

SCOUT SUNDAY
ST. GREGORY THE GREAT PARISH
FEBRUARY 2016

With us today are the Cub Scouts and Leaders of Cub Scout Packs 992, which is chartered through St. Gregory the Great Parish, and Pack 79 of Robbinsville. Also with us are many other Christian Cub Scouts from other area Packs. They are here today to celebrate Mass at St. Gregory's in recognition of Scout Sunday.

The Boy Scouts of America annually celebrates its founding on February 8, 1910, based on the program started by Lord Baden Powell in England on August 1, 1907. Scout Sunday was added to the Scout celebration in the middle 1940s to celebrate Scouting's deep religious heritage. It is generally celebrated on the first Sunday in February.

The Scout Sunday tradition was started to make people in houses of worship aware of Scouting, and to allow Cub Scouts to live out their "Duty to God," which each Scout across the United States pledges each week in the Cub Scout Promise.

The Boy Scout Law says that a "Scout is Reverent" and Scouts of all ages promise to do their "Duty to God." These values strengthen youth character in their family, community and faith.

The Cub Scouts of Pack 992 and guest Scouts have recently completed various religious Awards and Emblems. The Wolf Den Scouts, who will be receiving First Holy Communion this year, have completed the "Light of Christ" program and will be awarded that Advancement. The Webelos I Scouts have completed the "Parvuli Dei" program and will be awarded that Advancement. These Catholic awards are one of the very few awards that the Scout may wear on his uniform. In addition, some boys have worked on and completed a specific Rosary Mystery program and will be awarded that Advancement.

St. Gregory is proud of Pack 992 and our guest Scouts here today who are committed to their Catholic faith through Scouting. Let us take a moment to recognize the boys.

We as the parish of St. Gregory's work in cooperation with the Boy Scouts organization wherever possible to nurture the healthy development of young men, and to build faith through the Catholic Religious Awards program. Many of our parishioners have found in Scouting a means to help Catholic boys to develop into knowledgeable Catholic men who are followers of Jesus Christ.

Our Pack is asked to respect and relate the teachings of the Catholic Church to the boys, and to conduct and teach classes in compliance with Catholic sacramental and moral theology, the Code of Canon Law and diocesan policy, and as you can see today our pack takes this responsibility seriously.