

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:

Pope Francis' final homily at World Youth Day 2016 was a vigorous message of hope and confidence for the future. The enthusiastic response of the thousands of young Catholics who traveled to Kraków, Poland, for the event would hearten even the most discouraged of Christians. The pope's challenge was clear:

"People may judge you to be dreamers, because you believe in a new humanity, one that rejects hatred between peoples ... without being self-centered or small-minded. Don't be discouraged: with a smile and open arms, you proclaim hope and you are a blessing for our one human family, which here you represent so beautifully!"

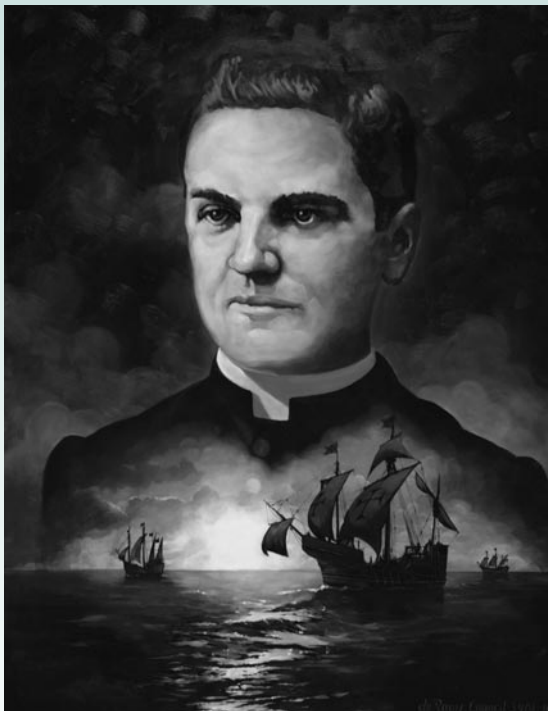


Our Holy Father's message echoes the voice of St. John Paul II, who founded the World Youth Days and often urged young men and women to be at the forefront of a new Civilization of Love so that the culture of death might be overcome. Pope Francis warned his young listeners to keep their eyes fixed on Jesus, to accept his love, to welcome his mercy as he forgives our weakness and our sins and leads us to eternal happiness in heaven. This perspective enables Christians to resist the pull of the culture that threatens the faith life of both young and old alike.

Using images and terminology wisely drawn from technology, the Holy Father counseled the young to self-acceptance and self-confidence as a preparation for a life of self-transcendence; a life of sacrifice in the service of others. Whether one's vocation is to marriage, priesthood, consecrated life, or to remain single in the world, authentic love must find its fulfillment in spending oneself for the other, for the beloved, as Christ gave himself on the cross for our salvation.

At the heart of his message, the Holy Father insisted on the intensity of God's love for us:

See **DIRECTOR'S DESK**, Page 4



This original painting by Adrian de Rooy, grand knight of Our Lady of Grace Council 3401 in Toronto, was on display during the Supreme Convention. Supreme Knight Carl Anderson commended the artist and asked that the painting be placed in the Knights of Columbus Museum in New Haven.

PORTRAIT OF THE FOUNDER

After being elected grand knight of Our Lady of Grace Council 3401 in Toronto, Adrian de Rooy asked more experienced Knights, "What do I do?" His district deputy told him to use his God-given talents to raise funds for charity. So de Rooy, a professional artist, started painting.

"I thought that we need to put Christ back in Christmas, and make a Christmas card with that theme for councils to sell," he recalled.

Showing an angel placing the infant Jesus in a manger, with Mary and Joseph in the background, the Christmas card became popular with Toronto councils last year.

More recently, de Rooy asked another question: "What is the relationship between our founder, Father Michael McGivney, and Christopher Columbus?"

Again, he put his talent to work to provide an answer. His research discovered that Columbus was chosen for the name of the new Order because the explorer was a widely recognized cultural hero who was also Catholic. Thus, Columbus was a perfect patron of an organization that was sure to face anti-Catholic bias in Protestant-dominant America in 1882.

With this information in mind, and after studying a number of existing images of Father McGivney, de Rooy painted a large portrait of Father McGivney with the ships of Columbus' voyage in the foreground.

"If you look closely, you can see the figure of Columbus on the Santa Maria pointing the way," the artist said.

When de Rooy heard that the Supreme Convention was coming to Toronto this year, he asked the organizers if he could display the oil-on-canvas portrait in the registration area.

See **PORTRAIT OF THE FOUNDER**, Page 2

FAVORS REPORTED

Dear Father:

On May 31, 2016, my child at birth was diagnosed with pneumonia and was admitted at the ICU. Continuous positive airway pressure (CPAP) and an orogastric tube (OGT) were placed on her. I prayed for the intercession of Father McGivney every day. On June 13, 2016, she was discharged from the hospital improved, and I am currently holding her in my arms in the comfort of our home.

Philippines

Dear Father:

Three different people with cancer, for whom I have been praying to Father McGivney, have had their cancer go into remission within the last year.

Washington

Dear Father:

A good friend of mine suffered terrible burns on the lower half of his body. The doctors doubted that he would make it. But with prayers from me and another friend to Father McGivney, he is now home and getting around almost normal. Thank you, Jesus and Father McGivney, for prayers answered.

Florida

Dear Father:

My son has been out of a job for four months and is getting married in two months. We had been praying to Father McGivney to intercede and help him find a job by his wedding day, and he was finally offered a job. Father McGivney has been very good to us in helping my sons find jobs. Thank you, Father McGivney!

Illinois

Dear Father:

I was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer in late July 2015. I also was in severe pain from another related medical condition. I had to take

chemotherapy for two months before I was able to undergo surgery in November of 2015. I underwent a procedure which resulted in the removal of part of my stomach, half my pancreas, my gall bladder, and the uppermost part of my small intestine. I also had to have another operation in December 2015 to try and relieve my chronic pain due to the other medical condition. My mother-in-law has been praying every day to Father McGivney to intercede and bring me back to health. My cancer is in remission and I feel physically, mentally, and spiritually healthy. I believe Father McGivney answered her prayers and has given me a second chance to grow spiritually. God bless Father McGivney, my mother-in-law, and all who prayed for me during this ordeal.

North Dakota

Dear Father:

I asked Father McGivney to help my daughter get a permanent teaching position. At the end of the school year, she was notified that she has been hired full-time and starts in August. Thank you, Father McGivney, for your intercession.

Florida

Dear Father:

My mother was unable to swallow food starting in late December. The doctors thought she would live maybe two months. I asked my council, assembly, chapter and district to pray for her. The problem went away after some weeks and she is recovered. The doctors cannot explain her recovery but I think Father McGivney helped.

California

Dear Father:

I prayed to God for the healing of my daughter, through the intercession of Father McGivney. We were surprised the neurosurgeon cancelled the surgery. She is being advised by the doctor to have therapy only.

Philippines

PORTRAIT OF THE FOUNDER, from Page 1

"I had no expectations," he said. "I really didn't know what people would say, but I knew I had to offer it to my brother Knights to see."

As it turned out, the painting became a popular talking point among delegates and their families, many of whom asked about the meaning of the ships in relation to Father McGivney. The questions gave de Rooy an opportunity to talk about the beginning of the Knights and the vision of

the founder. He also met Supreme Knight Carl Anderson, who praised the painting and asked that it be placed in the Knights of Columbus Museum in New Haven.

"I wanted to give Father McGivney a reality so that people today can relate to him," De Rooy said. "You can be sure that I prayed to Father McGivney to help me."



World Youth Day Display

Father McGivney was featured at a vocations venue in late July at World Youth Day 2016 in Kraków, Poland, where the Knights of Columbus hosted English-language events at the Mercy Centre located in Tauron Arena Kraków. Standing in front of a display of images from Father McGivney's life are volunteers at the venue that was sponsored by the U.S. National Conference of Diocesan Vocation Directors.

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 petitions and send them by Oct. 10, 2016, for inclusion in the Novena of Masses for All Souls Day.



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



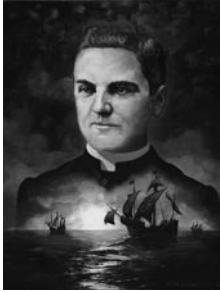
Full-Color Mousepad

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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All Souls Novena of Masses

From Oct. 24 to Nov. 2 (All Souls Day), a Mass will be celebrated each day by vice postulator Father Gabriel B. O'Donnell. The Masses will be offered for the deceased relatives and friends of Guild members, and intentions sent by Guild members are placed on the altar for remembrance. You may use the form on page 3 to submit petitions, by Oct. 10, 2016, or submit them through the website: fathermcgivney.org.

DIRECTOR'S DESK, from Page 1

"As far as Jesus is concerned ... no one is unworthy of, or far from, his thoughts. No one is insignificant. He loves all of us with a special love; for him all of us are important: *you* are important! God counts on you for what you are, not for what you possess. In his eyes, the clothes you wear or the kind of cell phone you use are of absolutely no concern. He doesn't care whether you are stylish or not; he cares about you!"

Guild members will not be surprised at the suggestion that the attention and pastoral care for the young that we see in Pope Francis coincides perfectly with the pastoral mission and spiritual vision of Venerable Father Michael J. McGivney. The young priest's concern for young men and women was legendary, and it was not limited to matters religious or spiritual. He lent his support to those seeking jobs, sorting out family problems and providing wholesome entertainments suited to young men and women of his time.

Is it any wonder, then, that Father McGivney's Knights have so consistently supported World Youth Day in every part of the globe where it has been celebrated? It was concern for the young that inspired Father McGivney in his founding of the Knights of Columbus. While open to Catholic men of all ages, the fledgling Order reached out in particular to young Catholics who were learning to be husbands, fathers and the primary breadwinner for the family. Father McGivney was convinced that by banding together in a fraternal society, Catholic men could be strengthened and rightly directed to a life of self-sacrifice and service to others. A young man himself, he hoped that his Knights would impact the wider culture by exemplifying the Catholic tradition of faith and true charity towards the less fortunate.

Authentic holiness of life consists in choosing the way of goodness and virtue in daily life, in all the small and ordinary decisions that face us. The way in which we greet and treat one another; the respect that we show toward our family, neighbors and fellow workers; and the choice to live

truthful and compassionate lives make up the stuff of Christian holiness. To follow the example of Venerable Father McGivney, we must do the simple, ordinary things of life in an extraordinary way, with sincere love for God and fidelity to our faith.

The temptation that faces us today is to be discouraged and glum in the face of the current difficulties that beset our world, our country and even Christ's Church. Yet the great souls of history – and of our own time – refuse to give way to such a negative outlook.

Pope Francis, a realist and a man of hope, has this to say: "God ... is hopelessly hopeful! He believes that we can always get up, and he hates to see us glum and gloomy ... Because we are always his beloved sons and daughters. Let us be mindful of this at the dawn of each new day."

It seems to me that our Holy Father is posing a challenge not only to the young gathered for World Youth Day, but to all Catholics. It is the same challenge posed by the life of the saintly parish priest Father Michael McGivney, who faced great challenges in his life that likely contributed to his early death. If each of us approached life with the same focus and generosity of spirit that marked the path of Father McGivney, our world would be flooded with holy men and women determined to change the world for the better, with the hope and confidence that mark the preaching of Pope Francis.

We pray fervently for the beatification of Venerable Father McGivney as he leads us through his example and prayers to the throne of grace.

Devotedly yours in Christ,

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

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Guild Director

Vice Postulator