



*Roman Catholic*  
**DIOCESE of WINONA**

**Winona Diocesan Catholic Committee on Scouting**



Catholic Scouters and Parents,

On July 27<sup>th</sup> BSA changed the Adult membership policy. The Winona Diocesan Catholic Committee on Scouting (DCCS) has reviewed this change, which can be found in its entirety on our website. We believe this policy change does not force us to compromise Catholic teaching (CCC2357-CCC2359). We understand that there are concerns about this policy change. We share those concerns in how the new policy will be understood and implemented. However we are called to not be afraid, but brave, reverent, prepared, and mentally awake.

Units that are chartered by Catholic organizations will continue to select leaders according to Catholic principles. The BSA resolution affirms this right and states that BSA will defend and indemnify to the fullest extent allowed by law this right of charter organizations. The DCCS will assist you if you would like help finding or starting a Catholic unit or if you decide that you would like to pursue other scouting organizations such as Scouts of St. George.

The purpose of the DCCS is to support Scouting as a youth ministry for Catholic parishes. We have resources regarding this matter on our webpage at <http://www.rc.net/winona/wdccc/>. If you have any questions about the policy change, the DCCS's position, or any other questions pertaining to being Catholic in Scouting please contact Justin Carlin.

Yours in Christ,

Rev. William D. Thompson and the Catholic Committee on Scouting