 2: All right, go on.

Reader 1: "Hallowed be Thy name."

Reader 2: Hold it. What did you mean by that?

Reader 1: By what?

Reader 2: By "Hallowed be Thy name."

Reader 1: It means . . . it means . . . good grief, I don't know what it means. How should I know? It's just part of the prayer. By the way, what does it mean?

Reader 2: It means honored, holy, wonderful.

Reader 1: Hey, that makes sense. I never thought what "hallowed" meant before. "Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven."

Reader 2: Do you really mean that?

Reader 1: Sure, why not?

Reader 2: What are you doing about it?

Reader 1: Doing? Nothing, I guess. I just think it would be kind of neat if you got control of everything down here like you have up there.

Reader 2: Have I got control of you?

Reader 1: Well, I go to church.

Reader 2: That isn't what I asked you. What about that habit of lust you have? And your bad temper? You've really got a problem there, the way you spend your money . . . all on yourself. And what about the kind of books you read?

Reader 1: Stop picking on me! I'm just as good as some of the rest of those phonies at church.

Reader 2: Excuse me. I thought you were praying for my will to be done. If that is to happen it will have to start with the ones who are praying for it. Like you, for example.

Reader 1: Oh, all right. I guess I do have some hang-ups. Now that you mention it, I probably could name some others.

Reader 2: So could I.

Reader 1: I haven't thought about it very much until now. But I really would like to cut out some of those things. I would like to, you know, be really free.

Reader 2: Good. Now we're getting somewhere. We'll work together, you and I. Some victories can truly be won. I'm proud of you.

Reader 1: Look, Lord, I need to finish up here. This is taking a lot longer than it usually does. "Give us this day our daily bread."

Reader 2: You need to cut out the bread. You're overweight as it is.

Reader 1: Hey, wait a minute! What is this, "Criticize Me Day"? Here I was doing my religious duty, and all of a sudden you break in and remind me of all my hang-ups.

**Reader 2:** Praying is a dangerous thing. You could wind up changed, you know. That's what I'm trying to get across to you. You called me, and here I am. It's too late to stop now. Keep praying; I'm interested in the next part of your prayer . . . Well, go on.

**Reader 1:** I'm scared to.

**Reader 2:** Scared? Of what?

**Reader 1:** I know what you'll say.

**Reader 2:** Try me and see.

**Reader 1:** "And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors."

**Reader 2:** What about Linda?

**Reader 1:** See? I knew it! I knew you would bring her up. Why, Lord, she told lies about me, cheated me out of some money. She never paid back that debt she owes me. I've sworn to get even with her.

**Reader 2:** But what about your prayer?

**Reader 1:** I didn't mean it.

**Reader 2:** Well, at least you're honest. But it's not much fun carrying that load of bitterness around inside, is it?

**Reader 1:** No, but I'll feel better as soon as I get even. Boy, have I got some plans for old Linda. She'll wish she never did me any harm.

**Reader 2:** You won't feel any better. You'll feel worse. Revenge isn't sweet. Think of how unhappy you already are. But I can change all that.

**Reader 1:** You can? How?

**Reader 2:** Forgive Linda as I have forgiven you. Then the hate and sin will be Linda's problems, not yours. You may lose the money, but you will have settled your heart.

**Reader 1:** But Lord, I can't forgive Linda.

**Reader 2:** Then I can't forgive you.

**Reader 1:** Oh, you're right. You always are. And more than I want revenge on Linda, I want to be right with you . . . (sigh). All right. All right. I forgive her. Help her to find the right road in life. She's bound to be awfully miserable now that I think about it. Anybody who goes around doing the things that she does to others has to be out of it. Some way, somehow, show her the right way. And Lord, help me to forget it too.

**Reader 2:** There now! Wonderful! How do you feel?

**Reader 1:** Hmmmm, well, not bad. Not bad at all. In fact, I feel pretty great! You know, I don't think I'll have to go to bed uptight tonight for the first time since I can remember. Maybe I won't be so tired from now on because I'm not getting enough rest.

**Reader 2:** You're not through with your prayer.

**Reader 1:** Oh, all right. "And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from evil."

**Reader 2:** Good! Good! I'll do that. Just don't put yourself in a place where you can be tempted.

**Reader 1:** What do you mean by that?

**Reader 2:** Quit hanging around with that group that's always getting into trouble. Change some of your friendships. Some of your so-called friends are beginning to get to you. They'll have you completely involved in wrong things before long. Don't be fooled. They advertise they're having fun, but for you it would be ruin. Don't use me for an escape hatch.

**Reader 1:** I don't understand.

**Reader 2:** Sure you do. You've done it lots of times. You get in bad situations, get into trouble and then come running to me. "Lord, help me out of this mess, and I promise I'll never do it again." You remember some of those bargains you tried to make with me?

**Reader 1:** Yes, and I'm ashamed, Lord. I really am.

Reader 2: Which bargain are you remembering?

Reader 1: Well, the time I almost got caught cheating on a test. I remember telling you: "Oh Lord, don't let her tell the teacher. If she doesn't, I promise I'll be in church every Sunday and do anything you want me to do."

Reader 2: She didn't tell, but you didn't keep your promise, did you?

Reader 1: I'm sorry, Lord. I really am. Up until now I thought that if I just prayed the Lord's Prayer every day, I could do what I like. I didn't expect anything to happen like this . . . that you really listen.

Reader 2: Go ahead and finish your prayer.

Reader 1: "For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen."

Reader 2: Do you know what would bring me glory? What would really make me happy?

Reader 1: No. But I'd like to know. I want to please you. I can see what a mess I've made of my life. And I can see how neat it would be if I really be one of your followers.

Reader 2: You just answered the question.

Reader 1: I did?

Reader 2: Yes. The thing that would bring you glory is to have people like you truly love you. And I see that happening between us. Not that some of these old sins are exposed and thrown out of the way, well, there's no telling what we can do together.

Reader 1: Lord, let's see what we can make of this. Okay?

Reader 2: Yes. Let's see.

## Retreat Session 5

### The Sneetches

#### Purpose:

- To have participants think about setting personal values for their lives.

#### Materials:

- A copy of the book The Sneetches by Dr. Seuss (ISBN 0-394-80089-3)
- Green stars
- A box or other prop for the "star off" machine
- Play Money

#### Procedure:

One person reads the story.

Participants act out the story as it is read.

#### Synopsis of the story:

The Star Belly Sneetches think that they are the best. Someone comes along and sells stars to the plain belly Sneetches. The original star belly Sneetches are now mad, so they pay to have their stars removed.

## Penance Service

Song:

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound that saved and set me free!  
I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved;  
How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed.

Through many dangers, toils and snares I have already come,  
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me, His word my hope endures,  
He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.

*Leader:* +In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

*All:* AMEN.

*Leader:* Grace and peace be with you from God and from the Lord, Jesus Christ, who loved us and washed away our sins in His blood.

*All:* GLORY TO GOD FOREVER. AMEN.

*Leader:* Let us pray for God's help to be truly sorry for our sin.

*All:* LOVING GOD, YOU HAVE BROUGHT US TOGETHER  
IN THE NAME OF YOUR SON,  
TO RECEIVE MERCY AND GRACE IN OUR TIME OF NEED.  
OPEN OUR EYES TO SEE THE EVIL WE HAVE DONE.  
TOUCH OUR HEARTS AND TURN US BACK TO YOU.  
GIVE US A NEW HEART TO LOVE YOU,  
SO THAT OUR LIVES MAY REFLECT THE IMAGE OF YOUR SON.  
WE ASK THIS THROUGH JESUS CHRIST, OUR LORD. AMEN.

*Reader:* A reading from the Gospel according to Mark:

One of the scribes came near and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, he asked him, "Which is the first commandment of all?" Jesus answered, "The first is, 'Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one, you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength.' The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'" There is no other commandment greater than these." Then the scribe said to him, "You are right, Teacher; you have truly said that 'he is one, and besides him there is no other'; and 'to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the strength,' and 'to love one's neighbor as oneself,' - this is much more important than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices." When Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, "You are not far from the kingdom of God." And after that no one dared to ask him any question. The Word of the Lord. (Mark 12:28 - 34)

*All:* THANKS BE TO GOD.

(For the examination of conscience, we used the "Joy Box" magic trick and the "Heart Tear" magic trick. These are described below.)

*Leader:* In the Sacrament of Penance, we receive forgiveness and God's grace and blessings, that strengthen us to do better. My friends, confess your sins and pray for each other that all may be healed.

*All:* MY GOD / I AM SORRY FOR MY SINS WITH ALL MY HEART. / IN CHOOSING TO DO WRONG / AND FAILING TO DO GOOD / I HAVE SINNED AGAINST YOU / WHOM I SHOULD LOVE ABOVE ALL THINGS. / I FIRMLY INTEND / WITH YOUR HELP / TO DO PENANCE / TO SIN NO MORE / AND TO AVOID WHATEVER LEADS ME TO SIN. / OUR SAVIOR, JESUS CHRIST / SUFFERED AND DIED FOR US. / IN HIS NAME, MY GOD, HAVE MERCY.

*Leader:* The Lord is kind and merciful. The Holy Spirit makes us clean of heart and leads us to freedom when we admit we have sinned. Let us ask Jesus to forgive us and heal the wounds our sins have caused.

*All:* OUR FATHER . . .

*Leader:* Lord God, be near to us, your servants, as we confess that we have sinned. Through the ministry of your Church free us from all sins and renew us in spirit, so that we may always give you thankful praise. Teach us reverence for our bodies, fill our hearts with faith, our days with good works, our lives with your love. We ask this through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

*All:* AMEN.

*(After individual confessions, conclude with this prayer)*

*Leader:* Together we give thanks to God for His mercy in this Sacrament of Reconciliation.

*All:* GOD OF LOVE YOU HAVE FORGIVEN OUR SINS  
AND SENT US YOUR PEACE.  
WE PRAISE YOU AND WE THANK YOU  
FOR THIS WONDERFUL GIFT.  
HELP US ALWAYS TO FORGIVE EACH OTHER  
AND TO WORK TOGETHER FOR PEACE IN THE WORLD.  
WE ASK THIS THROUGH JESUS CHRIST, OUR LORD. AMEN.

*Priest:* +May the blessing of Almighty God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit come upon you and remain with you for ever.

*All:* AMEN.

*Priest:* The Lord has freed you from sin. Go in peace.

*All:* THANKS BE TO GOD.

## Examination of Conscience

### The "Joy Box" magic trick.

A cloth representing our soul is shown. It is a white cloth with dirty marks on it, representing our sin.

We should live by the "JOY" method. **J**esus first; **O**thers next, **Y**ou last. And so we put the soiled cloth in the box of "JOY" detergent. Then we must agitate and wring ourselves free of distractions if we have truly promised to live with "JOY".

When the box is opened, a clean cloth is found, representing our new life. The Joy Box is opened, and there is no evidence of our sin, just as our soul are after confession.

### "Heart Tear" Magic Trick

The patter for this trick is about a friend who put the wrong priorities in his life. When he did this, he broke his spouse's heart. (Tear a paper heart in half) He also broke the hearts of his children, because he found other things more important than them. (Tear heart again) He broke my heart because he no longer worshipped in church with us. (Tear heart again) He thought about the picture of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and wondered if he had also broken Jesus' heart. (Tear heart again.)

What can one do when one has a broken heart? He thought of Psalm 91 which speaks of angels protecting us with the palms of their hands, and he decided to put his life in Jesus' hand.

And Jesus made his heart whole again. (Produce whole, repaired heart.)

### Sources for Christian Magic Tricks

Bubba's Clown Supplies  
P.O. Box 2939  
Orange Park, FL 32067  
Phone (904)272-5878  
e-mail: jtbubba@aol.com



## Mass Preparation

### Purpose:

- To plan a mass for the group
- To have participants learn to plan a liturgy

### Materials:

- Markers and Paper for Brainstorming

### Procedure:

- Brainstorm a list of things to be planned
- Have each participant volunteer to be on a committee to plan part of the mass.

### List of People Needed for Mass:

Priest Celebrant  
Eucharistic Ministers  
Lectors  
Ushers  
Alter Servers  
Song Leader  
Offertory Procession

### List of Mass Preparation Committees

Music Selection  
Write Penitential Rite  
Write Offertory Petitions  
\*Decorations

Mass celebrated using the above plans.

\* The alter area was decorated with items representing the retreat workshop activities e.g. stars for the Sneetches, crumpled pictures from the artists, box of cereal for meals shared together.

**Retreat Session 6**  
**Question & Answer Session**

**Purpose:**

To allow participants to share any questions or suggestions about youth retreats.

**Procedure:**

Group Discussion

## Commissioning Prayer Service

### Purpose:

- To ask God's blessing on our ministry
- To allow participants to make a Faith Commitment

### Materials:

- A table with lit candles and 6 bowls. Each bowl has a different color of beads in it.
- Cords to put the beads on

### Procedure:

- Text of Script follows

Note: The 6 sentences listed on page 43 (III The Call) relate to the 6 retreat workshops. This unifies the activities of the retreat and focuses on the purpose of the retreat. This list of 6 sentences is repeated several times during this prayer service.

This prayer service was adapted from the prayer service developed by the Diocese of Trenton Catholic Committees on Scouting for it's Saturday Evening Commissioning Ceremony at it's 40th Diocesan Scout Retreat

## Commissioning Prayer Service

### Appropriate music/instrumental

Song:

**SPEAK, LORD**

By Gary Ault

Speak, Lord, I'm listening, plant your word down deep in me;  
Speak, Lord, I'm listening, please show me the way.

1. Sometimes my heart is slow to follow you; teach me to hear and understand.  
And I'm told the things you promise, and I hope they all come true,  
And I know what waits for those who wait and put their trust in you.
2. Sometimes I stumble on my way to you; stretch out again your healing hand.  
And I'm told the things you promise, and I hope they all come true,  
And I know what waits for those who wait and put their trust in you.

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**Introduction, (Leader):** Scouts and leaders: in our church, we have the Sacrament of Holy Orders to ordain deacons, priests and bishops as leaders in the way of Jesus Christ. We have other services, call sacramentals, to appoint other people to share in the work of Jesus in the world. Very few people have seen an ordination or one of these other services. Tonight we have put together an evening prayer that combines parts of rituals the church uses to commission its ministers. We hope you will answer the prayers and take an active part. Our service begins with an invitation to pray, then an opening prayer and the reading of God's word.

#### I. Invitation to Prayer *(Done by four voices out of view of the congregation)*

*(First Voice)* **Eternal peace be yours.  
Let the Father's peace unite you in love.**

*(Second Voice)* **Abiding peace be yours.  
Let the Word be peace to those who bear God's name.**

*(Third Voice)* **Lasting peace be yours.  
Let the Spirit's peace comfort all the world.**

*(Fourth Voice)* **The grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.**

*(Response by all)* **And also with you.**

#### II. Opening Prayer

**Lord, fulfill your promise.  
Send your Holy Spirit to make us witnesses in the world  
to the good news proclaimed by Jesus Christ, our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, forever and ever.**

*(Response)* **Amen.**

### III. Readings

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew. (Matt 10:5-9)

**Jesus sent out the twelve [Apostles] after instructing them:**

**Go to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.**

**As you go, make this announcement: The kingdom of heaven has arrived.**

**Cure the sick, raise the dead, drive out devils.**

**The power to do this you did not pay for, and you are not to charge anyone for using it.**

**Do not take any money with you.**

**Do not pack anything, not even a change of clothes, or extra shoes, or a walking stick.**

**When you enter a house, wish only peace upon those who live there.**

**The Gospel of the Lord.**

(Response): Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

### II. The Instruction

(Two Readers, alternating): We have listened to this reading of God's word. Now we hear what we can do to answer God's word. When Jesus first sent his friends on a practice mission, he gave them some very basic instructions. They had a simple message to deliver, and they had the power to prove it. They were to rely on God's mercy and other people's goodness for their survival. Their gift to those who welcomed them was God's own peace. As scouts Jesus wants to send us into his world today, and he has some basic instructions for us also. If the friends of Jesus could live simply, without a lot of extra money and clothes, so can we. If the friends of Jesus could teach and heal the hearts of people, so can we. If the friends of Jesus could learn to trust others for their survival, so can we. We can show people by *our* lives how Jesus would live in our time. We can become more like Jesus. We can live every moment for the Lord. We can bring others his peace.

### III. The Call

(Leader) All day today you have found ways to break on through to a better life in Jesus Christ. Now each and every one of you here is going to be called to come forward and be commissioned, that means, to be sent out, to your family and your community, to your church and your school, to your teams and your friends, to live as Jesus Christ. Today you are called and sent out to

**Recognize that each person we meet is a special creation of God.**

**Look to the stars on the inside, not the outside.**

**Learn to pray sincerely.**

**Learn to listen to the Lord after we pray.**

**Answer God's call to serve others.**

**Put God first in our lives and love others as we love ourselves.**

If you are willing to accept this challenge to a better way of life, please stand now.

### IV. The Examination

(Leader) All of you gathered here should be prepared to break on through to a new life for Jesus Christ. If you are, then shout out Yes to each of these questions:

**Will you recognize that each person you meet is a special creation of God?**

**Will you look to the stars on the inside, not the outside?**

**Will you try to pray sincerely?**

**Will you listen for the Lord's answers after you pray?**

**Will you answer God's call to serve others?**

**Will you put God first in your lives and love others as you love yourself?**

#### **V. The Consecratory Prayer**

(Leader): You have been called. You have stood up. You have answered yes and shown that you are ready to break on through to a new life in Jesus Christ. Now listen to this prayer by which we ask the Lord to make you strong and ready to do what you say you want to do.

**Lord, send forth upon these young people your Holy Spirit,  
that they may be strengthened by the gift of your grace  
to carry out faithfully the work they have promised to do in your name.**

**May they excel in every virtue,  
in love that is sincere,  
in concern for the sick and the poor,  
in a spirit of service,  
in self-control,  
and in holiness of life.**

**By their conduct may they always give good example  
and lead other people to imitate their purity of life.  
May they remain strong and steadfast in Christ,  
giving to the world the witness of a pure conscience.  
May they imitate Jesus, your Son,  
who came to serve others and not to be served.  
May they come one day to live with him in heaven.**

**We ask this in the name of the same Jesus Christ, our Lord.**

**(All) Amen.**

#### **VI. Presentation of the Signs/Symbols**

(Leader): Please be seated. Soon we will ask everyone to come forward, to receive a cord and beads that we hope will always remind you to break on through, to bring Jesus to other, and to be like Jesus for others. After you receive the beads, please return to your place and sit down..

**Let this multi-colored bead remind you to recognize that each person you meet is a special creation of God.**

**Let this green bead remind you to remember to look at the stars on the inside, not the outside.**

**Let this red bead remind you to try to pray sincerely.**

**Let this clear bead remind you to listen for the Lord's answers after you pray.**

**Let this blue bead remind you to answer God's call to serve others?**

**Let this yellow bead remind you to put God first in your lives and love others as you love yourself?**

## VII. Sending out to do the work of the Lord

(Leader): Now, children of God, you are even more ready to bring Christ to a world that waits for Him, often without knowing who or what it is they wait for. Receive the blessing of Jesus Christ, and be strong for the task at hand. Answer **Amen** to each of these prayers of blessing.

*(First voice)*

**God inspires all holy desires and bring them success.  
May the Lord protect you always and fill you with grace,  
so that you may fulfill the duties of your call with a faithful heart.**

**AMEN.**

*(Second voice)*

**May the Lord make each of you a witness and sign of God's love for all people.**

**AMEN**

*(Third voice)*

**May the Holy Spirit make your commitment to Jesus Christ on earth endure for ever in heavenly love.**

**AMEN**

*(Fourth voice)*

**And may Almighty God,  
The Father, the Son + and the Holy Spirit,  
bless all of you who have taken part in this celebration.**

**AMEN.**

*(Closing Song)*

*Here I am, Lord*

I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry,  
All who dwell in dark and sin, my hand will save.  
I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.  
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.  
I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.

I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain.  
I have wept for love of them. They turn away.  
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.  
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?

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## Retreat Session 7

### Parable City

#### Purpose:

- To have participants become familiar with the parables in the gospels
- To have participants apply the lessons of these parables to their lives

#### Materials:

- Paper and Markers for Brainstorming

#### Procedure:

- Have participants define "parable"
- Participants list parables from the Bible
- Examples are given of modernized parables. For example:
  - The Prodigal Son asks for his money, goes to California to party with the beach babes. He runs out of money and works at 7-11. He comes home to his father
  - A person was mugged and robbed and left lying on the sidewalk. A Life Scout walked by, but he couldn't help because he was busy with his Eagle project. A Girl Scout walked by, by she wouldn't help because it was the first day of cookie sale and she needed to reach her goal. A Cub Scout walked by, but he was on his way to the Pinewood Derby. Finally, a Tiger Cub walked by and helped.
  - A Scout broke his mother's Walkman. She threatened punishment, but he begged forgiveness, so she said that he could just pay for the damage. The Scout, however, didn't want to work for the money, so he demanded that his younger brother pay for the CD he had broken.
- Participants are divided into 5 groups. Each group selects a parable which they will modernize.
- Each small group is given 10 minutes to prepare a modern dramatization of the parable and 2 discussion started questions.
- The parable selected were:
  - The Mustard Seed
  - The Good Samaritan
  - The Lost Coin
  - The 10 Talents
  - The 2 House Builders



## B 4

# Hospitality/Food Services

Meals were provided by the Trinity Spiritual Center. Food was prepared by the staff of the center and served in the dining room.

Saturday Breakfast: eggs, hash browns, bacon, tea, coffee, orange juice

Saturday Lunch: chicken sandwiches, cole slaw, cake, beverages

Saturday Supper: beef, potatoes, string beans, ice cream sundaes, beverages

Sunday Breakfast: French Toast, bacon, beverages

Cracker Barrel was served Friday and Saturday evening at the conclusion of the retreat activities.

Cracker Barrel: Cheese, pepperoni, crackers, soda

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# Evaluation



ARCHDIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA

CATHOLIC COMMITTEE ON SCOUTING

105 ARGYLE ROAD • ARDMORE, PA 19003-3201 • (610) 649-9476

July 30, 1998

John and Joanne Tyne  
6 Hemlock Court  
Hightstown, NJ 08520-2210

Dear John and Joanne,

I had planned to write you before this, but other things got in the way. I assume you left the Retreat Training weekend at Camp Hill with some feeling as to "how things went." Well, if you didn't, I must say that the weekend was great. My only other comment would be, "Too bad for those who were unable to attend."

Scout leaders are always looking for material to enrich their work in Catholic Scouting -- I'm sure they found it at the Trinity Spiritual Center!

To give you some written material about the weekend they you may wish to use in any program material that you write up, I am enclosing a sample of the questionnaire we used to gather comments, as well as a summary of the comments received. I also included a brief write-up about the weekend.

Catholic Scouting is well served by the efforts both of you put forth, and it is greatly appreciated. Thanks, I know you both made adjustments in your personal life to conduct the weekend program.

Yours In Catholic Scouting,

Frank Koller  
Region 3 Chairman

**Celebration of Eucharist:** Father Wayne Vargas, from the Paterson, NJ diocese, celebrated Mass on Saturday afternoon. The intercessions were developed by the participants, and a discussion was held to show how the scouts can help plan the retreat Mass.

**Program Critique Questionnaire:** At the close of the weekend participants were asked to express their views about the value of the weekend program. A total of 15 responses were received, and there were overwhelming positive reactions to the weekend. See attached questionnaire material for details.

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**Summary:** As a participant at the weekend program, I feel that the program was very productive especially the fact that the material was presented and discussed in a way that everyone can use in developing their own retreat program.

John and Joanne Tyne have the skill and experience to clearly relate the material (probably on any subject) to the group(s) they work with. The weekend was totally successful, and gave the participants a great deal of material to use in their own retreat plans. I was glad to be involved.

Respectfully submitted,



Frank Koller  
Region 3 Chairman

**REGION 3 CATHOLIC COMMITTEE ON SCOUTING**  
**Retreat Training Conference - Trinity Spiritual Center, Camp Hill, PA.**  
**June 26 - 28, 1998**

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A Retreat Planning Seminar weekend was held at Trinity Spiritual Center, Camp Hill, PA. A total of 20 people attended the session, and John and Joanne Tyne conducted the sessions. The breakdown of attendees by diocese was as follows:

<b><u>DIOCESE</u></b>	<b><u>No. Of Participants</u></b>
Harrisburg, PA.	4
Metuchen, NJ	2
Newark, NJ	2
New York, NY	3
Paterson, NJ	3 (incl. one priest)
Philadelphia, PA	6
	<hr/>
	20

**Review of Sessions:**

Most sessions were conducted as a single group, except for a few occasions that required small group discussions and reports on specific retreat exercises. Early in the program it was clear that youth participation as staff members was strongly suggested in order to validate the material for scouts attending the retreat. Action as opposed to "sitting" was brought out throughout the program.

An important element of the training was that scouts will remember more of what they develop and present as opposed to what is told to them. It was also evident that there are many ways religious issues can be addressed and presented while also being fun. A number of examples were discussed and presented. Resource opportunities were also reviewed.

Another important retreat activity that was presented was a Penance Service followed by the Sacrament of Reconciliation and Mass. Included in the program were several suggestions for having scouts reflect on sin in an "active" way by nailing statements of individual faults to wooden crosses. In addition, a unique approach discussed was the use of clowns to express fears individuals have for telling their sins to a priest. A clown program is offered by Joanne Tyne to have religious issues/statements offered through a clown skit.

**REGION 3 CATHOLIC COMMITTEE ON SCOUTING**  
Retreat Training Conference - Trinity Spiritual Center, Camp Hill, PA.  
June 26 - 28, 1998

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**PARTICIPANT QUESTIONNAIRE**  
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**PROGRAM:** Most valuable information you received?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Did you receive enough material/ideas to help plan a retreat?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What additional information/ideas would you have liked to receive?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**FACILITIES:**

Was the Center a good location for the meeting? \_\_\_\_\_

(Yes)                (No)

How were sleeping accommodations? \_\_\_\_\_

Excellent                Satisfactory                Poor

Would you recommend the Center for future programs? \_\_\_\_\_

(Yes)                (No)

**GENERAL COMMENTS: (Use other side, if necessary)**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**REGION 3 CATHOLIC COMMITTEE ON SCOUTING**  
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**RECAP OF QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSES (15 Responses)**

**PROGRAM: Most valuable information you received?** Responses included: Being a facilitator - Learned that youth should plan retreats for better success - How to interact with youth - Concept of "peer ministry" - How to encourage youth to become leaders - How to present an effective retreat - Parable City, a great way to teach scouts about Bible teachings and have fun.

**Did you receive enough material/ideas to help plan a retreat?** Most said "yes," while others added -- All ideas useful and excellent - receive some ideas and where to go for more material.

Two participants said "No," feeling they would have liked to have more material during the sessions although they realized you would be sending material after the weekend.

**What additional information/ideas would you have liked to receive?** More handouts - material for Cubs and Webelos - Sample retreat format

A total of seven participants answered the question "None."

**FACILITIES: Was the Center a good location for the meeting?** All 15 responses were "Yes," but one person said the meeting room was a little crowded.

**How were sleeping accommodations?** 12 participants (80%) said "Excellent," and 3 (20%) said "Satisfactory." No one felt the accommodations were "Poor."

**Would you recommend the Center for future programs?** All 15 responses were "Yes."

**GENERAL COMMENTS:** Comments included: Just to have a training session was great - Thanks for all the fun we had this weekend. It was great with group interaction, discussions, etc. - Entire weekend was excellent and packed with great ideas.

One additional comment was -- Consider using the St. Alfonsus Retreat House on Jersey Shore (Asbury Park, NJ)

# Appendix



**Can-O-Nice**

**Saints**

We are God's work of art, created in Christ Jesus for the good works which God has already designated to make up our way of life. Ephesians 2:10

I thank my God whenever I think of you, and every time I pray for you all, I always pray with joy for your partnership in the gospel from the very first day up to the present.

Philippians 1:3

# TRINITY SPIRITUAL CENTER



GENERAL INFORMATION

## Retreat Training By Frank Kollar

([fkollar@compuserve.com](mailto:fkollar@compuserve.com))

Region 3 recently held a Retreat Training Weekend at the Trinity Retreat Center in Carlisle (PA). John and Joanne Tyne (from East Windsor NJ) were invited to conduct the program for the 23 Scouters from Region 3 who attended. The Scouters were led through a retreat experience for personal spiritual enrichment and to experience different kinds of retreat retreats. All came away with new ideas and experiences to incorporate into their own diocesan retreats.



The Tynes are an NCCS resource as authors of many retreat programs and have been involved with the NCCS in promoting faith-filled retreats at the biennial conferences of the NCCS for many years.

*Editor's note: John and Joanne have indicated a willingness to conduct this weekend program in other regions or for groups of Scouters who would be willing to cover their travel expenses and provide an honorarium. For further information, contact John and Joanne Tyne at 6 Henlock Court, East Windsor (NJ) 08520. (609)-443-1069 E-mail: [JoanneTMS@aol.com](mailto:JoanneTMS@aol.com).*



Retreat Training Weekend, Carlisle (PA), Region 3

APPLICATION FOR NATIONAL RECOGNITION OF OUTSTANDING RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES

(Arch)Diocese: REGION III, NCCS Council:

Name of person submitting application: JOHN M. TYNE & JOANNE M. TYNE

Mailing address: 6 HEMLOCK CT. EAST WINDSOR, NJ 08520-22

Telephone: (609) 443-1069 Date of application: July 5, 1998

Frank C. Kaller (Signature of Rel. Activities Committee Chairman) [Signature] (Signature of Cath. Com. Chairman/Chaplain)

Name/title of RELIGIOUS Activity/Project submitted for recognition: "CIRCLE OF LIFE"

A RETREAT WEEKEND FOR SCOUTERS

Date(s) of Religious Activity: JUNE 26, 27 - 28, 1998

This Religious Activity was conducted: (check one) Annually Semi-annually Biennially One-time only [X] Other (please describe or explain):

1st TIME, HOPEFULLY WITH MANY MORE TO FOLLOW

The following personnel/group resources were utilized for this activity:

Ordained Clergy Professed Religious [X] Qualified laity (Give names, titles, or positions, or other resource persons/guest speakers/presentors):

JOHN & JOANNE TYNE, DIOCESE OF TRENTON RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES, NCCS RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES; FRANK KALLER, CHAIRMAN REGION III

Apart from staff, participants in the Activity included: Boy Scouts Cub Scouts

Explorers [X] Scouters/leaders Parents Clergy Youth Ministers Others (please describe or explain)

Activities submitted for recognition MUST be RELIGIOUS activities which have as their primary purpose or focus--helping the Scout and/or their families to better appreciate their "Duty to God." A "religious" activity might be educational, prayer centered, a retreat day or weekend or a combination of any or all of these. A "camping trip" on which the only religious event was a Mass would NOT qualify the camping trip as a religious activity. With this in mind, give a brief "summary of purpose" or "description" of your religious activity: TO HELP, IN PART, TO

MEET THE NEED FOR SCOUTERS TO IMPROVE THEIR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD AND TO PASS THEIR RELIGIOUS BELIEFS ON TO THE NEXT GENERATION ("CIRCLE OF LIFE").

(This typed application page will be the first page of your completed application portfolio)

K&M Company POLY-VU #955 Torrance, CA 90503