



## Diocese of Harrisburg

### Position Statement

The Diocese of Harrisburg Catholic Committee for Girl Scouts and Camp Fire (DCCGSCF) provides guidance, direction, and leadership regarding the spirituality of scouting to all Catholic girl scouts in the diocese. The purpose of the DCCGSCF is to promote and encourage Catholic Girl Scouts to deepen their understanding of their faith through prepared programs with the aide of trained adults. Medals and patches are awarded for the following:

#### Medals

Family of God  
I Live My Faith  
Mary, the First Disciple  
The Spirit Alive  
Angel on My Shoulder  
Child of Mary  
Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha  
Child of Mary II  
Holy Family  
A Woman of Courage  
Region 3

#### Patches

Saint Anne  
Mother Theresa  
Sarah  
Saint Elizabeth  
Rosary

Concerns have been expressed about Girl Scouts of the U.S.A. and influences from individuals and organizations that represent views in conflict with Catholic Faith and practice. The DCCGSCF relationship with the Girl Scouts in the local Heart of Pennsylvania Council is one of helping young women build character, become leaders, and grow spiritually. We have been assured there is no structural, strategic or economic relationship to any organization that opposes Catholic Moral Teaching. The DCCGSCF in no way endorses or promotes organizations or issues not directly related to Girl Scouting.

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) Committee on the Laity affirms the stance of the National Federation Catholic for Youth Ministry (NFCYM) as “advocacy for the church through engagement and direct, respectful, and honest dialogue:

**Advocacy:** NFCYM takes seriously its role as an advocate for the values and teachings of the Catholic Church in the secular arena. As such, we promote a comprehensive approach to youth ministry and for the involvement of young people in the Catholic faith community.

**Engagement:** NFCYM believes that the evangelization of culture is only possible through direct and regular engagement with society, organizations, and institutions. Separation and isolation only widen the gap of ignorance, fear, and distrust, yielding little benefit for the church and young people we serve.

**Dialogue:** NFCYM is committed to regular patterns of direct and respectful communication; building relationships of trust; and serious discussions where issues are identified and solutions and responses implemented.”

Approved:  
March 2012

Reverend Monsignor William J. King JCD  
Vicar General and the Moderator of the Curia