

# Milestones of Father McGivney's Cause



## 1. Cause Opens

**Dec. 18, 1997** – Father McGivney's Cause for Sainthood is officially opened in Hartford by Archbishop Daniel A. Cronin. Father McGivney is given the title "Servant of God."

## 2. Diocesan Review Completed

**March 6, 2000** – Diocesan investigation into Father McGivney's life, holiness and virtues is closed.



## 3. Positio Submitted to Rome

**Summer 2002** – A 1,000-page document (*Positio*) laying out the case for Father McGivney's cause is presented to the Congregation for the Causes of Saints at the Vatican.

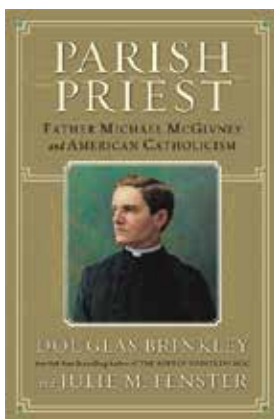
## 4. John Paul II Commends K of C and Founder

**Oct. 2003** – In a message to the Knights of Columbus, St. John Paul II praises the Order and its founder: "In fidelity to the vision of Father McGivney, may you continue to seek new ways of being a leaven of the Gospel in the world and a spiritual force for the renewal of the Church in holiness, unity and truth."



## 5. Biography Published

**July 2006** – *Parish Priest: Father McGivney and American Catholicism*, a biography by historians Douglas Brinkley and Julie Fenster, is published by William Morrow/Harper Collins.



## 11. Beatification

**Oct. 31, 2020** – Father McGivney is beatified with the title Blessed Michael McGivney during a Mass celebrated at the Cathedral of Saint Joseph in Hartford, Conn.



## 10. Miracle Approved for Beatification

**May 27, 2020** – After extensive medical and theological reviews, the Holy See announces that Pope Francis has authorized a decree regarding the miracle attributed to the intercession of Father McGivney, opening the way for his beatification.



## 9. Pope Francis Praises Father McGivney's Vision

**Feb. 2020** – Pope Francis tells the K of C Board of Directors that the Order has been faithful "to the vision of your founder, Venerable Michael McGivney, who was inspired by the principles of Christian charity and fraternity to assist those most in need." Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William Lori presents Pope Francis with a copy of *Parish Priest* in Italian.



## 8. Miracle Investigated

**Sept. 2017** – Results of an investigation into a possible miracle attributed to the intercession of Father McGivney is sent to the Congregation for the Causes of Saints.



## 7. Pope Benedict XVI Cites 'Exemplary American Priest'

**April 2008** – During his visit to St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City, Pope Benedict XVI cites the "remarkable accomplishment of that exemplary American priest, the Venerable Michael McGivney, whose vision and zeal led to the establishment of the Knights of Columbus."



(AP Photo/Vincenzo Pinto, Pool)

## 6. Declared Venerable

**March 15, 2008** – Confirming Father McGivney's heroic virtue, Pope Benedict XVI declares him a "Venerable Servant of God." The decree states, in part, "Concerning the theological virtues of Faith, Hope, and Love both toward God and neighbor ... they existed to a heroic degree in the Servant of God Michael McGivney, Diocesan Priest and Founder of the Fraternal Order the Knights of Columbus."

