

Catholic Mutual... "CARES"

SCRIP HANDLING GUIDELINES

Many parishes utilize Scrip as a fundraiser. Parishioners purchase Scrip from the parish, which they then use at local stores such as JC Penney, Kohl's, or K-Mart. Scrip is also commonly used to pay utility bills. There are literally hundreds of businesses nationwide that participate in the Scrip program. When parishioners purchase items with Scrip, the parish receives a small percentage as the fundraiser contribution.

People order Scrip from the parish, which in turn orders Scrip from a company who specializes in providing Scrip. The Scrip then arrives at the parish to be picked up by or distributed to parishioners.

Scrip can be an excellent fundraiser if it is properly handled and safeguarded. Since Scrip is an alternative form of currency, it should be treated as cash. Accordingly, parishes should practice safe procedures in the handling of Scrip. The following procedures should be followed:

1. Volunteers should not take Scrip home for delivery. Parishioners participating in the program should pick up Scrip at the parish in a centralized location. Scrip can be sent home from school with a person's son or daughter if the person signs a waiver providing the parish permission to do this (a sample waiver is attached).
2. Scrip should be stored in a safe, which is locked at all times. The safe should be kept in a non-obvious, secure area on the parish premises.
3. A large inventory of Scrip should not be maintained. Scrip can be received from the National Scrip Center (or other Scrip clearinghouses) in one day by airmail. Parishes should only order the amount of Scrip which has been requested by program participants.
4. Adequate bookkeeping that tracks the purchase and distribution of Scrip is required. At least two people should have dual responsibility for the maintenance of Scrip records. When a parish receives an order of Scrip, serial numbers should be recorded. In the event that Scrip would be lost or stolen, the recording of the serial numbers would allow the parish to quickly identify which Scrip was missing. Local stores could then be alerted to watch for the stolen Scrip.
5. Scrip records should be audited or reviewed by the parish finance committee on a regular basis. Additionally, the Scrip records should not be stored with the Scrip, but in a separate area.

Scrip can be an excellent way for a parish to raise funds. To be successful, parishes must understand that Scrip is a cash equivalent and should be treated with the same care.

PERMISSION FOR CHILD/WARD DELIVERY OF SCRIP AND WAIVER OF CLAIM

I, _____ give permission to
Parent/Guardian
_____ to deliver Scrip,
Parish/School
which I have ordered from parish/school, to my child/ward, _____.
Child/Ward

I understand that my child/ward will be responsible for the safe transport of the Scrip from school to my home and certify that I have discussed the responsibilities associated with the transport of the Scrip with my child/ward. I further understand that I have the option of personally picking up my Scrip orders from the parish/school rather than having my child/ward transport it.

I agree that once the parish/school delivers the Scrip to my child/ward that the parish/school is not responsible for any Scrip which is lost, stolen or misplaced. I hereby waive any right of recovery that I may have against the parish/school for Scrip which is lost, stolen or misplaced after it is given to my child/ward.

This agreement is effective for the _____ school year.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date