

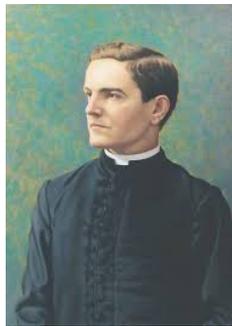


# Knights of Columbus

Our Lady of White Lake Council 12985  
5149 Dowling, Montague, Michigan 49437



## The Founder of the Knights of Columbus



**FATHER  
MICHAEL J. MCGIVNEY**

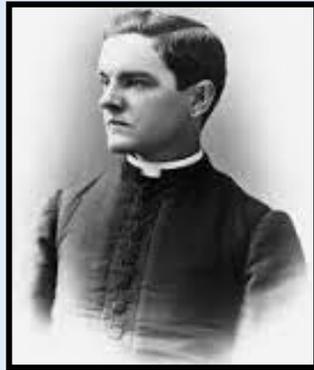
Over a century ago, in mid-August of 1890, one of the largest funerals in the history of Waterbury, Connecticut, took place. The throngs of who attended were grieving the death, at age 38 of **Father Michael J. McGivney**, founder of the Knights of Columbus.

Delegations were present from almost every one of the 57 Knights of Columbus councils that had been chartered in the Order's first eight years. The Bishop of Hartford and more than 70 of Connecticut's Catholic priests were joined by many civic leaders. It was reported that every available carriage for miles around had been rented for the great procession.

Father McGivney's funeral was an indication of the love and respect the people felt for this hard-working, holy, parish priest. It also reflected the deep personal appeal that immigrant Catholic's immediately found in the Knights of Columbus. Since that time, the Order's growth has never stopped. Today it is the largest society of Catholic men in the world, with 1.6 million members in the United States, Canada, the Philippines, Mexico, and several Central American and Caribbean countries.

The mark of the Order's hundredth anniversary in 1982, the Knights of Columbus brought the remains of Father McGivney from Waterbury back to Saint Mary's Church in New Haven, where he had founded the Order. There he now rests in a setting in which daily Mass is offered for the deceased members and their deceased spouses of the Order and prayers are said in his honor. His cause for canonization is proceeding.

## Prayer for the Canonization of Father Michael J. McGivney



God, our Father, protector of the poor and defender of the widow and orphan, you called your priest, Father Michael J. McGivney, to be an apostle of Christian family life and to lead the young to the generous services of their neighbor. Through the example of his life and virtue may we follow your Son, Jesus Christ, more closely, fulfilling his commandment of charity and building up his Body which is the Church.

Let the inspirations of your servant prompt us greater confidence in your love so that we may continue his work of caring for the needy and the outcast. We humbly ask that you glorify your servant Father Michael J. McGivney on earth according to the design of your holy will. Through his intercession, grant the favor I now present (here make your request). Through Christ our Lord. Amen. Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be.