

**\*\*\*NEWS RELEASE\*\*\***

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## **The Archdiocese of Cincinnati takes a stand for faith-based scouting by endorsing *AHG* as the ‘preferred scouting option for girls’**

*‘AHG was founded on Christian values and family fun, and we are honored to come alongside Catholic dioceses across the country to bring our programming to girls looking for like-minded friends’*

**CINCINNATI, Ohio** — In a nation where traditional scouting organizations have abandoned their roots to cater to the progressive agenda permeating modern society, today’s girls need a faith-based, girl-centered scouting organization that focuses on assisting girls to know who they are and whose they are in Christ. The Archdiocese of Cincinnati is the latest of [many other Catholic arch/dioceses](#) to recognize this need for today’s young girls.

*The Most Reverend Dennis M. Schnurr, Archbishop of Cincinnati stated, “Unfortunately, in recent years, some scouting organizations have embraced and promoted an impoverished worldview regarding human life and sexuality. Through activities, badges and awards, these organizations have contributed to normalizing a gender ideology devoid of Christian virtue and contrary to the Catholic understanding of the human person made in the image and likeness of God.”*

Instead of the Scouting America (formerly Boy Scouts of America) or Girl Scouts of the United States of America, the Archdiocese of Cincinnati is now recommending that girls join *American Heritage Girls (AHG, [www.americanheritagegirls.org](http://www.americanheritagegirls.org))*, the premier faith-based, scout-type leadership development program for girls for nearly three decades, helping girls from ages five to 18 develop meaningful relationships with Christ while learning life skills, experiencing adventure and having fun. With *AHG’s* emphasis on Christian values and family participation, it has become a thriving ministry for its Catholic members. *AHG’s* unique programming beautifully compliments the tenets and teachings of the Catholic Church, and more families of the faith are flocking to *American Heritage Girls*. *AHG’s* growing number of Catholic Troops and members are supported by the [AHG National Catholic Committee](#).

*“AHG is openly Christ-centered and dedicated to helping girls respond to God’s call to grow in purity, service, stewardship and integrity. Moreover, AHG expressly believes that every person is made in the image of God,”* said Archbishop Schnurr.

*“Faith is fundamental at AHG,”* said *AHG Founder and Executive Director Patti Garibay*. *“AHG was founded on Christian values and family fun, and we are honored to come alongside Catholic arch/dioceses across the country to bring our programming to girls while promoting and providing for the growth and*

*spiritual development in fidelity to the magisterium of the Catholic Church through our National Catholic Committee.”*

The [AHG Catholic Faith Awards](#) were created for Catholic *American Heritage Girls* to learn more about their faith and develop a stronger relationship with Christ in a fun and hands-on manner. The *AHG* Catholic Faith Awards were developed for girls in each of the following Program Levels: Tenderheart (ages 6-9), Explorer (ages 9-12), Pioneer (ages 12-14), and Patriot (ages 14-18). The *AHG* Catholic Faith Awards, released in 2020, received the Nihil Obstat, a diocesan approval, from the Archdiocese of Cincinnati, confirming that the contents of the *AHG* Catholic Faith Awards are in accordance with the teachings of the Catholic Church.

Additionally, *AHG* fosters the faith of Catholic girls through patch programs like the [Eucharistic Revival Patch Program](#), the [Year of St. Joseph Patch Program](#), the [Religious Vocations Patch Program](#) and more.

*“Our Catholic Faith Awards Program tailors our offerings to best suit girls from the Catholic faith,” said Patti Garibay. “We aim to promote and provide for the growth and spiritual development of our Catholic members. We are honored to partner with Catholic dioceses across the country to bring our programming to girls looking for like-minded friends.”*

*American Heritage Girls* was founded in 1995 by a group of parents who wanted this faith-based, scout-type character development program for their daughters. At *AHG*, girls ages five to 18 meet together as [a single Troop](#) at the same time and then break out into Units by Levels. This gives *AHG* girls the important social experience of interacting with friends and godly mentors of various ages; members also learn leadership skills within a group setting. *AHG* Troops are located in [local communities](#) across the nation. If none exists in a given area, families can bring the *AHG* Program to their own area. An *American Heritage Girls* Troop Development Coach is available to provide resources to potential Charter Organizations and other families to form [a new Troop](#). To hear more about the purpose, mission, and vision of *AHG* from *Founder and Executive Director Patti Garibay*, [click here](#).

Today, there are [Troops](#) in all 50 states and girls being served in 15 countries around the globe. Girls can join a Troop at any time; if a Troop is not available nearby, they can become a [Trailblazer](#) and enjoy the *AHG* program alongside their parents. A variety of Christian denominations are also represented as [Charter Organizations](#) for Troops. Thousands of volunteer members across the country are helping girls grow in their faith, cultivate a heart for service, enjoy the great outdoors, and have more fun than they can imagine.

*AHG* offers various resources under [“Raising Godly Girls,”](#) including a [weekly podcast](#), one-minute radio features, a blog, and guides for parents. All [“Raising Godly Girls”](#) platforms and materials offer guidance and biblically based advice on various topics affecting girls today, such as bullying, identity, anxiety, and body image issues. [“Raising Godly Girls”](#) provides parents, educators, and faith community leaders with tools, resources, and Scripture-based advice to help raise girls after God’s own heart.

*AHG’s* new podcast, [“Raising Godly Girls,”](#) features fresh episodes every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday. Subscribe and follow on any major podcast platform or visit [raisinggodlygirls.com](#). Additionally, the [“Raising Godly Girls Minute” with Patti Garibay](#) airs on 1000+ Christian radio stations across the country.

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To schedule interviews with *Patti Garibay*, founder and executive director of *American Heritage Girls*, contact [Media@HamiltonStrategies.com](mailto:Media@HamiltonStrategies.com), Beth Bogucki, 610.584.1096 ext. 105, or Jeff Tolson, ext. 108.

To inquire about airing the [“Raising Godly Girls Minute” with Patti Garibay](#), contact [Michael Hamilton, 610.584.1096, ext. 101.](#)