

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



Father Michael J. McGivney

Guild® Newsletter

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FATHERMCGIVNEY.ORG

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

Vice Postulator and Guild Director

Dear Guild Members,

The watching world was surprised and thrilled to hear that a US-born cardinal was the first American to be elected to the Chair of St. Peter, taking the name Leo XIV. While noting the historic nature of the papal election, Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly also said in a statement, "Since our founding in 1882 by Blessed Michael McGivney, fidelity to the Holy Father has been a defining characteristic of the Knights of Columbus. As it was with his predecessors, the pastoral priorities of Pope Leo XIV will guide and inform everything we do."

The selection of Leo XIV signals a recognition of the spiritual maturity of American Catholicism by Church leaders throughout the world. The relatively young United States was considered



mission territory until 1908, the year the Vatican changed the status of the U.S. Church from a land receiving missionaries to one sending them.

It may seem strange to say, but Father McGivney was born and served his entire priestly life in mission territory. That is not to say that the Church here lacked its own distinctive character, energy and commitment to growth, traits which Father McGivney embodied in many ways. Although the eldest child of Irish immigrants, he knew well the unique conditions of the Church in America. In founding the Knights of Columbus, he developed a decisive, forward-thinking response to the pressing needs of his people and his times. The earliest Knights were the "go-ahead" men of New Haven. Laborers, professionals, law officers and politicians united under the mission of unity and charity with the intention to impact the world at large. This was the charge given to them by Father McGivney, who formed his Knights to influence the direction of society toward greater justice and mercy, particularly for the underprivileged and victims of poverty and violence.

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Father Jeffrey Romans, Connecticut state chaplain of the Knights of Columbus, was the main celebrant and homilist for the Founder's Day Mass at St. Mary's Church in New Haven, March 29. He is shown leading prayers at the tomb of Blessed Michael McGivney with pastor Father Ryan Lerner and officers of the Connecticut State Council. (Photo: Jessica Hill)

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).

Cancer Care

My husband went to Smilow Center in New Haven to check his cancer, and he is cancer free! If the Parkinson's could get better, he wouldn't be bad. I thank the McGivney Guild so much for bringing a first-class relic to him for prayer and veneration. It means a lot. Have a great day!

Connecticut

My mother has had ovarian cancer for ten years. She also had another tumor appear in her lungs. After I asked for Blessed Michael McGivney's intercession, my mother received great news. Her cancer levels dropped all the way down for the first time ever and her tumor dissolved. The doctor didn't believe it and asked my mom if she was taking any herbal medicine. Till this day, he is surprised by mom's case.

California

I prayed to Father McGivney from the time that I found out that my friend had received a second cancer diagnosis and continued to pray throughout her time of severe sickness. I got the report from her that the cancer was gone! Amen. Thank you, Father McGivney!

Missouri

I had an MRI done for an enlarged prostate. They found two possible tumors. I started to pray the novena to Blessed Michael McGivney. I had a biopsy and no cancer was found in my prostate. Thanks for the answer to prayers.

California

Sweet Home

My wife and I needed to find a new home, as the one we were renting was being sold. As we applied around our area and beyond, it was clear that we were not going to be accepted for the space we needed for our family. As a Knight of Columbus, I reached out to Blessed Michael McGivney to intercede for us, clutched my blessed rosary, and prayed. The next day, we had an application accepted by the owner of a newly renovated home. They knew we would not be approved by the typical application process, so we met the owners, and they said they just had a good feeling about us. Favor received! With a small family loan, also a blessing, we are able to move in a few weeks and continue to have stable housing for ourselves and our extended family. *Vivat Jesus!*

Tennessee

Brain Healed

Our daughter had a brain infection and two strokes on top of that. She survived brain surgery and multiple infections. My wife met a woman who introduced us to Father McGivney. She even brought the relic for the priest at Johns Hopkins to pray over her. We prayed with the prayer card every day. Odds were not in her favor and we prepared for the worst. Our prayers have been answered. Our daughter is home and relatively unaffected. Thanks to God and Father McGivney. I read her the prayer card every night at bedtime. Praise the Lord!

Maryland

Meningitis

My 5-year-old son was diagnosed with aseptic meningitis. He started with headaches, light sensitivity, and vomiting. We took him to the hospital, and they did several spinal taps because the cerebral spinal fluid was building up in his head and spine. He lost most of his vision and eventually couldn't walk normally. We had been in and out of the hospital for three months because he developed MOGAD, an extremely rare autoimmune disease he will have for life. We prayed a novena to Father McGivney and on the last day, March 19 (St. Joseph's Day), he was finally discharged, walking normally, with improved eyesight. We will be going in for monthly infusions, indefinitely, to keep the MOGAD at bay. This disease is so new that there isn't much research on it. Things were not looking good and the outcome remains unclear. We were lost and scared, and we believe Blessed Michael McGivney interceded for us because we found the strength to make it work. Pray for us.

Ohio

Kidney Function

A friend in our prayer group told us that her brother had severe kidney problems, and I gave her a Father McGivney prayer card. We agreed to both pray daily for his recovery. We did so for several months and she reported that her brother's kidneys were now functioning at 100 percent. He was told by his doctors that there was only a 3 percent chance that his kidneys would function again. We believe Father McGivney interceded in his case.

Florida

Spinal Surgery

I fell, passed out and fractured my C5 vertebra and my C4 vertebra came down into my C5. Father Mariano anointed me in St. Mary's emergency room and gave me a relic of Blessed Michael McGivney that I placed on my chest while I was in ICU for six days. I prayed to Blessed McGivney and had surgery on my neck. They put in four pins, titanium plate and wire mesh. They were surprised at how I recovered from it. They are checking the heart and brain to try to determine just what happened.

Connecticut

Grace and Peace

The Lord has willed that Blessed Michael McGivney continues to watch over our household and grant us peace. May the Church canonize him and glorify him on earth as in heaven. Amen!

California

Rare Condition

At 72 years old, my brother was diagnosed with classic achalasia, a rare disease that affects about 1 per 10,000 people. With this, the esophagus muscles do not contract properly and do not help propel food down toward the stomach. At the same time, the ring of muscle at the bottom of the esophagus is unable to relax to let the food into the stomach. In essence, ingested food would be directed to his lungs! Living with a feeding tube for the rest of his life was a definite possibility! Prayers were directed to Blessed Michael McGivney and after four months of several successful procedures, my brother was given a new life and his feeding tube was removed!

Prince Edward Island

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 _____

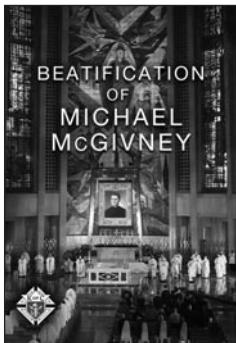
- _____ Beatification DVD — \$45
- _____ Blessed McGivney Beatification Medallion — \$40
- _____ Reliquary (case w/third-class relic) — \$20 donation
- _____ Father McGivney Plaque — \$190
- _____ 8" Figurine (Fiberglass) — \$50
- _____ Red Rosary (PG-614) — \$10
- _____ White Rosary (PG-615) — \$10

- _____ 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



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®

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A statue of Blessed Michael McGivney was dedicated at St. Mary's Church in Portland, Conn., by Bishop Richard Reidy of Norwich (with crosier) and Archbishop Kevin Randall, apostolic nuncio to Bangladesh, who was visiting his home Diocese of Norwich. Also shown are the parish's pastor, Father John Antonelle, and Connecticut Knights. (Photo: Holly McCarthy)

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DIRECTOR'S DESK, from Page 1

Father McGivney's conviction that he received a mission from God to shape the spirit of the men of his time was evident in his determination to provide spiritual and material aid in founding a fraternal benefit society. The criticism of others, even fellow clerics, did not daunt him, nor did slow early growth and other setbacks. He persevered. His virtues of faith, hope and charity, based in a reliance on the wisdom and strength of God, sets the founder apart and provides an answer to the question: Why of all the priests in America at his time was Father McGivney the one to found a society that has grown into the world's largest Catholic fraternal organization?

United as Guild members, and through the intercession of Blessed Michael McGivney, we pray for the ministry and stand in solidarity with Pope Leo XIV as he guides the Church through this portion of her history on earth.

Vivat Jesus!

Devotedly in Christ,

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

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Guild Director

Vice-Postulator



Western Relic Tour

A months-long pilgrimage of Blessed Michael McGivney relics passed through 14 US Western states, drawing more than 21,000 individuals during 148 visits to churches, shrines, hospitals, seminaries, Catholic schools, men's conference and state conventions. Pictured above, with a first class relic, are newly inducted Knights and California K of C leaders in St. Kilian Church in Mission Viejo following an exemplification of Charity, Unity and Fraternity. (Photo: Robert Kish)