



Boy Scout Troop 23  
Letters of Support to  
Saint Catherine Labouré  
Parishioners





Dear St. Catherine Laboure Parish,

During this very unusual time in our history, the Boy Scouts of Troop 23 have found themselves in same situation that all of you are facing. We are unable to go to school, meet in fellowship, and enjoy our usual adventures and activities outdoors. With the extra time that we have, we wanted to reach out and share our thoughts, our day to day activities, and what we are doing as a Troop. We know that what we have to offer may not be much, but we wanted to share a little bit of normalcy in the surreal world that in which we are now involved.

My prayers are with each and every one of you as we navigate the new challenges that we find each day.



Yours in Scouting,

*Mr. Malesic*

Assistant Scoutmaster, Troop 23

Hello St. Catherine Laboure Parish,

My name is James, and I am the current Assistant Senior Patrol Leader in Troop 23. I am doing well and I hope you are too. Our troop usually holds meetings every Sunday in the school cafeteria, but with the new restrictions being made, we cannot. So now, we started using an app called Zoom, where we can video chat and go through our meetings as we usually do.

Even though I live on the east shore, I go to Trinity High School on the west shore. Before the virus, we received chromebooks, so each student should have access to the internet. Monday through Thursday, our teachers give us assignments and we have to have them completed by the following Monday. Throughout the week we have scheduled times to do video-conferences with our teachers as well.

I am a distance runner in track and field, and the PIAA has canceled all groups from practicing. Instead, our coach emails us workouts that we can do individually or with one other person. I also participate in the Harrisburg Symphony Youth Orchestra. We



used to have rehearsal every Monday, but they have canceled them and are starting something different to help us. Instead of rehearsal every Monday, a member of the Harrisburg Symphony Orchestra will do a video-conference with a certain section of our orchestra, and give us tips about our music. The two major pieces we are currently working on are Scheherazade Movement IV by Rimsky-Korsakov and Symphony in E Minor by Rachmaninov.

Even though this situation gives me more time to work on things like planning my eagle scout project, practicing my violin, and of course, sleeping in, I still do miss being at school and seeing my friends. I hope you and your families stay safe and healthy!

Sincerely,

*James*

Assistant Senior patrol Leader, Troop 23



St. Catherine Laboure Parish members,

My Name is Alex Barry and I am the Senior Patrol Leader of Troop 23. Ever since the virus stopped our troop from having its weekly meetings I got ideas from fellow scouts and leaders, and I decided to organize zoom meetings where we could gather as a troop and hold our meetings online. I must say it has been a unique experience, but I am thankful to the rest of the troop for helping me keep the troop active during this tough time.

Since the start of the quarantine Bishop McDevitt has been having school online with google classroom and work is still being completed despite the circumstances. I have also been able to get outside a lot and enjoy the outdoors. I have spent my past few weeks completing all my assignments, and have been extra lucky to still be able to go to work everyday. I am aware of what the virus has done to many people. I am keeping everyone in my prayers and I hope that as a community we can get through this time together and help those that may be struggling with issues with them or their families.

Sincerely,

*Alex*

Senior patrol Leader, Troop 23

Dear saint Catherine Laboure Families,

I hope who is reading this is healthy and COVID-19 free. I am staying active in scouting because of zoom we stay in communication and still have meetings. For school I keep doing art challenges and reading.

Sincerely,

*Dalton*



Dear Saint Catherine Community,

I hope that you are well in these rough times when the world is in a crisis. I hope that your family is coming to spend more time with each other, having fun, and just feel relaxed. What I am doing at home is play outside, Legos, and other things! The one thing that is upsetting in these times is that you can't go to church, but you can do online church so that you can still worship God at church but at home, so if you are doing that, good job! If you are not doing that, you should go to an online Mass. We hope you to feel nice during this and hope that you have a wonderful time with your family doing fun stuff at the house. I am praying for you and everyone that's in the world to feel better.

Sincerely,

*Carter*

Den Chief, Troop 23

Dear Saint Catherine Laboure Community,

As you already know, recent issues concerning the COVID-19 virus have caused our Church, and the activities therein, to become suspended for the time being. The change in lifestyle provided by these events have certainly been a cause of concern for many.



However, despite these changes, the youth of the Parish are still able to cope, thrive, and further their activities and education. Thanks to video chatting programs like Zoom, Boy Scout Troop 23 is still holding meetings each Sunday, discussing important issues and maintaining schedules during this hectic time. Likewise, from the perspective of a student like myself, our schools have done a great job at shifting into the platform of technology, allowing students to continue to receive education from the comfort of their homes.



The times we are currently weathering may seem challenging, but you can rest assured that, with the help of cooperation, technology, and teamwork, our community is capable of coping with even the toughest challenges.

Sincerely,

*Evan*

Assistant Patrol Leader, Troop 23

Hello Saint Catherine Laboure,

I know it's been tough to get through these moments of our lives, but, I've been involved in school, church, and scouts even though we can't physically meet with each other. My family has been doing our own mass every Sunday. I've been involved in school through meetings on Zoom, through recorded videos, and online assignments. I've also been involved in scouts through online meetings every Sunday on Zoom.

Yours In Scouting,

*Zachary*

Den Chief, Troop 23

Dear Saint Catherine  
Laboure families and  
community,

During these times of  
hardship and isolation,

people still have to know that we should be thankful for what we have, and that this situation isn't any worse. Our school is continuing to host online Zoom meetings, and post assignments for the students. We are approaching our Easter break, and we will not have schoolwork for about a week and a half. We have been staying active in scouts by having our usual Sunday night meetings online. We also have been working together as patrols to complete slide shows and have separate patrol meetings. We have been able to keep doing things that we usually do, with some exceptions, just fine. I hope that you all are doing well and will continue to do well throughout this crisis.

Yours in Scouting,

*Leo*

Den Chief, Troop 23



Dear Saint Catherine's Community:

As an Adult Volunteer with St. Catherine Laboure Boy Scout Troop #23.

I would like to take this opportunity to reach out and thank the numerous people still working to insure we are healthy, safe and well fed.

I also would like to thank the parish for all your support of Scouting.

For the time being we have moved to "virtual meetings", till the air clears.

There has been some negative publicity from the National Boy Scouts of America.

Don't worry,  
our troop is  
doing well.  
They camp  
out one  
weekend  
every month  
through  
out the  
entire year.



They are  
involved in service projects with multiple organizations and individuals continuously. Troop 23 has one of the most successful Eagle Scout programs in the country. Many of the Scouts are volunteers with our parish also, keeping 'Duty to God" as a mainstay in their scouting careers.

Check us out on Facebook, just search for Troop23Harrisburg.

Yours in Scouting,

*Mr. Nebroski*

Assistant Scout Master, Troop 23



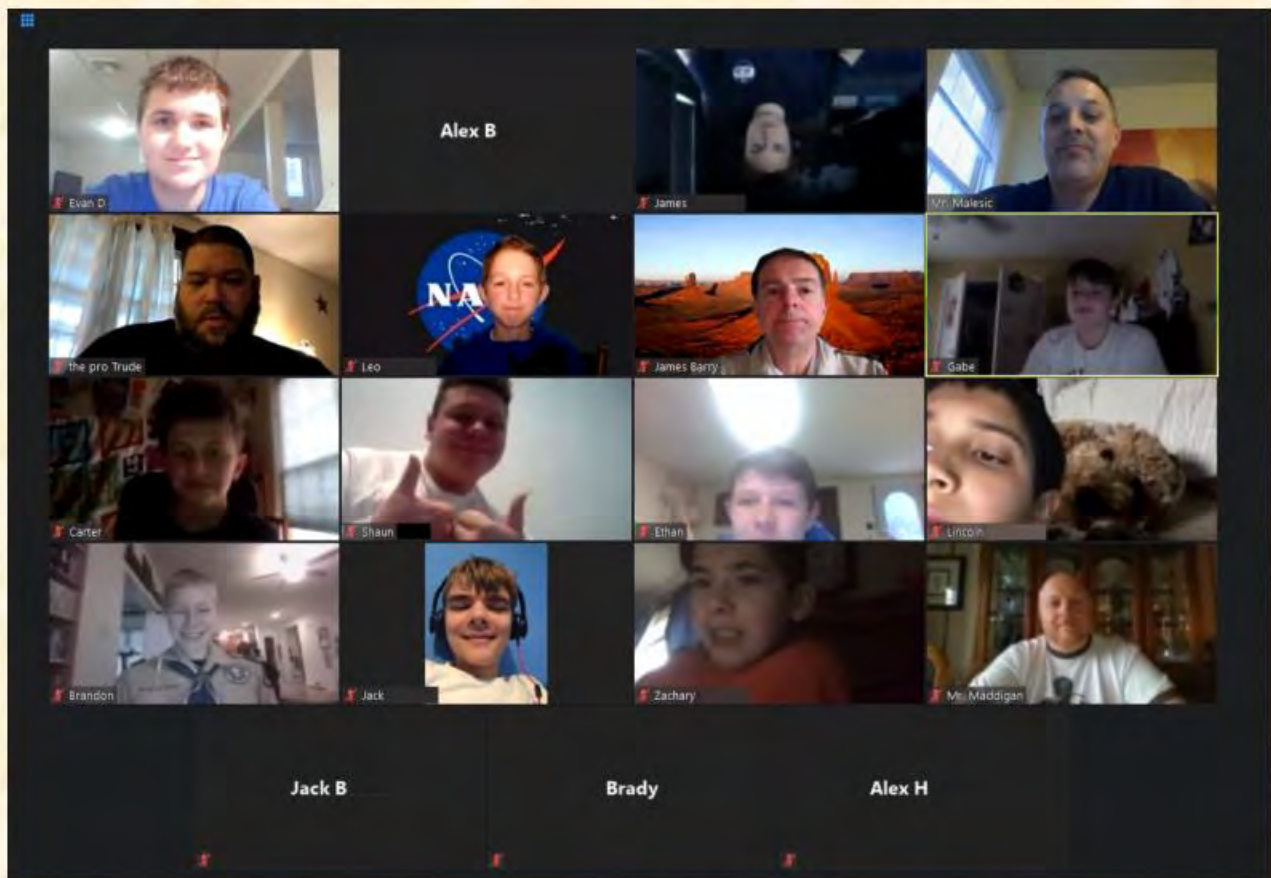
Hello St. Catherine's Laboure community,

I am still active in scouting because I attended our online meetings and I keep working on my requirements. I am also active in school because I am keeping up on my work and doing the best I can with limited resources.

Sincerely,

*Lincoln Govelovich*

Den Chief, Troop 23



**TROOP 23 LOOKS FORWARD TO  
WHEN WE CAN BE TOGETHER AGAIN!  
STAY SAFE!**