

# RELIGION IN LIFE PROGRAM



*Eastern Orthodox Church*

Published for  
the Church by  
Scouts Canada and  
Girl Guides of Canada

## RELIGION IN LIFE PROGRAM

Membership in the Girl Guides of Canada and Scouts Canada is open to all girls and boys who wish to make the promise, regardless of race, colour or creed. The purpose of the *Guide/Scout* programs is to assist girls and boys in character development by encouraging them to be responsible citizens of their country. An important part of the program is to assist in the spiritual growth of each girl or boy and to encourage them to participate actively in their own religious community. Girl Guides of Canada and Scouts Canada uphold the principle that specific religious instruction is the responsibility of parents and religious authorities.

## THE EMBLEM

The Christian Religion in Life emblem consists of a great circle, the symbol of eternity. In the circle are the first and last letters of the Greek Alphabet; *Alpha* and *Omega*, a symbol of God, and a reminder that the worship and service of God form an essential part of life from beginning to end.

## REQUIREMENTS

The requirements for the program differ in each faith and denomination and are prepared nationally by the churches or religious bodies to suit their particular needs.

## INSTRUCTION

It is the responsibility of the group/section committee and leadership team to arrange for instruction of candidates with the candidate's own spiritual leader or appointee.

## PRESENTATION

Presentation of the emblem is made by the candidate's spiritual advisor, and can form an impressive part of a regular *Guide* or *Scout* meeting, a church service, or a special evening for parents/guardians.

## STAGES

The Religion in Life program is in four progressive stages, colour-coded and adapted to the age groups concerned.

Stage 1 — Yellow Border (about 7–8–9)

Stage 2 — Green Border (about 10–11–12)

Stage 3 — Blue Border (about 13–14–15)

Stage 4 — Red Border (15+)

Candidates may start at any stage appropriate to their age and capabilities. Only one emblem — the latest stage earned is worn.

## WHERE OBTAINABLE

The emblem may be obtained from provincial offices or through regular badge channels.

## WHERE WORN

Girl Guides of Canada — see *Policy, Organization and Rules*.

Scouts Canada — see *By-Law, Policies and Procedures*.

## STAGE 1

1. Explain the basic Christian belief in God.
2. Demonstrate the correct method of making the sign of the cross and explain the significance of each movement.
3. Repeat from memory your Promise.
4. Explain why we should pray and how we should pray.

## STAGE 2

1. Name and explain the Ten Commandments.
2. What is a Sacrament?
3. How many Sacraments in the Eastern Orthodox Church?
4. Participation in the choir.
5. What is the greatest Holy Day in the Eastern Orthodox Church? Explain why it is so.

## STAGE 3

1. Name and explain the services of the Eastern Orthodox Church.
2. Why are we called Eastern Orthodox Church?
3. Recite from memory the Nicene Constantinopolitan Creed or Symbol of Faith.
4. Repeat the five things necessary for a good confession and describe the proper method of going to confession.
5. Give evidence of possessing a Bible and a prayer book, approved by the diocese to which you belong.
6. Sketch and identify the interior of an Eastern Orthodox Church indicating the three principal parts. Indicate on the sketch the position of the Iconostasis.

## STAGE 4

1. Identify the different vestments and articles used during the divine liturgy.
2. Indicate on a map the countries in which there are churches of the Eastern Orthodox Church.
3. Know the name of your Bishop in Canada and where the Episcopal seat is located.
4. Select two acceptable service projects to be fulfilled within a period of four months.

## ACCEPTABLE SERVICE PROJECTS

Serve as altar boy.

Assist altar guild.

Distribute church bulletins or other literature at church gatherings.

Collection and distribution of articles of clothing and food at Thanksgiving and Christmas time or in times of disaster to the needy of the parish.

Doing errands for the several church organizations, women's auxiliaries, etc.

Singing in the choir.

Repairing parish property and equipment.

Decorating parish property for special occasions.

Preparing posters and announcements for parish events.

Repairing song books.

Serving at parish dinners and assisting in the kitchen.

Caring for church lawns and shrubbery.

Help to construct and paint scenery for plays presented by the parish.

Assist in editing and printing church papers, bulletins and youth publications.

Direct traffic, assist older persons and children to cross busy streets at church gatherings.

Serve with auto patrols in charge of parking.

Other service projects of a similar nature and standard may be submitted if approved by the priest.

## RESOURCES

*Religion in Life Program* — Filmslide series.

*Let's Celebrate* — A book of spiritual ideas for Scouting.

*Role of the Chaplain* — Pamphlet.

Your leader or spiritual advisor will be able to recommend other useful resources.



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of Canada  
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du Canada

