

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



FATHERMCGIVNEY.ORG

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

Vice Postulator & Guild Director

Dear Guild Members:

As we enter the final weeks of Lent, we remember that all our prayers and sacrifices are fulfilled in what is the ultimate focus of our faith: the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

The resurrection is also the basis for the present Year of Mercy, which Pope Francis has designed to bring hope, confidence and optimism into our hearts. The triumph of the resurrection inspires our trust in the goodness of God and the power of his action in our lives. We know that Christ, in his resurrection, has conquered sin and death and given new meaning to human pain and suffering. The glory of the risen Christ is the foundation on which we stand in offering compassion and mercy to others. No human suffering



is outside the realm of God and his compassion for the human person. Whether the suffering is physical or entirely interior, we know that God does not will it for us directly. Rather, all human suffering is encompassed and transformed within God's providential plan for our happiness and salvation.

In being raised from the dead, Christ changed the meaning of all our inner conflict and misery. In the wake of his death and resurrection, every difficulty of mind and spirit can be redemptive because his rising reveals how all human suffering can be offered as a participation in his own suffering, death and resurrection. This is what Baptism into the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ means. This is what it means to live in Christ in a spirit of faith.

The suffering and misery that can be diagnosed or seen with the scientific eye now have purpose and meaning. Even unseen maladies that are difficult to diagnose have a new purpose and meaning. Christ continues his own suffering, his own passion, in the suffering and "passion" of his disciples. Remarkably, not only does our suffering contribute to our own salvation, but we can offer our pain and difficulties for another, friend and foe alike – just as Jesus himself did. This is, indeed, a grace!

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FLORIDA COUNCIL HONORS THE FOUNDER

When members of a Florida council wanted to show their devotion to the Order's founder, they decided to place a statue of Father McGivney in the hall of the parish where they meet. Msgr. John M. McCall Council 4892 joined with Archbishop J.P. Hurley Assembly to conduct a raffle to raise funds for the 4-foot statue offered by the McGivney Guild. Once they received the statue, they then decided to share their devotion to the founder with the whole of St. Patrick's parish in Largo.

They chose a date near the March 29th Founder's Day and asked the pastor, Father Glenn Diaz, to bless the statue during Mass.

"Father Diaz has been a great supporter of the Knights and our council, so it made sense to have him bless the statue of Father McGivney," said Grand Knight Robert Gibbia. "Father McGivney was a great priest and I think he serves as a model for everyone, priests and parishioners alike."

A mobile platform was constructed for the statue, which was carried into the church by a Fourth Degree honor guard. After Father Diaz blessed the statue, it was brought in procession to the adjoining parish hall where the council holds its meetings.

"The spirit of Father McGivney is with us when we meet, and we look to him," Gibbia said. "He is a great example, the way he taught

the Catholic faith to people, and the way he provided for the poor and for families through founding the Knights."



Standing by the newly blessed statue are, from left, Grand Knight Robert Gibbia, Project Chairman Fiore Bronga, and Faithful Navigator Richard McCarthy.

FAVORS REPORTED

Dear Father:

My daughter acquired a plantar wart on the bottom of her left foot during her high school years. She finally went to the doctor to get it examined and to get an acid medication for it during her college years. The acid ended up causing burns and abscesses. By this time the warts had expanded further upon her foot and reached her hand. The medication did not make anything better, but caused more problems. I prayed to Father McGivney for the healing of her hand and foot most days up until her coming home for Christmas break last December. Once she was home, she informed me that the warts on both her foot and hand were completely gone. We thank the Lord Jesus through the intercession of Father McGivney for this favor.

North Dakota

Dear Father:

My son graduated from college in August 2014, and had not found any meaningful work. After seeing the prayer card in the Knights of Columbus monthly magazine, I began saying the prayer and requesting that he find meaningful work. Sometime later, he started a full-time job on the staff of the state legislature.

Connecticut

Dear Father:

My wife and I had been trying to sell our house for three years without any luck. Our house was in great condition and should have been a great buy for someone, but there were just no buyers looking in our area. We

had lost all hope of selling our house, and it was becoming a nightmare for us. I began praying for Father McGivney to help our house sell and within a few months it sold for a higher price than we had hoped. We've been moved into our new home for a while now, and we consider it the perfect new home.

Ohio

Dear Father:

Thanksgiving to our Almighty God because I was transferred from my previous assignment far away from my family to my hometown in Santiago City. Because of this, I am now with my family anytime of the day. The worries are lessened. I can now join them anytime we want to go to Mass, and to join in any activities of our K of C council.

Philippines

Dear Father:

A month before my son Michael's graduation, I offered a novena for the intercession of Father McGivney so that he will be accepted in one of the companies he was applying to. After a month from graduating he was accepted to start working. With a good starting salary plus other benefits, it was indeed a blessing from the Lord through the intercession of Father McGivney. After six months he was regularized with additional pay. Thank you, Father McGivney!

Philippines

NOVENA FOR WORLD PEACE

Peace is the great Easter gift that Jesus gave his disciples and the Church. As he said at his post-resurrection appearances, "Peace be with you!"

The Guild will offer its annual Novena for World Peace on the nine days leading up to the feast of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, June 3, 2016. Mass will be celebrated daily in Rome for the cause of world peace. Intentions sent by Guild members are placed on the altar for each Mass.

Submit your intentions by regular mail, by email or through the Father McGivney website (fathermcgivney.org), for inclusion in the Novena for World Peace. The deadline for submissions is May 16, 2016.

The mailing address is: Father McGivney Guild, 1 Columbus Plaza, New Haven, CT 06510. The email address is: guild@kofc.org.

PERSEVERE IN PRAYER

The power of prayer is shown throughout sacred Scripture. From the words of Jesus to the letters of St. Paul, the centrality of prayer to the Christian life is demonstrated over and over.

Jesus taught his disciples to pray the Our Father, the perfect prayer which offers praise to God and meets all our needs. Jesus also told a parable "about the necessity for them to pray always without becoming weary" (Luke 18:1).

St. Paul exhorts the disciples often to pray with persistence and faith, telling the Thessalonians, "Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing" (1 Th 5:16-17). To the Ephesians, he wrote, "With all prayer and supplication, pray at every opportunity in the Spirit" (Eph 6:18).

As members of the Father McGivney Guild, we are called to pray in a special way. We receive many benefits from the Guild, including a weekly Mass offered for our intentions and regular novenas, yet we also have a commitment to fulfill. That commitment is to pray for the canonization of Venerable Michael McGivney and report any favors received through his intercession. With Father McGivney's cause open and active at the Vatican, it is a perfect time for you to storm heaven for the beatification of this holy priest and founder.

For your convenience, the Prayer for Canonization is printed on this page. You may also contact the Guild to obtain one or more copies of the official prayer card.



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.

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
- _____ 8" Figurine (Wood) — \$150
- _____ Reliquary (Case with Second-Class Relic) — \$25 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, EXCEPT AS NOTED

- _____ Parish Priest (Paperback, 240 pp.) — \$12
- _____ Parish Priest Study Guide
- _____ 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 intentions for the Novena for World Peace (submit by May 16, 2016)



Father McGivney Medal

This medal can be worn with a chain (not shown). 1" in diameter.

Chain sold separately.

Sterling Silver Medal: \$25

18" Women's Chain: \$14

24" Men's Chain: \$15

(BACK IN STOCK)



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**

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 Pen

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



Guild Lapel Pin

An attractive cast-bronze lapel pin featuring a color portrait of Father McGivney and the emblem of the Order. Approximately 1¼" in diameter. **\$7.50**



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 both fiberglass with a golden-bronze finish (left) and hand-carved, painted wood (right).

Fiberglass Statue: \$50

Hand-Carved Wood Statue: \$150



Full-Color Mousepad

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



FATHER MICHAEL J. MCGIVNEY GUILD

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



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To look upon all the difficulties of life from this perspective gives to the Christian life a certain optimism because we do not carry our burdens alone. Christ is with us, leading the way with his own cross and holding out the sure hope of the resurrection as our destiny. His example and the grace that comes to us when we encounter him in the Mass and the other sacraments work within us to build our courage and strengthen us, even though we may feel pushed to our limits and beyond.

A 20th-century French nun, Mother Marie des Douleurs, founded a religious community that accepts women with physical disabilities. What were obstacles to entry to most religious orders were for her signs of a special gift from God to the bearers of such limitations. She constantly reminded her sisters of the need to be cheerful and hopeful because of the meaning of their sufferings in the light of Christ crucified and risen. Her often repeated motto, "Amen, Alleluia!" meant, "So be it, and let us rejoice in the risen and glorious Christ." For her, acceptance of God's will was a profound surrender to the unique cross given to each person and a willingness to rejoice in what God sends into the life of an individual. She was a remarkable witness to the grace of the resurrection in the Christian life.

Venerable Father Michael J. McGivney, in contrast, seemed to be a worldly success in every way – a priest of God who was blessed with a magnetic personality and profound preaching style. However, once he began in earnest the founding of the Knights of Columbus, many bumps appeared in the road. Other priests found his close association with the laity questionable and they thought it presumptuous for a young priest to start such an ambitious new venture. He was the subject of gossip and criticism. Convinced that he was doing God's will, and inspired by the needs of Catholic men and their families, Father McGivney forged ahead in the face of many obstacles. For the first year or two, the project seemed

doomed to failure. Because he envisioned a fraternal society for Catholic laymen run by the laity, some clerics were uneasy and dubious. In the end, however, Father McGivney's wisdom was vindicated, but not without him suffering the jealousy and disapproval of others. He exuded an "Amen, Alleluia" spirit, as though to say, "So be it. Let us rejoice in the risen and glorious Christ."

Venerable Father McGivney was truly a missionary of mercy and he intended his Knights to continue to dispense mercy by showing to the world the glory of the risen Christ in all their works of benevolence, and in the fraternity of each local council. His spirit lives on in the powerful outreach of the Knights as they come to the aid of the marginalized, the disaffected and the broken. The successful insurance program of the Knights of Columbus, which recently celebrated a significant milestone of coverage, is an expression of the vision of Father McGivney to help families even after the demise of a family's breadwinner.

We continue to pray that a miracle will be reported which will make possible Father Michael McGivney's beatification. And we pray as well that his powerful intercession will call down blessings upon us in the Easter season of "Amen, Alleluia."

Venerable Father Michael J. McGivney, pray for us.

Devotedly yours in Christ,

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

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