

Founder of the Knights of Columbus.
Blessed 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 and Guild Director

Dear Guild Members,

As our earthly pilgrimage moves forward from Easter, we look ahead to the “May flowers” that are so closely associated in our Catholic faith with Mary, the Mother of God. This is the season of May crownings, first Holy Communion, priestly ordinations, and Mother’s Day (May 14). Although the greeting card industry has co-opted the spirit of Mother’s Day, we can still celebrate it in terms of new life and the sacrifice mothers make not only in giving birth but also in nurturing their children throughout childhood and, indeed, throughout life.

We also may turn our attention to the Blessed Mother and her central role in the mystery of salvation in our own lives. On the



cross, Jesus placed us in Mary’s maternal hands with his words to the Apostle John, “Behold your mother” (Jn 19:27). She was with the Apostles in the Upper Room before the first Pentecost (Acts 1:14), offering her motherly love and encouragement to the men who would face persecution as they spread the Gospel across the globe. In response to her maternal care, Marian devotions have been the Catholic practice from the early days of the Church.

At the beginning of the year, Pope Francis urged us to turn to Mary, saying, “She hears our petitions; holding her Son in her arms, she blesses us and brings us the tender love of God made flesh.” He exclaimed, “Mary gives us hope!” As we approach the midpoint of 2023, our Holy Father’s message expresses the urgent need of our time. Moral confusion, political conflict and an alarming degree of violence are prevalent in the world. For the person of faith, turning to the supernatural help of God and his Mother is necessary if we are to survive the current religious and social confusion. While we work with sincere hearts to reverse the

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Baltimore Formation House Named for McGivney

The site of the first seminary in the United States will be home to a new discernment program when a regional house of formation opens in Baltimore at St. Mary’s Spiritual Center and Historic Site on Paca Street. According to the Sulpician provincial, Father Daniel F. Moore, the former convent on the site will be renovated to accommodate up to 16 men discerning a vocation and two Sulpician priests who will assist in their human and spiritual formation.

The new regional house of formation will be named for Blessed Michael McGivney, founder of the Knights of Columbus, who studied at the original St. Mary’s Seminary for four years before his ordination in 1877. Baltimore Archbishop William E. Lori, the Knights’ supreme chaplain, noted, “The preparatory year is a relatively new feature of priestly formation that will be implemented on a very historic site in the history of priestly formation in the United States. It is a return to our roots.”

In a letter to Father Moore, Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly wrote that it was “especially fitting” to name the new center after the Knights’ founder since he “was formed at St. Mary’s when it located on North Paca Street.”

The current site includes a historic chapel; classrooms and meeting rooms; a visitors’ center; the Seton House, where St. Elizabeth Ann Seton once lived; and an inside garden. “The place is built for spiritual reflection, study and community,” Father Moore said. The convent that will house the formation program was built in 1898 and has been renovated over the years, most recently in 2009. (Excerpted from *Catholic Review*.)



The chapel on Paca Street will serve men discerning a vocation. (Photo: Tom McCarthy/Catholic Review)

FAVORS REPORTED

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 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).

Cancer

After being told that my enlarged prostate may be cancerous, I began praying to Blessed Michael McGivney. This morning, with the results of the biopsy, I was told everything was benign. Thank you, Father McGivney!

New Jersey

Each evening I have been praying for Blessed Michael McGivney's intercession for my grandnephew and godson's cure from spine and brain cancer. He has been under treatment after brain tumor removal in early August. Though he has more chemo to get through, we learned that a recent spinal tap was free from cancer cells. Blessed Michael McGivney, pray for us!

Rhode Island

My father was diagnosed with lymphoma roughly seven years ago. It was treated effectively but has always returned in various forms. Last year, he was given the news that the type of lymphoma he currently has is incurable but may be managed with different treatments. A family friend began praying for him with his Knights of Columbus prayer group a few months back. My father receives scans every three months to make sure the lymph nodes do not grow and the cancer does not spread. His results are back from his most recent scan: "There is no cancer found in the body at this time."

New York

Heart

Prayers to Father McGivney were answered for my wife. She suffered from A-fib and underwent a heart ablation. Her heart responded to the procedure, and she is feeling stronger and better each day. Thank you, Father McGivney, for giving her medical team assistance with her operation. Praise the Lord!

Alabama

I had been struggling with essential hypertension for about two years, taking blood pressure medications that had a lot of side effects and adversely affected my life. I prayed and asked that my blood pressure be reduced to 120/80 (or better) so I could get off the medication. In about three weeks my blood pressure was 116/68, and I got off the medication. My blood pressure is now stable, my life a lot better, and my anxiety reduced, if not eliminated. I thank the Lord for what he has done through the intercession of Father McGivney.

Pennsylvania

Transplant

A brother Knight had multiple health problems: heart issues, high blood pressure, a kidney that had shut down and another that was impaired. Our brother was in deep depression, and our council requested a first-class relic of Blessed Michael McGivney for a prayer service. The day after the service, I got a call from our brother saying how much better he felt and that the deep depression seemed to go away. His blood pressure was getting under control and his heart seemed to be getting stronger, but

his kidneys were still a problem, and doctors recommended a transplant. He received dialysis, and a few days later a donor was located who was a friend of many years. In February 2023, the transplant surgery was completed, and he is doing very well. I believe all of this is due to Father McGivney's intercession.

Mississippi

Infection

I tore the skin of my big toe and was soon in the ER with an infection that had spread to the bone. I followed medical advice and took my medication, and a month later my toe was healed, more quickly than the doctors expected. I prayed daily to Blessed Michael McGivney and thank him for helping with the healing of this very serious condition.

Oregon

My KofC council prayed for the intercession of Father McGivney for a member's daughter who was inexplicably suffering from a digestive issue. No medical explanation was provided why she went from having tubes in her body to eating solid food in five days. Her father credits prayer.

Pennsylvania

I had an infection with intense pain. I was admitted to the hospital from the ER in serious condition, and a course of IV antibiotics was prescribed. After three days of constant IV antibiotics and no progress, I prayed to Father McGivney for his intercession. I was visited by a young nurse named Faith who had a forearm cross tattoo; she told me I would be fine. My surgeon entered, performed a four-hour emergency surgery to correct perforations of my bowel, and told me I would otherwise have died that night.

New Jersey

COVID-19

My wife, Tina, was hospitalized with COVID-19 and double pneumonia. I received a call from the doctor informing me that she may not make it through the night. I immediately started praying to Father McGivney for the rest of the night. I received a call from the same doctor early that morning saying she was going to make it for some reason he could not explain. What a relief. I believe a miracle from Father McGivney was bestowed on my wife.

Florida

Employment

I prayed to Blessed Father McGivney that my son would find a suitable job that he would like. He found the right job in three weeks! Thank you, Blessed Michael McGivney.

Connecticut

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.

- _____ 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

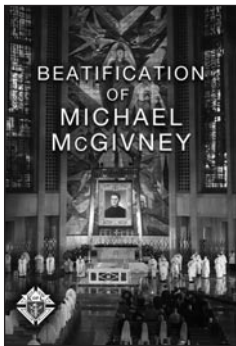
PRINTED ITEMS — FREE OF CHARGE UP TO 25 COPIES

- _____ *A Model for Our Times* booklet
- _____ Prayer for Canonization card
- _____ Prayer for Canonization card (with third-class relic)

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



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**



Holding a first-class relic to bless attendees, Cardinal Timothy Dolan of New York speaks at the opening of an exhibit titled "An American Blessed: Father McGivney, Founder of the Knights of Columbus," which debuted March 6 at the Sheen Center for Thought & Culture in Manhattan. (Photo: Paul Haring)

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movements towards a godless society, our confidence must be placed in the grace of Christ and the power of his Paschal Mystery.

The daily reports of war, violence and profound human suffering suggest that this May should become a time of a fresh turning to the power of God to rescue all the victims of both natural disasters and the senseless evils that spring from human folly. Peace and prosperity are real possibilities only if we look to the Prince of Peace and his Immaculate Mother. Again, Pope Francis insists that Christians must accept spiritual responsibility for others, particularly those who have little hope for a future of peace and tranquility. With us, these are Mary's children. And we are called to care "in a special way for her sons and daughters who are suffering and no longer have the strength to pray." Those suffering conflict and war throughout the world need our spiritual support and strength. Mary is the great intercessor for those who are neglected and unknown in their pain and abandonment.

Blessed Michael McGivney had a tender devotion to the Mother of God and preached about her to his parishioners. His love for Our Lady was manifest in the fact that he was buried clothed in two scapulars and with a set of rosary beads in his hands. For him, Mary was always the Mother of Mercy. The needs of the people he served were great. Unemployment, poverty and families torn apart by social disorders were daily fare for the young priest and pastor. His people needed God's mercy and divine assistance to resolve the serious problems that beset them. Mercy begets hope because the merciful love of God, in forgiving our sins, relieves the burden holding us back from true inner peace and a future of happiness. For a world of strife, Mary was chosen by God to bring us the Prince of Peace.

Devotion to Mary was not simply a spiritual consolation for Father McGivney. He knew the power of her intercession for his people, and he trusted her role as intercessor before God. Her prayers are a powerful source of God's action in our lives. May was the annual Marian season when confidence in Our Lady's role in our salvation was highlighted with evening Marian devotions in the parish church and encouragement to pray the rosary as a family in the home.

Father McGivney's Knights of Columbus continue his tradition of tender devotion to the Mother of God. Each new Knight is given a set of rosary beads and encouraged to pray the prayer daily, and she always holds a place of honor at any gathering of Knights. Dependence on the spiritual care of the mother of Jesus is part of the legacy that Father McGivney bequeathed to his spiritual heirs.

It is fitting that we, as members of the Guild, take as a special intention for the month of Mary that Blessed Michael McGivney's cause for canonization move forward through the intercession of the Mother of God. May she, who fittingly brought forth the Savior of the world, intercede for us in all our needs. Through her intercession, may Blessed Michael be raised to the honors of the altar as a canonized saint.

Blessed Michael McGivney, pray for us!

Devotedly in Christ,

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

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**Guild Director
Vice-Postulator**