

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

ISSUE 3

Bishops Welcome Founder

The unveiling of the first in a series of statues of Blessed Michael McGivney spurred joyous enthusiasm on Aug. 13 upon its arrival at the Co-Cathedral of St. Joseph in Prospect Heights in the Diocese of Brooklyn, N.Y.

Members of the Knights of Columbus from Brooklyn, Queens and Long Island received the statue of Father McGivney during his feast day and honored him with an evening Mass celebrated by Brooklyn Bishop Robert Brennan. The bishop also blessed and dedicated the bronze-colored statue in the sanctuary before its positioning in the co-cathedral vestibule.

Bishop Brennan, who joined the Knights of Columbus at age 20 before he entered the seminary, said Father McGivney represented humility and universal holiness. The statue will remind everyone entering the vestibule that they too should pursue those traits.

“Thank you for this image,” Bishop Brennan told the assembled Knights. “I think now of many people, especially during the holy Jubilee year coming up, who will pass through the co-cathedral and encounter this statue of Blessed Father Michael and be reminded of that universal call to holiness.”

A total of 11 statues will be placed in the dioceses of Albany, Buffalo, Ogdensburg, Rochester, Rockville Centre and Syracuse by the K of C New York State Council. The Order’s Supreme Council is sponsoring a statue for St. Patrick’s Cathedral in Manhattan.

(Excerpted from The Brooklyn Tablet story by Bill Miller)

Relic Enshrined

In what Bishop Frank Caggiano called “a moment of great historical importance,” Connecticut Knights of

Columbus from 36 councils gathered April 27 to celebrate a Mass at which the Diocese of Bridgeport was given a first-class relic of Blessed Michael McGivney, which will be enshrined in St. Augustine Cathedral.

Bishop Caggiano said in his homily, “I am inviting you to truly rediscover the genius of our founder and to join with me, your brother priests and all the good faithful of this diocese to

rediscover a practical faith in the 21st century, like Blessed Michael McGivney.” He said the relic represented a decisive call to action for his initiative of The One, which he described as “this great adventure of the renewal of our diocese.”

Bishop Caggiano described Father McGivney as “a man of deep faith and deep spirituality, a man of gentleness and patience, a man who walked with people on their spiritual journey but who also knew that was not enough ... he needed to go into the midst of the suffering of his people because he could not turn a blind eye to it.”

His faith “was as practical as it could be” and he lived by Christ’s mandate: “Whatever you do for the least of my brothers and sisters, you do for me.”

The bishop said he prays every day that Blessed Michael will inspire the hearts of priests throughout the state along with those discerning the priesthood and those who have not yet discovered they have a vocation.

“And I pray that through his intercession, we will have many more priests who will be saints of God and many more men who will come forward to answer the call to the priesthood,” he said.

(Excerpted from Fairfield County Catholic story by Joe Pisani)



A statue of Father McGivney was blessed by Brooklyn Bishop Robert Brennan, shown in background offering Mass. *(Photo by Gregory Shemitz)*



Bishop Frank Caggiano holds a first-class relic flanked by Connecticut State Chaplain Father Jeffrey Romans and State Deputy Joseph Rahtelli.

FROM THE DIRECTOR

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

Vice Postulator and Guild Director



Dear Guild Members,

On August 13, we are privileged to celebrate for the fourth year the feast of Blessed Michael McGivney. The date is significant in that it falls between his birthday of Aug. 12, 1852, and his death on Aug. 14, 1890. The feast reminds us that in 38 short years on earth, Father McGivney accomplished great things with God's grace, and this fact should inspire us to strive in our own lives to cooperate with grace to fulfill the tasks God has set out for us. Saints and blessed are held up by the Church not only to call

attention to them, but also to provide heavenly guides as we invoke them in prayer and follow them in practice.

Pope Francis could have been thinking of Father McGivney recently when he exhorted the faithful to "take our most vulnerable brothers and sisters by the hand, recognize in them the face of Jesus and share a part of the road together!" As a young priest, Father McGivney spent each day searching out and caring for the most neglected among his flock. He then took on the heroic task of founding the brotherhood of the Knights of Columbus that would continue his mission. Amid many hurdles, he stayed the course, and the fruits of his labors continue to grow and expand more than 140 years later.

Though he was endowed with certain gifts of mind and spirit and possessed a winning personality, it was mostly his relationship with Jesus Christ that fostered a deep connection to others. A rich interior life oriented his sensitive nature to be at

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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).

Recovery

An elderly friend's heart was only functioning at 10% efficiency, and he was nearly needing dialysis. Remarkably, only weeks after I prayed for Blessed Michael McGivney to help my friend, he did not need dialysis and his heart went to 40%. Also, last year, another senior friend had a severe stroke, able only to blink and wiggle her fingers. She has been away from the Church for 20 years. She recovered nearly completely after I asked Father McGivney to help give her more time to praise the Lord. Thanks be to God!

British Columbia

My cousin's wife suddenly got ill, unable to walk or speak. She was admitted to the hospital and placed in the ICU with a breathing tube. Numerous tests could not identify her illness. After daily prayer for the canonization of Father McGivney and a request for her recovery, her illness was identified and treatment initiated. She responded to the treatment and has returned home after a stay in a rehabilitation facility. I thank Father McGivney for his intercession.

New York

Cancer

I prayed daily to Father McGivney to cure my grandson from cancer. In October 2023, we were notified that he no longer had cancer. Thank God!

Connecticut

Friends brought a relic of Blessed Father McGivney to pray with us during the time of my husband's bone marrow transplant for multiple myeloma. The transplant failed in that the cancer numbers doubled rather than receded. But the second line of treatment brought the numbers to near remission. Thank you for your intercession, Father McGivney!

Maryland

My friend accepted the fact that her cancer had returned after a test showing recurring signs. I immediately started the novena. By the eighth day, she texted me that no breast cancer was found. I continued the novena in gratitude.

New Jersey

Healthy Baby

After a high-risk pregnancy, our baby girl was born healthy on March 5. The tumor on the placenta, which had measured on ultrasound as large as 13 cm during the pregnancy, causing the doctors to fear for the baby's health, measured only 3 cm when examined after delivery. Thank you, Father McGivney, for your prayers.

Ohio

Healing Heart

Last year, I became thinner, I felt always tired and my legs had swollen. Last August, an echocardiogram found out that my heart's ejection fraction was below normal. I was on medication for six months, then on March 1, another echo was done, and my heart's ejection fraction is now normal. I am thanking Father McGivney for his intercession, as I have been praying to him everyday for six months.

Philippines

I had very high blood pressure for 14 months. I started praying to Blessed Michael McGivney, and a few months later I was healed. My blood pressure is back to normal, and I do not have to take the blood pressure medications. Praise God!

Connecticut

Employment

My brother just found meaningful employment after 27 weeks. This allows him to continue being the caregiver for our elderly mother. Thanks be to God and to Blessed Michael McGivney.

Ohio

My daughter's disability benefits were terminated in April after being classified as disabled for the last 16 years. This left her with no health insurance or any income. After months of much stress, Blessed Michael McGivney has answered our prayers. She will receive her benefits again.

South Carolina

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

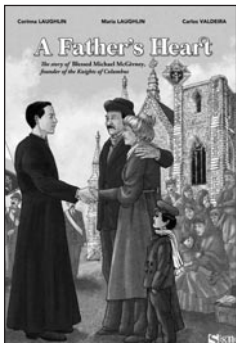
_____ Prayer for Canonization card

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

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



McGivney Graphic Novel

An inspiring story of faith and good works that will appeal to young readers and their families, "A Father's Heart" tells of the life, legacy and continuing intercession of Blessed Michael McGivney. Special discounts for bulk orders allow councils to sell the book as a fundraiser. **\$15.00/copy**



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 Jeffrey Romans, KofC Connecticut State Chaplain, incenses a first-class relic of Father McGivney during a Votive Mass on the Founder's feast day, August 13, in St. Mary's Church, which is part of Blessed Michael McGivney Parish in New Haven, Conn. (Photo by Aaron Joseph)

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the service of others. We can learn from him the way to a more compassionate heart. His example can become our motivation. Through Father McGivney, God can provide the insight and grace for us to become more caring for others and less worried about ourselves.

The needs of the world and the Church in our time call for a similar response of compassion and understanding. We need more holy priests and laypersons, those who live out their vocations with extraordinary compassion and charity with the love of God and neighbor in their hearts.

Blessed Michael McGivney, *pray for us!*

Devotedly yours,

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

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

Guild Director

Vice-Postulator

Rome Library Named for McGivney

The library in the Pontificio Collegio Filipino in Rome was dedicated to Blessed Michael McGivney in a ceremony led by Cardinal Luis Antonio Tagle on April 27 in recognition of the financial support of the Knights of Columbus for a renovation and expansion project. The cardinal, a former archbishop of Manila and pro-prefect of the Dicastery for Evangelization at the Vatican, was joined at the ceremony by Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly.

During the Mass, Cardinal Tagle said, "The longing of people to see God is fulfilled in Jesus. So, if we believe in Jesus, then

hopefully people will also see the Father in us. You cannot be unchanged when you see the face of God." He encouraged the Filipino priests studying in Rome to find joy in bearing witness to Jesus, who is the face of the Father. He urged them to "root everything in that fundamental search. It is not just research on something but on someone."

After the celebration, Supreme Knight Kelly expressed his gratitude for the library being named for the Order's founder and prayed "that all the research in the world and, particularly, the research in this college will help you in your search for the face of [God]."



Cardinal Tagle and Supreme Knight Kelly unveil a plaque in the newly named Blessed Michael McGivney Library at the Rome school for continuing formation of Filipino priests. (Photo by Father David Aris Palaganas)