

Answers to Requirements

1) There was a shortage of trained nurses and battlefield hospital sanitation conditions were horrible. Catholic Sisters were among the most trained in nursing techniques during this time.
<https://sistersofmercy.org/civil-war-sisters-healing-the-wounds-of-the-nation/>

2) Sisters of Mercy, Sisters of Charity, Sisters of the Holy Cross, Daughters of Charity, and others.
<https://www.wistv.com/story/24225094/angels-of-the-battlefield-catholic-sisters-as-civil-war-nurses/>

3) The Sisters worked on hospital ships like the *USS Red Rover*. They were important in assisting with the efforts to bring the wounded from the battlefield to military hospitals.
<https://www.chausa.org/publications/catholic-health-world/archives/issues/march-1-2014/sisters-of-the-holy-cross-entered-nursing-in-america's-bloody-civil-war>

4) Improvements included increased sanitation and emotional and spiritual support – key aspects of modern healthcare. The presence and loving work of the Sisters also reduced prejudice against Catholics.
<https://www.chausa.org/publications/catholic-health-world/archives/issues/march-1-2014/sisters-of-the-holy-cross-entered-nursing-in-america's-bloody-civil-war>

5) The Sisters faced hardships such as poor living conditions, constant threat of attack, lack of food and supplies, hostility from the soldiers, and discrimination. <https://nazareth.org/scns-during-the-american-civil-war/>

6) They were the forerunners of today's United States Navy Nurse Corps.
<https://www.cscsisters.org/request-for-wartime-nursing-begins-a-legacy-of-health-care-ministry/>

Frequently Asked Questions

Who may earn this activity patch?

Any youth or adult may earn any of the activity patches. The requirements are grade specific.

Is this activity considered a religious emblem, and may a Scout receive a religious knot after earning this activity?

No. This activity is considered a religious activity, not a religious emblem. Scouts may not receive a religious knot for earning any of the activity patches.

Who may serve as an adult mentor for this activity?

Any parent or adult who meets the standard BSA and military chapel child and youth protection requirements.

Is there any time requirement?

Only that the grade-specific requirements need to be completed while in the respective grade level.

Must the answers be submitted?

No. The answers should be reviewed by an adult. The order form should be submitted to <http://www.milarch.org/scouting/>.

With whom do I check once I complete the requirements for my grade level?

Any knowledgeable parent, Scout leader, group leader, priest, religious, or catechist.

Visit www.milarch.org/scouting for information to order patches for religious activities.

Civil War Catholic Sister Nurses Activity Patch



Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA
Edwin Cardinal O'Brien Pastoral Center
1025 Michigan Avenue, NE
Washington, DC 20017
www.milarch.org

Civil War Catholic Sister Nurses Activity Patch

This activity honors those men and women who led heroic lives of faith. Their words, deeds, and devotion to prayer and sacraments inspire all American Catholics. In the U.S. church calendar, some are honored as “saints” and are venerated by the universal church. Some are called “blessed” and are venerated by a local church. Some are called “venerable” and, while on the way to being recognized as a “saint”, may be venerated by Catholics. Most of these men and women lived and worked in either North or South America. Many lived in what is now the United States. Others never set foot there; however, their lives and work had a huge impact on the Catholic American landscape. All of them sought to follow Jesus.

Requirements for Civil War Catholic Sister Nurses Activity Patch

All – Read about Catholic Sisters who served as nurses during the U.S. Civil War. Resources are provided throughout.

1st thru 5th Grades - Complete five requirements and two activities.

6th thru 12th Grades - Complete six requirements and three activities.

Requirements:

- 1) At the outbreak of the Civil War and as the War progressed, there was a great need for Catholic Sisters to care for the wounded. Why?
- 2) Many Catholic Sisters answered the call to help. Name three Religious Orders that served as Civil War nurses.
- 3) Besides working near the battlelines, where else did the Catholic Sisters serve the wounded? Why was this work important?
- 4) What changes did the Catholic Sisters make in the hospitals that made a significant improvement in healthcare? What lasting effect did these changes have?
- 5) The Catholic Sisters served soldiers from both the Union and Confederate armies, and anyone else who was injured. What challenges did they face during the War?
- 6) These courageous Catholic Sisters were the forerunners of which military organization serving today?

Activities:

- 1) Many Catholic Sisters continue to serve the sick today. Look up one order that served during the Civil War and continues to serve the sick today.
<https://sistersofcharity.com/ministries/>
<https://www.archbalt.org/story-of-sisters-role-in-civil-war-under-told-archivist-says/>
- 2) There is a great need today for religious vocations. Look up the stories of those who have answered the call to religious life. How can we promote vocations in our diocese and in the military? <https://cmswr.org/>
<https://www.usccb.org/committees/clergy-consecrated-life-vocations/vocations>
- 3) Identify a Catholic military veteran who has served overseas. Ask them about their experience with the care of military nurses.
- 4) Read about serving our country today in the military Nurse Corps. What qualifications are necessary to join the Corps? How is being a nurse in the military different from working as a civilian nurse? <https://www.airforce.com/careers/specialty-careers/healthcare/careers/nurse>
https://recruiting.army.mil/MRB_Nurses/
<https://www.navy.com/careers/nursing>

Requirements for Adults:

- 1) Assist the youth with this Activity Patch.
- 2) Review the responses to the requirements of each youth participant to confirm accuracy and to ensure understanding.
- 3) Fill out the AMS Scout Patch order form found at <https://www.milarch.org/scouting>.

For additional information:

- <https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/3959960-to-bind-up-the-wounds>
- <https://aleteia.org/2017/09/03/the-nuns-of-the-american-civil-war>
- <https://www.cscsisters.org/nursing-war-peace>
- <https://www.patheos.com/blogs/mcnamara-sblog/2011/05/%e2%80%9cangel-of-the-battlefield%e2%80%9d-sister-anthony-o%e2%80%99connell-s-c-1811-1897.html>
- <https://www.setonmagazine.com/catholic/spirituality/the-battlefield-angels-of-the-civil-war-our-surprising-history-lesson>
- <https://www.srcharitycinti.org/2019/04/04/the-sisters-of-charity-in-the-civil-war/>
- <https://scholarworks.iupui.edu/handle/1805/2185>