October 11, 2017

The National Catholic Committee on Scouting was informed this morning of the decision of the National Executive Board of the Boy Scouts of America that in January 2018 the Cub Scouting program will now be open to girls. Using the same curriculum as the Boy Scouts program, the organization will also deliver a program for older girls, which will be announced in 2018 and is projected to be available in 2019.

It is the mission of the National Catholic Committee on Scouting to utilize and ensure the constructive use of the program of the Boy Scouts of America as a viable form of youth ministry with the Catholic youth of our nation. The National Catholic Committee on Scouting seeks to sustain and strengthen the relationship between the Boy Scouts of America and the Catholic Church and to work cooperatively with the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry (NFCYM) and various other groups involved in youth ministry in the United States.

It is the position of the National Catholic Committee on Scouting to accept and work with the new membership policy of the Boy Scouts of America. When we have had more time to review the policy and a chance to consult our national membership, we will be able to comment further about how this new policy will reflect changes in the makeup of Catholic chartered units in the Boy Scouts of America.

A motion was made to accept the statement from the National Catholic Committee on Scouting in response to the announcement of the vote of the National Executive Board of the Boy Scouts of America relating to the acceptance of girls into the Cub Scout program.

Fr. Raymond Fecteau proposed the motion. Jerry Scanlan seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved by the National Catholic Committee on Scouting Executive Committee.

George S. Sparks  
National Chairman

Rev. Kevin M. Smith  
National Chaplain