

Founder of the Knights of Columbus.
Venerable Michael McGivney,
Apostle to the Young and
Protector of Christian Family Life,
Intercede for Us.



FATHER GABRIEL B. O'DONNELL, O.P.

Vice Postulator & Guild Director



Dear Guild Members:

The annual 40-day preparation leading to the Resurrection of Jesus at Easter is almost upon us. We look to Lent, which begins Ash Wednesday, Feb. 26, as a season of prayer, sacrifice and charity that calls for greater attention to our relationship with Christ. The Church has always considered this a season of conversion, urging us to turn from sin and excessive attachment to things of this world that distract from our true goal: eternity with God in heaven. During Lent, the Church leads us toward that goal as we seek to listen to the Word of God more intently and take on some significant penance.

Many Catholics today, aware of their dependence on electronic devices, are choosing the penance of restricting screen time. While not bad in themselves, electronic devices can take our time and attention away from the people and problems that we should engage with in a personal way, and can divert us from prayer, Scripture reading and volunteering.

If we find digital discipline difficult, we should reflect on the severe strictures in place in the days of Venerable Father Michael J. McGivney, when fasting was required every day of Lent. Yet the founder of the Knights of Columbus did not shy away from challenges and encouraged his parishioners to follow his example. We are in good company, then, in choosing a penitential practice that will require sacrifice and allow for more time for family and neighbors.

Pope Francis often calls the Catholic faithful to practical religious observance. For him, Lenten penances should always be aimed at some

greater good. Lent is the season for facing the truth about our sins and weaknesses and going to the sacrament of Confession, he teaches. In addition, he says, our Lenten penance should be more than simply a form of self-denial; it should lead us to a deeper faith in God and love of neighbor. This form of discipline also reflects the vision of Father McGivney, who led his people from piety to practical action.

In this spirit, let us think in practical terms. Make a point to include in your Lenten devotions a daily prayer for the beatification and eventual canonization of Father McGivney (see page 4). Don't simply recite the words but live them, as you pray: "Let the inspiration of your servant prompt us to greater confidence in your love so that we may continue his work of caring for the needy and the outcast." Father McGivney's example should motivate a conversion of heart and mind that gets you up and out the door to do good for others in a personal and practical way.

As Father McGivney's cause continues, we pray with confidence that a miracle through his intercession will be accepted one day by the Vatican's Congregation for the Causes of Saints, and the way will be opened for our founder to be declared "Blessed."

In the meantime, we know that the joy of the Easter "Alleluia" will be intensified by a faithful Lenten observance. What we do today shapes what we will become tomorrow. Every Guild member is urged to take up the spirit of Father McGivney so that Lent may be spiritually fruitful and Easter a time of intense joy.

Devotedly yours in Christ,

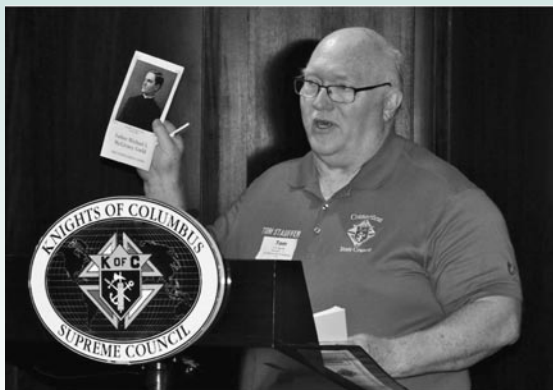
Father Gabriel B. O'Donnell, O.P.

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Vice-Postulator

GREAT DAY OF REFLECTION



District Deputy Thomas Stauffer holds up an application form for the Father McGivney Guild.

The charisms of Father McGivney and the way that his vision should be lived out today were the main topics during a day of reflection sponsored by the Connecticut State Council that was held Jan. 11 at the Knights of Columbus Museum in New Haven, Conn.

The event was attended by 61 members from 21 councils who listened to talks, met in small discussion groups, and shared their own experiences and insights. By most accounts, the program was a great success, and there are plans to develop the Father McGivney day of reflection to fit the Order's Faith in Action program model.

The day began with a 15-minute video on the life and legacy of Father McGivney, then the attendees moved into the museum's reliquary room, where the cassock and other liturgical garments of the Order's founder are displayed. Father Jeffrey Romans, of the Archdiocese of Hartford, led the group in the Prayer for Canonization, and Father Ron Meyer, of the Oblates of Mary Immaculate in Rhode Island, gave an overview of the charisms of Father McGivney.

See **McGIVNEY DAY**, Page 4

FAVORS REPORTED

Home Help

My 100-year-old mother, a widow with limited money, needed to sell her home to continue her care. The home had been up for sale for months and sold eight weeks after prayer for intercession of Father McGivney.

Florida

We bought a new house without selling our old one. After praying to Father McGivney, our house sold right away! Thank you!

Ontario

Due to my wife's illness, I was compelled to sell my townhouse and move to a condominium. We listed our house for sale early in 2018 and nothing happened. I became so frustrated that I turned to Father McGivney and genuinely prayed to him to intervene. The very next day, a lady came and offered our price and the deal was closed in one week. Since then I pray to Father McGivney daily and I am receiving small mercies even now. Pray daily to Father McGivney and keep the faith growing!

Ontario

Better Vision

My wife had six surgeries on her left eye starting in 2012, leaving her with 20/400 vision. I have been praying to Father McGivney daily for the last three to four years. I have been asking him to help get my wife's vision back to what it was before all her problems. Her 2019 annual check-up showed her vision suddenly improved to 20/70! We consider this a miracle.

Illinois

Family Matters

I prayed a novena to Father McGivney leading up to my participation in a Fourth Degree exemplification ceremony. The following day, after the novena, I felt a deep sense of peace while serving at Mass. I had been praying to Father McGivney for his intercession to heal our family of dissension and strife. Thank you, Father McGivney!

Washington

My wife and I were granted the gift of getting pregnant.

Wisconsin

On more than three occasions I have prayed for the intercession of Father McGivney for my son's faith to continue, his development of self to be of service to others, and for his safety and health during his training and development. These prayers have been answered, and I continue to pray.

Tennessee

My son told me that he did not believe in Christianity anymore. On the table was a Guild newsletter. I started praying that night for help from Father McGivney. Now that my son is older, he claims he may have spoken too soon. I think Father McGivney had a lot to do with this.

Idaho

Employment

After my son lost his professional position unexpectedly, I prayed to God and also to Father McGivney to find a new job. Within a month, he was offered a higher position in his field with a substantial increase in salary along with better benefits. Thank you, Jesus and Father McGivney. I will continue to pray for the canonization of Father McGivney.

New Jersey

We had unemployment in our family. We prayed together to Father McGivney and our prayers were answered.

Massachusetts

I implored Father McGivney's intercession and he smiled upon me. A while back I lost my job at no fault of my own. I was lost a bit but prayed the canonization prayer and made my request for another job ASAP. Things did work out for me with the same company in another department. Thank you, Father McGivney, for this favor.

Illinois

My wife's job was becoming increasingly problematic for her and even turning into a hostile work environment. I prayed to Father McGivney and she was contacted by a head hunter who was looking for someone with her skills. She can work from home which worked out well as we will be hosting an exchange student. I had been praying that my wife would be open to conceiving or caring for another child. I don't believe these things would have turned out as well for us without Father McGivney's intercession.

Nebraska

Our son lost his job at the age of 52. With two sons in college and one scheduled to enter college, the immediate financial impact was clearly evident. And the challenge facing an unemployed middle-age individual was daunting. As a Knight, I am familiar with Father McGivney and the Guild. Now it was my turn to call upon Father McGivney to help my son through a stressful and difficult time. With financial support running out, our son was offered and accepted employment equal to the position he lost.

Florida

Thank you for granting my favor of helping my son become employed and helping him out of a depression.

Iowa

First Responders

At our last Knights of Columbus council officers' meeting, we began with the prayer for the canonization of Venerable Father Michael McGivney. One of our intentions was for the safety of our first responders, with a specific intention for our local police, who face an increasingly difficult and dangerous job. Two days later, a deputy was shot in River Ridge, La., but his gun belt deflected the bullet. This happened just outside of New Orleans, not far from the homes of several of our council members, including our grand knight. We believe that this may not have been a coincidence, and this local deputy's life was saved through the intercession of Venerable Father McGivney.

Louisiana

Healing

We prayed daily for the intercession of Venerable Father Michael J. McGivney to have this dreaded disease removed from me. On April 10, 2019, I was diagnosed, on October 22, I got the all clear. My brother Knights and I prayed daily, asking for the good Father McGivney to intervene on my behalf. God is great. Prayers were answered.

New Jersey

My preborn son has the congenital heart defect Truncus Arteriosus, and a leaky heart valve that could cause the worst to happen. I have prayed to Venerable McGivney to help heal my son's heart. While he still has the defect, the leaky valve has gotten better and looks like it will not be much of an issue.

Texas

I received the reconciliation with my sister who finally contacted me! Also, my daughter-in-law got a good diagnosis for her breast cancer. These favors were received December 2019.

Michigan

After some testing, I was found to have a moderate blockage of my common carotid artery. I was told that this was serious and needed to be monitored to determine if invasive interventions were needed. While I would like to say that I made dramatic changes to my lifestyle, the honest truth is that I ended up increasing my cholesterol and weight. The only change that I was able to make was a daily aspirin. As my next ultrasound appointment approached, I prayed daily for Father McGivney to intercede and heal me. This past week, I was given the news that there is no blockage. There are no defects at all in the artery. I will always attribute this to Father McGivney's aid. I pray to see him beatified soon! *Vivat Jesus!*

Ohio

GUILD ITEMS

Please Send Items Below To:

Indicate the number of items desired in the space provided. All prices are in U.S. dollars and include shipping and handling, unless otherwise noted.

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Country _____

Zip/Postal Code _____

- _____ Mousepad — \$8
- _____ Pen — \$8
- _____ Coffee Mug — \$12
- _____ #A/#B Note Cards (6-pack) — \$5
- _____ #A/#B Note Cards (12-pack) — \$10
- _____ 4-Foot Statue Flyer/Order Form
- _____ 4-Foot Statue — \$2,400 (Plus Shipping & Handling)
- _____ 8" Figurine (Fiberglass) — \$50 (Temporarily out of stock)
- _____ Reliquary (case w/third-class relic) — \$20 donation
- _____ 1" Sterling Silver Medal — \$25

- _____ 18" Women's Chain — \$14
- _____ 24" Men's Chain — \$15
- _____ Guild Lapel Pin — \$7.50
- _____ Red Rosary (PG-614) — \$10
- _____ White Rosary (PG-615) — \$10
- _____ Pewter Spoon — \$11
- _____ Luggage Tag — \$5

PRINTED ITEMS — FREE OF CHARGE

- _____ A Model for Our Times booklet
- _____ Prayer for Canonization

COMPLETE AND RETURN TO THE FATHER MCGIVNEY GUILD, 1 COLUMBUS PLAZA, NEW HAVEN, CT 06510-3326.

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: FATHER MCGIVNEY GUILD.

TAX-DEDUCTIBLE DONATIONS MAY ALSO BE SENT TO THIS ADDRESS.

Write your prayer intention below and send to the above address and it will be remembered at the weekly Mass for Guild members.



Father McGivney Medal

This medal may be worn with a chain (sold separately). 1" in diameter.
Sterling Silver Medal: \$25



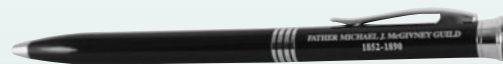
Collector's Spoon

Crafted in pewter by Fort USA. Features a color portrait of Father McGivney resting atop a winged dove of peace. Cross and K of C emblem also featured. Measures approximately 5". \$11



8" Figurine of Father McGivney

Crafted by Italian sculptors. Depicts Father McGivney holding a book with the emblem of the Knights of Columbus embossed on the cover. This figurine can remind us of Father McGivney's presence in our lives and his role as intercessor for our needs. Available in fiberglass with a golden-bronze finish. \$50 (Temporarily out of stock)



Guild Pen

Featuring Father McGivney's face on the dome. Blue ink. \$8



Luggage Tag

Pick out your luggage at the airport with this distinctive tag. An image of Father McGivney on one side and spaces for your name and contact information on the other side. \$5



Guild Lapel Pin

An attractive cast-bronze lapel pin featuring a color portrait of Father McGivney and the emblem of the Order. Approximately 1 1/4" in diameter. \$7.50



Full-Color Mousepad

Featuring Antonella Cappuccio's painting "Founding Vision: Father Michael J. McGivney and the Knights of Columbus." \$8



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McGIVNEY DAY, from Page 1

Speaking on “What Makes a Miracle,” Brian Caulfield, vice postulator, outlined a simple formula that everyone can follow to promote the cause: Join. Pray. Report. Join the Father McGivney Guild, which includes the benefits of a weekly Mass offered for members and a quarterly newsletter. Pray for the canonization of Father McGivney and the miracle needed for him to advance to beatification. Report to the Guild any favors received through Father McGivney’s intercession. Caulfield added that favors reported over the years fall into four main categories that Father McGivney dealt with while a priest on earth: finding employment, family reconciliation, overcoming substance abuse and returning to the Catholic faith. “It is clear that Father McGivney is still working for the good of his Knights and the larger Catholic community,” he said.

The main section of the program was held in the museum’s council chambers, where Connecticut Knights gave presentations on the Order’s principles of charity, unity and fraternity. In the afternoon, presentations were provided on the Order’s Into the Breach and Building the Domestic Church initiatives, and how to implement the Faith in Action program model. Confessions were heard by priests in attendance.

The main organizers of the program were two Connecticut district deputies, David Imhof and Thomas Stauffer.

Comments by participating Knights included:

- “Provided an opportunity to learn more and enhance my faith.”
- “Very motivating and fulfilling.”
- “Learning about authentic manhood.”
- “Renewal in spirit of Father McGivney.”
- “A positive day of sharing with other councils.”
- “I learned what it really means to be a K of C member.”
- “Great event. Will attend again!”

PRAYER FOR CANONIZATION

God, our Father, protector of the poor and defender of the widow and orphan, you called your priest, Father Michael J. McGivney, to be an apostle of Christian family life and to lead the young to the generous service of their neighbor. Through the example of his life and virtue may we follow your Son, Jesus Christ, more closely, fulfilling his commandment of charity and building up his Body which is the Church. Let the inspiration of your servant prompt us to greater confidence in your love so that we may continue his work of caring for the needy and the outcast. We humbly ask that you glorify your venerable servant Father Michael J. McGivney on earth according to the design of your holy will. Through his intercession, grant the favor I now present (here make your request). Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

As you can see from the Favors Reported on page 2, God answers prayers through the intercession of Venerable Father McGivney. We ask all Guild members to entrust their needs to the Order’s founder and to report any favors received. A miracle through the intercession of Father McGivney is needed for his beatification.