

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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2025

FATHERMCGIVNEY.ORG

ISSUE 3

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

Vice Postulator and Guild Director

Dear Guild Member,

In the five years since the beatification of Father Michael J. McGivney, there have been significant changes in the life of the Church. On the diocesan level, we have seen the consolidation of all the churches in New Haven, Conn., into Blessed Michael McGivney Parish, the first in the world to be named for the Founder. In the universal Church, we mourned the death of Pope Francis in April and celebrated the election of Pope Leo XIV in May as the Vicar of Christ on earth. As is often the case, a new Holy Father brings a wave of excitement among the people of God, and Pope Leo has invited every Catholic to “return to the heart,” meaning to turn to our relationship with Jesus as the true path to happiness and peace.



The Holy Father's preaching and teaching have been focused on spiritual and supernatural realities, reflecting the writings of St. Augustine, the patron and inspiration for his religious order of priests. It is a timeless message that has sustained the Church for centuries. The ease with which Leo speaks to every segment of the Christian world reminds us of Blessed Michael McGivney's ability to speak with every sort of person he encountered, from Protestant elites of Yale University to gravediggers in the cemetery at Thomaston, Connecticut, where he was pastor. Respect for the person and belief in the sanctity of all human life gave Father McGivney the ability to speak comfortably from the heart to all those he met in his busy priestly ministry.

He understood that the family is the foundation of all human society, and only with strong parental figures, especially the father, could the family flourish and impart sound moral values to children. He was a tireless advocate who provided for the spiritual, economic, legal and emotional support of families. Father McGivney was a true apostle and guardian of Christian family life. His decision to found the Knights of Columbus was a

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During the June annual Organizational Meeting of State Deputies and Chaplains in New Haven, the chaplains embarked on a bus tour of Father McGivney sites in Thomaston and Waterbury. With Supreme Chaplain William Lori, they are shown at the McGivney family gravesite in Waterbury, Connecticut, where Father McGivney was originally buried before his remains were exhumed and placed in a sarcophagus in St. Mary's Church in New Haven in March 1982. Also shown (in white habit at right) is Dominican Father Jonathan Kalisch, Director of Spirituality and Chaplains for the K of C. (Photo: Tamino Petelinsek)

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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@kofo.org).

Infection Healed

I went to the ER, delirious with an infection that turned out to be deadly bacteria. After I was released, I got into my car and drove about 150 miles into North Carolina. I had no idea how I got there or where I was. I was on the side of the road when a man stopped and asked if I was OK. I said, "No, I think I'm dying." An off-duty paramedic, he called for an ambulance and the sheriff. I was taken to the nearest hospital, but they could not treat me, so they put me in an ambulance again and drove to another hospital. I knew it was bad, so I started praying to Father McGivney as well as to the Lord. I was in ICU for six days, until the bacteria subsided. I asked Father McGivney to please help me so I could see my daughters get married and have children. I could feel him at my side as I kept thinking about when I became a Fourth Degree Knight at St Patrick's Cathedral earlier this year and saw the beautiful statue unveiled of Father McGivney. I knew that he would hear me and know my work on earth was not finished. For the rest of my life, one of my goals is to save every unborn child I can and pray for those women and those babies. I owe my life to Father McGivney and will do everything in my power for the rest of my life to live by his teachings and sacrifices.

South Carolina

Stroke

My brother suffered a stroke, losing his speech. I was at morning Mass the following day, prayed the rosary with the congregation, and then prayed the Divine Mercy Chaplet for the complete healing of my brother's brain, specifically of "every cell in his brain." I then went to the Blessed Michael McGivney Chapel in Bethany Beach, Delaware, to pray at Eucharistic Adoration. The next day, my brother was 100% completely healed! I was unfamiliar with Blessed Michael McGivney before this. In my heart, I hold an extremely clear certainty that his intervention allowed the spirit of healing for my brother. Father McGivney is in my thoughts and "feelings" nonstop. I believe this is a miracle due to his intervention.

Virginia

Breath of Life

I went to the tomb of Father McGivney in St. Mary's Church to pray for my brother-in-law who has a rare form of leukemia and had developed double pneumonia. He was taken to the hospital because he could not breathe at all. They drained some fluid out of his lungs and he was sent home the next day, after I had prayed at the tomb. I think his recovery was due to the intercession of Father McGivney. I am still praying that he is healed of leukemia.

Connecticut

A Brother Knight was diagnosed with CTEPH (blood clots of the lung) and given a few years to live. Recently, we prayed and asked Blessed Michael McGivney to intercede for him for healing of his lungs. Today, he went to the doctor and they couldn't find the blood clots on the scan and said they're gone. It appears he was miraculously cured.

New Hampshire

Disability

I have PTSD from my time in the military. I have prayed to Father McGivney to help me qualify for disability. I am finally now receiving disability compensation from the V.A.

Indiana

Cancer

Elizabeth was diagnosed with Hodgkin Lymphoma in the spring of 2024. The State Council of North Carolina began praying for Blessed Michael McGivney to completely remove all cancer and restore her to health. This was accomplished in March of 2025.

North Carolina

I was diagnosed with base of the tongue cancer that was not operable and would need to be treated with radiation and chemotherapy. I prayed to Father McGivney for healing and all went well and I am two years cancer free and very grateful.

Nebraska

Healing Heart

In June of 2024, I was diagnosed with congestive heart failure. My ejection fraction was 15%. I received — I don't know from whom or where — a stamp with the prayer for canonization of Father Michael McGivney. I began to pray for his intercession. I visited his relic when it came to Oxnard, California. I continued to pray. I had several echocardiograms with very slow progress. On 6/24, I had a very specialized heart test during which I prayed to Father McGivney with much fervor and faith. The results showed an ejection fraction of 51%. Above 50% is considered normal. I attribute this to Father McGivney's intercession.

California

Membership

Olympia Council 394 in Queens, New York, just received 31 new members into the council in its 126th year of working for Father Michael McGivney. We rely on his intercession!

New York

Employment

I am in service with my employer for 13 long years and have not been promoted despite applying for advancement several times. One day, a group of Knights of Columbus from our parish visited our home and I was told to have a novena for the canonization of Blessed Michael McGivney. I prayed the novena and on the seventh day I received a miracle that I am qualified for an interview and exam. I am continuing my novena and hoping for another miracle for my oath taking.

Philippines

I have been job searching after being laid off seven months ago. Today, on the ninth day of the novena, I got a job offer and accepted it! Praise God, and thanks to Blessed Michael McGivney for his intercession! The craziest thing is that I'm sure I didn't apply for this job. I feel like God dropped this job in my lap!

Anonymous

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 _____

- _____ 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

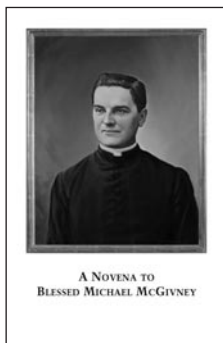
PRINTED ITEMS — FREE OF CHARGE UP TO 25 COPIES

- _____ *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



Novena Prayer

Perfect for praying alone or with your family or council. Each day recounts a period in Father McGivney's life, so that at the end of nine days, you will know more about this holy priest and move closer to his powerful intercession.

Free (25 copies or less)



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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The Blessed Michael McGivney Chapel at St. Ann's Parish in Bethany Beach, Delaware, was blessed and dedicated on April 29 by Bishop William Koenig of Wilmington. The chapel hosts eucharistic adoration and has enshrined a first-class relic of Blessed Michael McGivney.

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practical expression of his determination to “preach” the nobility and holiness of the Catholic family. This fraternal society aimed at the formation of Catholic men who would carry the principles of faith and charity into the family and from there into the wider world, where they could impact the lives of the most vulnerable and needy.

Today, some 135 years after Father McGivney's holy death, Pope Leo speaks of the family with similar verve and insight. For both Father McGivney and our Holy Father, the reality of family life must begin in our relationship with Jesus Christ. This turn toward the inner life of each person, each mother or father, each son or daughter, is the seed and springboard for creating strong families that become the foundation of a more just and loving society. In a recent homily, Pope Leo insisted that faith “is shared like food at the family table and like the love in our hearts. In this way, families become privileged places in which to encounter Jesus, who loves us and desires our good, always.”

As natural families and as the fraternal family of the Knights of Columbus, let us prepare for the feast day of Blessed Michael McGivney (August 13) with a renewed intensity in our prayers that he will be raised soon to the honors of the altar as a canonized saint. The miracle required by the Church for canonization can only be supplied by the providential action of God, so we place all our trust in the love of God and the intercession of Blessed Michael before his heavenly throne.

Blessed Michael McGivney, pray for us, as we pray for your canonization!

Devotedly in Christ,

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

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