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About the Father McGivney Guild

In 1882 the Knights of Columbus were founded by Father Michael McGivney. He has always been given respect and reverence within the Order since its founding. Approaching the 100-year anniversary of the Order in 1982 a push began to investigate the possibility of sainthood for him. In 1990, 100 years after Father McGivney's death, Father Gabriel O'Donnell, OP was appointed as postulator to formally petition the Vatican to consider the cause. The "Esposito", the official petition would grow from 600 to over 1000 pages of input. Seven years later in 1997, the Vatican opened the decree for sainthood under St. John Paul II. The Father McGivney Guild was established in 1997 to follow the cause for sainthood; increase awareness of Father McGivney; encourage prayers to him for intercession; and seek out any possible miracles attributed through the prayers of intercession. In 2008 Pope Benedict XVI would open the cause for sainthood and Father McGivney was given the title of "Venerable Servant of God".

Thousands of people have responded with claims of prayers answered and of miraculous occurrences and cures. Each taken seriously and investigated as to their merit, but only a handful would have enough evidence to be sent to the Vatican for scrutiny. After 40 years of tireless efforts in search of a miracle one would be found. Finally, a miracle would be identified passing the test of being medically and scientifically unexplainable. Theological experts confirmed the cure of a life-threatening condition had occurred. The life of a small boy was attributed to prayers specifically to Father McGivney to spare his life. While in the womb during the pregnancy an incurable condition known as fetal hydrops was diagnosed. The parents were offered an abortion when doctors announced there was no possibility of survival. The story of Michael McGivney Schachle is for another time. He is the miracle that was born with no signs of the life-threatening disorder after months of novenas and prayers, and finally a pilgrimage to Lourdes while praying constantly to Father McGivney to spare his life. On May 26, 2020, Pope Francis approved the decree for a miracle and announced a Mass of Beatification would be held on October 31, 2020, in the diocese of Hartford Connecticut not far from where the priestly ministry of Father McGivney had begun. His title Blessed Michael McGivney would be bestowed on him; and August 13th was set as his feast day.

We attest as members that Blessed Michael McGivney was a holy man. He has been held in a position of high esteem since the Order was founded. So here is my question. Why have members of the Order he founded, now standing with over 2 million members strong, not done a better job in getting behind his cause for canonization and follow it? The Guild opened to anyone in 1997, for members and non-members alike. It is free to join. After 40 years of promotion and after printing millions of prayer cards and mailing millions of newsletters we have less than 180,000 members in the Guild worldwide. Consider showing your support for this American born parish priest, the founder of the Knights of Columbus who is just a final miracle away from full sainthood.

Join the Father McGivney Guild today!