

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



FATHERMCGIVNEY.ORG

## America's Parish Priest

Calling Father Michael McGivney “America’s Parish Priest,” Cardinal Timothy Dolan of New York led the unveiling of a 6-foot, 2-inch, statue of the priest in St. Patrick’s Cathedral, which the cardinal called “America’s Parish Church.” Joining in the statue’s dedication on February 22 was Archbishop William Lori of Baltimore, the Order’s supreme chaplain; Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly; and two McGivney relatives, great grandnephew John Walshe and great grandniece Margaret Ransom.

With the statue standing within the cathedral’s sanctuary, the dedication took place immediately prior to the celebration of the 125th anniversary of the Order’s Fourth Degree, also called the Patriotic Degree. The celebration included an exemplification of the new Fourth Degree ceremonial, in which some 650 Knights of Columbus were inducted as family members and brother Knights looked on in the public ceremony. It was the first induction under the new Fourth Degree rite, which teaches about faithful citizenship and the key role of Catholics in the history of the Americas, starting with the voyage of Columbus in 1492. In recent years, all four degrees of the Order have been revamped and open to family and friends who also benefit from the lessons imparted.

In his homily at the cathedral’s regular Saturday Vigil Mass, Cardinal Dolan praised the Knights of Columbus for their strong support of the Catholic faith and the Church. Father McGivney founded the Order to keep men close to their faith and to help widows and orphans in times of need, he added. That simple idea has blossomed into the world’s largest Catholic brotherhood that has been doing immense good for the lost and needy for more than 140 years, the cardinal said.

After Mass, the McGivney statue was moved to its permanent spot within the area of the St. Joseph altar on the north transept of the cathedral, where the faithful were praying and lighting votive candles early Sunday morning. The statue was fabricated in bronze by Chas Fagan, who also made the McGivney statue in the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC, and painted the official portrait that was unveiled at Father McGivney’s beatification in October 2020.



Cardinal Dolan and Supreme Knight Kelly admire the new statue in St. Patrick’s Cathedral unveiled by McGivney family members John Walshe and Margaret Ransom. Also shown are Walshe’s sons, John and Hugh (partially obscured). (Photo by Paul Haring)

## House Blessing



Flanked by Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly and seminarian Drew Meisel, Archbishop William Lori blesses the chapel of the Blessed Michael McGivney Propaedeutic House of Formation in Baltimore on January 23. (Photo Daniel Kucin Jr.)

# FROM THE DIRECTOR

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

Vice Postulator and Guild Director



## Dear Guild Members,

The yearly season of Lent is a time for prayer, penance and works of charity. The Church provides this spiritual “pause” while we consider anew God’s call to love him with all our heart and mind and our neighbor

as oneself. The needs of family and work, of friends and those who are less fortunate, are seen through the fresh eyes of sacrificial love. It is a time of reflection, evaluation and discovering again the reality of divine intimacy and friendship.

The themes and meaning of Lent have not changed since Father Michael McGivney walked the earth and led his parishioners to a deeper life of faith during this holy season. Never one for extreme measures, Father McGivney championed a common sense approach to religious practices. He understood the importance of restraint in matters of human pleasure and the call to generosity in reaching out to one’s neighbor. Above all, Lent was a time to draw closer to God. Whatever sacrifices or

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# FAVORS REPORTED

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

## Vertigo Gone

I had terrible vertigo and prayed that Blessed Michael McGivney would help me. Shortly after that prayer, I read an article that suggested a technique to overcome vertigo. I tried it and in a few days the vertigo was gone. I had had vertigo for two years and had seen an ENT and had gone to PT for it and nothing else worked.

Hawaii

## Healings

Blessed Michael McGivney helped me to trust God in all circumstances, and to surrender it all to Jesus. I thank him for guiding me into the loving arms of our Lord.

California

It seemed like I was going blind in my left eye and it turned out to be glaucoma caused by another eye medication. Later on, I woke up with much of the vision gone from my other eye. An early test showed a detaching retina, but it turned out to be a stroke of the optic nerve vessels. The doctor said vision may improve with residual loss or it may not improve. At least I have some vision.

Connecticut

I am a Knight familiar with Blessed Michael McGivney, but I had actually never asked for his intercession. This past Christmas, I was laid up with the flu and in a dire place. My fever wasn’t breaking and nearing 103 degrees. This was perhaps the most sick I’d been in my life and was going to ask to be taken to the hospital or urgent care the next day if things didn’t improve. Yet after I asked for Blessed Michael McGivney’s intercession, I almost immediately began to improve. The next day, while still sick, I knew that I was going to be okay. I made a complete recovery and credit Father McGivney with my healing.

Colorado

## Pregnancy

My husband, a Knight, and I struggled with infertility for many years. The doctors couldn’t figure out exactly what was wrong. We were parishioners at St. Mary Church, now Blessed Michael McGivney Parish in New Haven. I led a night of healing for miscarriage and infertility, with Father Anthony Federico. It was an extremely powerful evening, where we directly asked for

Blessed Michael’s intercession. I found out on August 14, 2023, the day after his feast day, that I was miraculously pregnant. Our son, Kolbe Michael, was born on April 23, 2024. His middle name is after Blessed Michael McGivney, as well as after my husband Michael. We know of at least two other couples who conceived shortly after that night of healing, one being our good friends in young adult ministry. We prayed over each other that night in the back of the church, and our babies were born a month apart!

Connecticut

I asked for intercession for my sister to become pregnant. She and her husband had been trying to have a baby for years and after asking for Father McGivney’s intercession, they were able to conceive.

## No Cancer

Prior to my diagnostic mammogram, I went to church, and the relic of Blessed Michael McGivney was there. The priest prayed over me and asked Blessed Michael for his intercession. I went to the hospital for the tests after church. The lump that I felt before was gone, no mass. The doctor had to perform multiple ultrasounds and spot compression of my left breast. I prayed the whole time. After one hour the radiologist told me there is nothing to worry about and there is no sign of cancer or worrisome mass. In my heart I received healing through his intercession.

Nevada

I prayed to Father McGivney for his intercession for a friend who had cancer in the ureter to a kidney. She is cured now.

New York

## Marriage and Children

My wife and I had been treading through spiritual desolation. God’s grace has been so kind to us that he is healing our marriage. We are both taking our commitments of the Jubilee Year to rekindle our commitment to God through our marriage. Thank you, Father McGivney, for your intercession, and everyone in the Guild for your prayerful support and response. May God’s peace be with us all.

Colorado

# GUILD ITEMS

Please Send Items Below To:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Country \_\_\_\_\_

Zip/Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

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.

\_\_\_\_\_ McGivney Graphic Novel — \$15/copy

\_\_\_\_\_ Beatification DVD — \$45

\_\_\_\_\_ Blessed McGivney Beatification Medallion — \$40

\_\_\_\_\_ Reliquary (case w/third-class relic) — \$20 donation

\_\_\_\_\_ Father McGivney Plaque — \$190

\_\_\_\_\_ 8" Figurine (Fiberglass) — \$50

\_\_\_\_\_ Red Rosary (PG-614) — \$10

\_\_\_\_\_ White Rosary (PG-615) — \$10

\_\_\_\_\_ Pewter Spoon — \$11

**PRINTED ITEMS — FREE OF CHARGE UP TO 25 COPIES**

\_\_\_\_\_ *A Model for Our Times* booklet

\_\_\_\_\_ Prayer for Canonization card

\_\_\_\_\_ Prayer for Canonization card (with third-class relic)

\_\_\_\_\_ McGivney Novena Prayer Booklet

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](http://www.fathermcgivney.org)

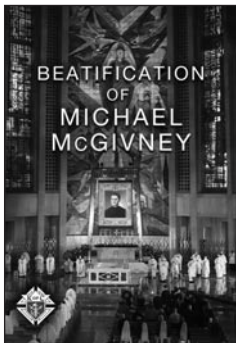
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### Beatification DVD

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**



A week before a statue of Father McGivney was installed in St. Patrick's Cathedral on Fifth Avenue, another statue was placed in the Basilica of St. Patrick's Old Cathedral, dedicated in 1809. Father Michael Gelfant, K of C New York State Chaplain, is shown at the statue's dedication February 15 with Fourth Degree Knights.

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spiritual practices we might take up in preparation for Easter, the desire for a closer relationship with Jesus is the goal of our Lenten devotion. Now is the time to acknowledge our sins, seek forgiveness for our offenses and infidelities, and enlarge our hearts to the needs of those around us. Sacramental Confession, Stations of the Cross, and generous almsgiving that involves self-sacrifice are the hallmarks of Lent.

Prayer is sometimes forgotten in the mix of Lenten practices. Taking time to be with God, to share with Jesus the deep worries and longings of our hearts, whether at weekday Mass or during adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, is most important as we go forward to the glorious celebration of the Christ's Resurrection on Easter Sunday. Lent provides ideal times to depart from our usual daily round of activity to spend time with Our Lord in silence or intimate conversation. In becoming a person of prayer, practice makes perfect. One must often endure moments of restlessness and boredom to experience the deeper presence of God. For most of us, this requires real sacrifice. Getting up early to attend Mass or giving over time spent in other ways for adoration are costly practices, but they are worth the effort.

When we look at the life and spirituality of Father McGivney we cannot miss the fact that he was always hopeful and positive in spite of any difficulty or trial. The era in which he lived was not easy and his own life was marked by disappointment, misunderstanding, physical illness and loss of loved ones. He courageously took on the burdens of the immigrant community that he served. Every kind of financial, social and moral problem was part of his pastoral ministry. He did not shrink from any of it. It was his personal friendship with Jesus Christ that enabled his

hope-filled outlook on life and his unfailing encouragement to those under his care. Everyone who came into contact with this remarkable priest was struck by his spiritual strength and unfailing generosity. He radiated peace and confidence from a life of faith and friendship with God.

Father McGivney was an ordinary parish priest who was extraordinary in his love for God and neighbor. With his example and intercession, all of us, the ordinary folks of this world, are called to become more deeply friends of God in this Lenten season.

Blessed Michael McGivney, *pray for us!*

**Yours devotedly in Christ,**

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

**Father Gabriel B. O'Donnell, O.P.  
Guild Director  
Vice-Postulator**