Father Michael J. McGivney

Founder of the Knights of Columbus.

Blessed Michael McGivney,

Apostle to the Young and

Protector of Christian Family Life,

Intercede for Us.



Guild

JANUARY – MARCH 2022

FATHERMCGIVNEY.ORG

Newsletter

ISSUE 1

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

Vice Postulator and Guild Director

Dear Guild Members,

The year 2022 promises to be a time of both hope and caution. Sadly, the ongoing threat of the pandemic and its virus variants demands caution. However, there are signs of a return to a normal rhythm of life in some places. We should



remember especially that Father Michael McGivney served dutifully and died with full benefit of the sacraments during the Russian flu pandemic in 1890.

Viewed from the perspective of faith, the current situation calls us to remember that in the providence of God all things can work for our good, even when suffering and difficulties fall upon us. Pope Francis speaks of life as a "pilgrimage of hope," by which he means a life rooted in prayer and generous service to our loved ones, our neighbors and those on the margins of society. Prayer, he insists, is central to the healing of the heart: "the healing answer comes from prayer, witness and humble love. The humble love that serves. Let us reiterate this idea: the Christian is to serve."

The prayer that the pope points to is not the saying of memorized prayers repeated each day. Such prayer plays an

important role in sustaining our relationship with God, but it is the prayer of meditation, the quiet pondering of the mysteries of God and engaging in conversation with Jesus, that our Holy Father calls us to embrace and practice daily. This kind of prayer requires a commitment of time. To spend fifteen or twenty minutes each day in quiet meditation has great spiritual benefits for such a practice strengthens our faith and renews us in hope, no matter what burdens we carry.

"Our life should be like this: to worship, to pray, to journey, to be a pilgrim, to do penance." These words of our Holy Father are a spiritual guide for Catholic life in 2022. Such a rich spiritual life will lead us to reach out to those who need our help.

In a matter of weeks, Ash Wednesday will lead us into Lent, the season of conversion, penance and charity. The more complete our spiritual practices, the stronger will be our readiness to follow the inspiration of the Holy Spirit in the season of self-denial and generosity to the poor and needy.

This path to spiritual growth is not unlike that trod by Blessed Michael McGivney. At a time when the universal practice of the Church was more rigorous and penitential than the Church currently demands, the young McGivney took on the austerities of Lent without seeking dispensations or exceptions. Never robust in health, Father McGivney often carried a double load of parish responsibility when the pastor was ill or away for several months of rest and recuperation. The historical record reveals the unceasing pastoral demands that the young priest faced. Daily sacramental obligations, visiting the sick and homebound, and

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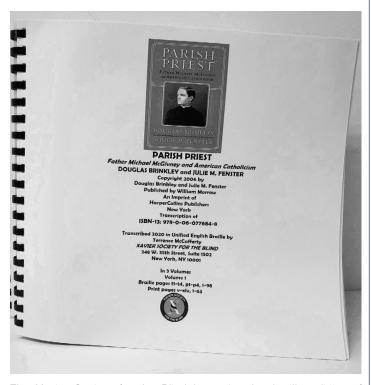


MANY BLESSINGS - Memorials dedicated to Blessed Michael McGivney have multiplied since his beatification. At left, Archbishop Emeritus Daniel Cronin, who opened the sainthood cause for Father McGivney in the Archdiocese of Hartford in 1997, prepares to bless a statue in the newly created prayer garden at St. Joseph Residence in Enfield. Assisting the archbishop for the ceremony Nov. 7, 2021, is his secretary, Msgr. Thomas Ginty. Administered by the Little Sisters of the Poor, the facility is a residential care home for elderly and infirm men and women. Daily Mass is offered in the chapel by Father Robert Rousseau. At right, Bishop Emeritus Paul Loverde of Arlington addresses attendees on Nov. 7 before before blessing a new statue of Blessed McGivney in the prayer garden of Our Lady of Hope Church in Potomac Falls, Va. He was assisted by the pastor, Father Anthony Killian, and Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus who provided an honor guard at the ceremony.





In a private audience at the Vatican with Pope Francis, Supreme Knight Patrick E. Kelly (shown at left) presented the Holy Father with a first-class bone relic of Blessed Michael McGivney and expressed gratitude for the beatification of the Knights of Columbus' founder. Also present for the audience on Oct. 25, 2021, were Past Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson and Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William E. Lori of Baltimore. Pope Francis also blessed the icon of St. Joseph that serves as the centerpiece of the Order's new St. Joseph Prayer Program. (*Photo: Vatican Media/L'Osservatore Romano.*)



The Xavier Society for the Blind has printed a braille edition of *Parish Priest: Father McGivney and American Catholicism.* Based in New York City, the Xavier Society has served sight-impaired persons for more than 120 years with braille translations and, more recently, audio resources. Visit *xaviersocietyfortheblind.org* or call 212-473-7800 for more information.

A Relic Visit

he Father McGivney Guild made a special visit before Christmas to the priest who was named New Jersey Knights of Columbus Chaplain of 2021. Msgr. Edward C. Puleo, pastor of St. Elizabeth and St. Brigid Parish in Peapack, N.J., received the award from the state council in November, the same month he received a diagnosis of pancreatic cancer from medical specialists. Being informed by members of St. Elizabeth-St. Brigid Council 11386 that their pastor and devoted chaplain was facing a serious health condition, Brian Caulfield, vice-postulator of the cause of Father McGivney, traveled from New Haven to the New Jersey parish with a first-class relic. With the relic present, Msgr. Puleo offered Mass for the parish on Sunday, Dec. 18, and spoke about his long devotion to Father McGivney and personal prayers to him since his diagnosis. Local Knights distributed Father McGivney prayer cards and the text of the novena to those attending Mass.

Msgr. Puleo later wrote to the Guild:

"Words cannot begin to describe my deep appreciation to you and others involved in the cause for the canonization of Blessed Michael McGivney in allowing me the privilege of borrowing the first-class relic of our founder.

"My diagnosis with pancreatic cancer in November 2021 happened to coincide with my being awarded the 'Knights of Columbus Chaplain of the Year' in New Jersey. Almost immediately my thoughts and prayers became focused on the fantastic life and person of Father McGivney. This young priest did not allow anything to interfere with his priestly ministry. For years, I have tried to follow his great example of priestly service and sacrifice. Though unworthy, it seemed appropriate that I reach out and ask that he intercede for me."

Msgr. Puleo and all those who submit intentions to the Father McGivney Guild continue to be remembered in a weekly Mass offered by Father Gabriel O'Donnell, Guild director.

Prayer for the Canonization of Blessed Michael McGivney

Founder of the Knights of Columbus

God, our Father, protector of the poor and defender of the widow and orphan, you called your priest, Blessed Michael 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



Blessed Michael 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.

FAVORS REPORTED

Father McGivney has always been a powerful intercessor, but since his beatification last October, the reports of favors received have multiplied greatly. The list of favors below provides a window into the hearts of those who are devoted to Blessed Michael McGivney and provide a testament to his continuing ministry to those in need.

Mindful of the fact a second miracle is needed for Father McGivney to advance to sainthood, the Guild continues to ask all members to pray to this servant of God and to spread knowledge and devotion of him in your parishes and Knights of Columbus councils. Please report any favors received to the Father McGivney Guild (guild@kofc.org).

Here is a sampling of favors reported to the Guild since the last quarterly newsletter:

From the Heart

Since I had open-heart surgery to repair an aortic aneurism about three years ago, I am supposed to go in for yearly CT scans. After my chest scan this year, my cardiologist showed me what he said appeared to be extreme blockage in my left anterior descending artery and had me schedule a stress test with an echo. I asked Father McGivney for help to get through this test. After the stress test and echo, my doctor said everything now appeared to be normal. Thank you.

Indiana

Cancer

My wife and I were both diagnosed with cancer ten months apart in 2020. We underwent surgery and have been praying to Father McGivney every night since we received his prayer card a year ago. Both of our cancers turned out to be high grade but were confined to the tumor and did not show signs of spreading. To date, we are both in remission due to Father McGivney's intercession.

New Mexico

I was diagnosed with squamous cell carcinoma of the palate in July of 2021. I was given a choice of radical surgery, radiation or immunotherapy. I chose the immunotherapy, which consisted of a popular prescription drug and double doses of radiation. If I did nothing, I would have three months to live, and even in doing the treatment my time was measured in months. We said the novena to Blessed Michael McGivney, and I was blessed with a first-class relic and visited his tomb in New Haven. I received a call yesterday that there was no evidence of cancer.

Connecticut

I was told that I had cancer of the colon and went through chemotherapy and then surgery. I was on chemo pills for a year. I have prayed to Father McGivney since I first started therapy. Today, I had my doctor appointment and learned the results of my recent scan. I have no new cancer, and my numbers are low. I have received a new lease on life because of Father McGivney's intercession. My brother Knights have also helped with their prayers. Thank you.

New Hampshire

I prayed for healing of a family friend who was diagnosed with bladder cancer. After surgery, there was a plan to proceed with chemo, but after a second consult, doctors did not see any evidence of cancer and therefore there is no need for chemo.

Massachusetts

At 76 years of age, a mammogram showed a small cystic lesion. I had never had issues previous to this, so more ultrasounds and a second mammogram were done. I was than instructed to have a repeat study in one year. During the entire year, every day I prayed to Father McGivney, and when I had my repeat testing, nothing was

found. I truly feel this was the help of God and Father McGivney for a personal miracle.

Saskatchewan

I made an earnest supplication regarding my wife, who recently had a bout with cancer and now seems totally clear. Also, my son, a victim of depression, has been stabilized for quite some time now and has had a healing of a serious skin disease. At the time of experiencing these problems, Father McGivney, however silently, was ever present and lodged in my mind. All the above issues have now had positive outcomes.

New Brunswick

Thank you for the prayer cards for the canonization of Blessed Michael McGivney. My mammogram and ultrasound of my left breast were normal. No cancer. Thank you for all your prayers. The rosary group at St John's in Cromwell prays the prayer for Blessed Michael McGivney for his canonization.

Connecticut

Prostate cancer has been prevalent in my family. My father, uncle and brother were all diagnosed and treated. My PSA went up 2.5 points in a year, and I prayed to Father McGivney that if I had cancer it would be low grade and easily treatable. It was, and I'm now almost done with treatment and felt his presence during all of my tests and treatments.

Massachusetts

Our daughter was told that she had thyroid cancer after samples were taken and examined. She had thyroid surgery and today she was informed that the tissue samples from half of her thyroid that was removed had no cancer cells. I have been praying to Blessed Michael McGivney for the past two months for this. His intercession answered my prayers.

Indiana

I was diagnosed with lung cancer in 2019. It had been held in check with treatment since that time. I was having CT scans every three to six months. After the latest scan, I went for my scheduled treatment and consultation. The oncology doctor was surprised that the scan showed no cancer present. As a member of the K of C, I had been praying nightly to Blessed Michael McGivney, asking him to pray for me. I believe it was by his intercession that my lungs are cancer free.

New York

Blessed Michael McGivney, thank you for continuing to answer the novena for Gloria, who overcame a temperature, sometimes expected following a stem cell transplant. She is progressing so well that she was able to be released eleven days earlier than expected, although she will be returning to the hospital to continue to have her numbers checked. We all continue to pray through your intercession for her progress and full recovery with healing from blood cancer that she may have a full, healthy life. Amen.

Connecticut

I was diagnosed with a cancerous tumor on my right lung in November 2020. Surgery was performed in December, which resulted in a lobectomy of the upper lobe of my right lung as well as associated lymph glands. Biopsies reported no sign of any cancerous tissue. A post-surgery CT scan revealed two spots thought to be tumors. A follow-up scan revealed my body was cancer free. My wife and I prayed daily to Father McGivney for strength and a healthy outcome, and our prayers were answered.

Michigan

My sister Teresa was diagnosed with Stage 1 breast cancer. I immediately shared this terrible news with my spiritual director, who advised me and my family to pray for the intercession of Father Michael McGivney for my sister's healing. We religiously prayed every single day to Father McGivney starting from the day we knew about his probable heavenly aid until we learned that her cancer was completely gone three months later. We attribute my sister's healing to Father McGivney's favor.

Indiana

I asked for healing for my sister's cancer. After a year of treatment, she has a clean scan.

Connecticut

Employment

My daughter was looking for a more satisfying job and opportunity to learn new skills. I prayed daily to Father McGivney, and my prayers were answered with her getting a new position.

Colorado

I was praying for employment for my son. My prayer was answered. Thank you. I have been a member of the Knights of Columbus since 1985.

Illinois

I prayed the Father McGivney prayer every day for two months for my daughter. She had to quit her job after 33 years because it ran down her health. She found a new job with good people. Thank you, Father McGivney. I still pray your prayer every day.

Michigan

I was forced to retire in 2019 and was not financially prepared. I had been applying for jobs with virtually no interested party asking for an interview. After asking Father McGivney for help with my financial stability, I received two interviews and was hired. This is my third day on the job, and I do not believe I would be here without Father McGivney's help.

Illinois

My daughter was granted a final attempt in taking an exam in medical school. I prayed daily to Father McGivney for her to pass the exam. She took the final attempt and got an incredible score, higher than the school required, so she was allowed to take the exam and graduated medical school. I believe this was all because of prayer.

Ohio

I prayed for Father McGivney's intercession while studying for the Law School Admissions Test. Through his help and the grace of God, I earned my highest score, a five-point increase from my initial attempt.

New York

I am a Third Degree Knight. I got hurt at work and was waiting to get Social Security as we lived off my wife's salary. We went into debt and almost lost everything. I have been praying to our Holy Family as well as asking Father McGivney to pray with me for some support. I am pleased to say that in January 2022 I was approved for SSI. My disability is still pending. Through the powers of prayer and belief, prayers are answered. Thanks be to God.

Ohio

COVID-19

Blessed Michael McGivney, we thank you for your intercession for Kyle, who has now returned home and is continuing his recovery from COVID-19. He is blessed to be with his two young daughters and his wife. The surrounding love of them and his extended family, friends, and all those who are continuing to pray for him will aid him in his progress. We thank you in our Lord's name. Amen.

Connecticut

Addiction

Our son Christopher has been battling addiction for many years in and out of rehab. We started praying to Father McGivney daily over two years ago. Today Christopher is 15 months clean, working for Hope House Ministries, and going to Mass again. We will continue praying to Father McGivney for our son and all who need his help.

New York

My brother, an alcoholic, has had very bad falls resulting in hospital stays to treat bad cuts and head trauma. I asked for him to stop drinking. He has stopped since February 2020.

Ontario

Pregnancy

During her first three months of pregnancy, my daughter-in-law was going through some tests to determine if the baby had certain health issues. There was also some talk of terminating the pregnancy if there were problems. I prayed every night for two weeks until the results came back that all was good. My prayers were to Blessed Michael McGivney, and he answered.

New Jersey

I prayed to Father McGivney for a wish that I thought would not come true anytime soon. During the pandemic, I thought I would not see my 6-year-old brother, who was in India at that time. When I prayed, we got dates to go there and bring my brother back!

Ohio

Our third child, Claire, was born with a rare condition that affects newborns. Because of her low birth weight and small head size, they did a test in the hospital that is over 99% accurate. The following months included many trips to a pediatric infectious disease doctor and many tests for our newborn. While Claire was undergoing her first set of painstaking tests, I invoked Blessed Michael McGivney's help with a rosary, and after another test, the disease was gone. The doctors are scratching their heads and can't explain it.

Michigan

My wife and I have a dear friend expecting her fourth child. Several weeks ago, the child was diagnosed with a weak heartbeat, and the doctor did not expect the baby to last through the week. The child was far too small to survive outside the womb, and a D&C

procedure was scheduled for the following week. I asked the Tennessee Knights, the Handmaids of the Precious Blood of Jesus, and the Dominican Sisters to pray for Father McGivney's intercession. Now, the heartbeat has grown stronger, the baby is growing, and the doctor had no explanation.

Tennessee

My pregnant niece texted the family and said she was on her way to the hospital because her baby breached. If conditions did not change, they would need to do a Caesarean. I prayed to Father McGivney and asked him to help the baby turn back to normal. When my niece got to the hospital, they told her the baby turned back. All was okay. I believe his intercession made the difference.

Illinois

My granddaughter was born last June. Her conception and uterine growth had many challenges. I prayed daily to Blessed Michael McGivney for him to bring a child of God into the world. My initial request was answered during the Mass that celebrated one year since his beatification.

Wisconsin

Prayers were requested during a novena to Blessed Michael for 3-week-old Xavier, who had heart surgery. His blood pressure dropped during the night, and he needed to be weaned off opioids. In time, Xavier recovered and went home. In the same novena, prayers were requested for 3-week-old Colette, who was suffering from fevers and respiratory issues and may have needed a spinal tap. After prayers, the baby no longer had fever, and no spinal tap was required.

Connecticut

Healing

Blood work showed significant kidney dysfunction even though I am healthy and without risk factors. My doctor repeated the tests, and the results were somewhat better but still very concerning. He also ordered a more sensitive test. Worried and waiting for the results, I prayed for Blessed McGivney's intervention. Shortly after, I noticed longstanding voiding issues were normalized. I did not connect this until the last test showed normal kidney function. This is miraculous.

Connecticut

My sister was admitted to a medical center for pancreatitis with complications, which caused her organs to shut down. We asked specifically for Blessed Michael McGivney's intercession for a complete healing. She came out of organ failure and is experiencing an ongoing complete healing.

Washington

A daughter of a very good friend suffered a severe leg injury riding a horse. The shattered bone broke through the skin, and the doctors were having trouble with infections recurring. When I learned that they were talking about removing the lower part of her leg, I prayed for her, using the Father McGivney prayer card on my nightstand. Two days later, when I spoke to my friend, he said that the infection was under control.

Ohio

In February 2020, I became very sick with stomach pains, weight loss, eye infections, anxiety, brain fog, and no interest in my usual activities. After numerous doctor visits, no one could diagnose my ailment. My parish has a very active K of C council. They distributed the Novena to Blessed Michael McGivney, and I began an ongoing

prayer. The anxiety, depression, and stomach ailments are gone. Thank you for your intercession, Blessed Michael. I pray for your canonization.

Colorado

I had been suffering with a sports hernia for several months. I play tennis, and it was severely limiting my movement and ability to play. The pain had gotten to the point that I began to contemplate corrective surgery. I prayed the Novena to Blessed Michael McGivney, and within weeks the pain had dissipated. I no longer experience any pain related to the injury and am able to carry on fully with my activities, including playing tennis several times a week.

Texas

My sister was struck with unbearable abdominal pain and rushed to the hospital, where she was diagnosed with a perforation in the small bowel. It was close to the connection of the large bowel, with severe infection and inflammation. A couple of days earlier, I had sent her a Father McGivney prayer card and "A Model for Our Times" booklet, which she devoutly read. She said that she believes Blessed Michael McGivney gave her that warning pain in time to get her to the hospital before it became too severe. I also believe that he interceded.

Illinois

Christopher, 13 years old, was involved in a dirt bike accident. He sustained a serious spinal cord injury that affected all of his motor functions below his chest. The duration of the operation was six to seven hours. The doctors gave Christopher a one-percent chance of ever walking again. Today, he is on the mend. I have prayed for him and continue to pray to Father McGivney.

New York

I was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis. It has impacted my ability to walk and has removed most of the sensation below my belly button as well as coordination in my legs. Two nights ago, I began a rosary novena that I found on the K of C website to Blessed Michael McGivney, and my movement and balanced has gotten better since I started that novena. I can now walk unassisted, although I am a bit wobbly. I won't know for sure what happened until my next MRI in May. Until then, I will keep praying the novena for his intercession.

British Columbia

Merry Christmas

I wanted a happy and fulfilling Christmas. Since praying for Blessed Michael McGivney's canonization, love has been poured out on me. My family has been overly kind and generous. I have been so blessed that it's hard to believe.

Virginia

Lost and Found

I lost my keys (and I mean *all* my keys) when I left my job site. I was so worried about it. This morning during my Bible study, I prayed that Father McGivney would ask the Lord to return them to me or at least help me find them. When I got to the job site and checked at the office, someone had turned them in, and I was able to claim them! Praise the Lord, and thanks to Blessed Michael for his intercession on my behalf!

Alberta

Cardinal Dolan Praises McGivney During Mass at St. Mary's

Speaking of the "primacy" of the parish priest in the daily life of the Church, Cardinal Timothy Dolan of New York observed how important the beatification of Father McGivney has been for American parish priests. The canonization of Father McGivney, when it comes, will be an even more joyous event for the Church and priests throughout the world, he noted.

Cardinal Dolan offered a votive Mass in honor of Blessed Michael McGivney at St. Mary's Church on January 12 with Knights of Columbus supreme officers and senior executives present. He called the church "a sacred spot" where Father McGivney walked, offered Mass for his people, and founded the Knights of Columbus in the basement auditorium. "We give thanks for the example and intercession of Blessed Father Michael McGivney," the cardinal said in his homily.

After Mass, the cardinal was joined by attendees in reciting the Prayer for Canonization at the sarcophagus holding the bodily remains of Blessed Michael, located near the entrance of the church.



Cardinal Dolan stands with K of C leaders, from left: Supreme Advocate John Marrella, Deputy Supreme Knight Paul O'Sullivan, Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly, Supreme Secretary Patrick Mason, Supreme Treasurer Ron Schwarz and Supreme Master Dennis Stoddard.

Pilgrimage Center Expands Displays

The Blessed Michael McGivney Pilgrimage Center in New Haven (formerly Knights of Columbus Museum) has added a full room of Father McGivney items to go with its new name and focus. In addition to the longstanding McGivney Gallery housing the burial garments and a first-class relic of the Knights of Columbus founder, an adjacent room is dedicated to his sainthood cause, with documents, photos and printed materials offering a timeline of significant steps in the process since it was initiated in 1997.

A section of the room shows the events surrounding the beatification of Blessed Michael, held Oct. 31, 2020, in the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Hartford, Conn. Photographs include images of the

All Control of Care Inches Inc

Schachle family, whose youngest son, Michael McGivney Schachle, was healed in the womb from a fatal condition. He turns 7 years old in May. A large blowup photo shows little Michael carrying a first-class relic to Cardinal Joseph Tobin, C.Ss.R, archbishop of Newark, N.J., who offered the beatification Mass and delivered the homily.

The pilgrimage center still features the Knights of Columbus wall of history, which traces the growth of the Order from its humble beginnings in the basement of St. Mary's Church in 1882, as well as temporary exhibits in the two main galleries. The popular Christmas crèche exhibition recently ran from the beginning of Advent 2021 to the feast of the Presentation, February 2 of this year. A live webinar is conducted each month and archived on the facility's website. For more information on the Blessed Michael McGivney Pilgrimage Center, visit michaelmcgivneycenter.org.

Relic Pilgrimage in Connecticut

A first-class relic of Blessed Michael McGivney is being offered for veneration by the faithful during a yearlong parish pilgrimage sponsored by the Knights of Columbus state council. Past State Deputy Gary McKeone, in cooperation with present State Deputy Matthew McGrath, is spearheading the project, bringing a first-class bone relic to parishes that request it. During the relic visit, a priest or deacon leads parishioners in prayer, including the Litany of Blessed Michael McGivney and the Prayer for Canonization. Other prayers can be added, and a votive Mass in honor of Father McGivney may also be offered. The pilgrimage began in the summer of 2021 and will continue through this year for as long as there are parishes requesting the relic. Similar programs in other states are being planned. For information on the relic pilgrimage, contact the Guild.

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. Please allow three weeks for delivery.

Name			
Address			
City/State/Country			
Zip/Postal Code _			

Beatification DVD — \$45
Blessed McGivney Beatification Medallion — \$40
4-Foot Statue — \$2,400 (Plus Shipping & Handling)
Reliquary (case w/third-class relic) — \$20 donation
Father McGivney Plaque — \$190
8" Figurine (Fiberglass) — \$50
Red Rosary (PG-614) — \$10

PRINTED ITEMS — FREE OF CHARGE UP TO 25 COPI	FS

A Model for Our Times booklet (<u>NEW AND UPDATED!</u>)

Prayer for Canonization card

White Rosary (PG-615) - \$10

Pewter Spoon — \$11

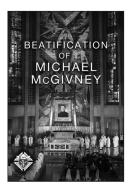
____ Prayer for Canonization card (with third-class relic)

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.

Many more Father McGivney promotional and devotional items may be purchased online with a credit card or check at the KnightsGear website (knightsgear.com).

Write out your prayer intention below and mail to the Guild, or submit an intention online at www.fathermcgivney.org

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Beatification DVD

The historic Mass of Beatification of Blessed Michael McGivney is captured on this DVD of the ceremony of Oct. 31, 2020. Relive the moment when Father McGivney was proclaimed "Blessed." \$45.00 (includes shipping)



Third-Class Relic

A small piece of cloth touched to the bodily remains of Father McGivney is contained in an ornate reliquary and placed in a solid plastic case. Use for personal prayer and devotion. **Donation: \$20**



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



Father McGivney Plaque

This semi-relief plaque is perfect for hanging in a council meeting place. Solid yet portable, it measures 12 in. high, 10 in. wide, a half-inch deep, and weighs 4 lbs. Made of compressed marble powder and plated with a composite of copper and nickel, each piece is hand-designed by a U.S. Catholic art house. \$190



Father Michael J. McGivney Guild

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS • 1 COLUMBUS PLAZA • NEW HAVEN, CT 06510-3326



A first-class relic of Blessed Michael McGivney, held in a gold-painted reliquary in the shape of the Knights of Columbus emblem, is a centerpiece of items on display at the Blessed Michael McGivney Pilgrimage Center in New Haven (formerly Knights of Columbus Museum). See feature story on page 6 for more information.

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organizing activities offering direction and diversion to various segments of the parish community kept him on the go from morning to night. In a family crisis, many turned to Father McGivney for help and advice. Nor did he shrink from defending the rights of Catholics in the public arena, what we might call today Catholic civil rights or religious liberty. He exercised a full, self-giving love for his people, pouring out his very soul for their good.

Blessed Michael's most important work, the founding the Knights of Columbus, required travel and endless conversations before his efforts would be effective. Dealing with men of every walk of life and every social class required great effort and unusual insight. Indeed, the first Knights were men older and more experienced than the young parish priest in the ways of the world. It is a testament to Father McGivney's practical spirituality and commitment to intelligent action that these successful "goahead" men of their day looked to him for guidance and leadership. His spiritual vision and strength of character made possible the hours of conversation, correspondence and meetings that led to the formation of today's two-million-strong international fraternal benefit society. The spirit of self-sacrifice and service to others that Father McGivney placed at the heart of his fraternity was not to be simply a Lenten observance but a way of life for his Knights. He formed them through his daily example to be Knights of charity and service, and they lived up to his expectations, inspired by the love they shared as Catholic gentlemen. Father McGivney's example lives on today as a model we should all strive to follow.

For members of the Father McGivney Guild, 2022 offers an opportunity to enrich our spiritual lives by taking up in a renewed spirit the practice of prayer and service as we invoke our heavenly patron. Since his beatification on Oct. 31, 2020, the number of prayer petitions received by the Guild has multiplied greatly, and the number of favors reported has also increased. Healings of a variety of physical conditions have also been reported, and the Guild is privileged to investigate the most extraordinary of these events. Amid the cares and troubles of our secular age, we often forget that our Catholic faith is a healing faith. We are healed of sin through prayer and penance, and most of all through the sacraments - especially Confession, the Eucharist and Anointing of the Sick. In God's loving providence, many are also healed physically, sometimes through the intercession of heavenly patrons such as Blessed Michael McGivney. Turn to him in your most serious needs, and trust in God's goodness.

May the prayers of Blessed Michael support our efforts to respond to Christ and to place before him again our plea for the canonization of the holy parish priest who was never daunted by the challenges of life.

Yours devotedly in Christ,

Father Habriel B. O'Donnell, O.p.

Guild Director

Vice-Postulator