



# KNIGHTLINE

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WEEKLY NEWS FOR KNIGHTS AROUND THE WORLD



## Miracle approved! Father McGivney to be beatified!

*The pope's action means that Father McGivney can be declared "Blessed," the step just prior to sainthood.*

The Vatican announced this Wednesday that Pope Francis approved the promulgation of a decree recognizing a miracle attributed to the intercession of the founder of the Knights of Columbus.

[READ MORE](#)

## 10 things you didn't know about the founder of the K of C

Maybe you already knew that Fr. McGivney founded the Knights of Columbus in New Haven, Conn., in 1882. Maybe you already knew that he envisioned a Catholic order that would help Catholic men to remain steadfast in faith while providing insurance for their families. But you probably didn't know these facts.

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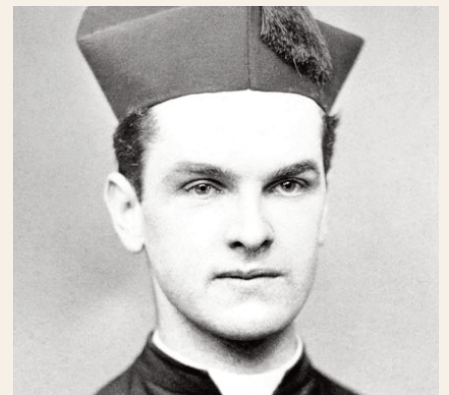


SHARE YOUR QUESTIONS, FEEDBACK AND STORY  
Share how you, your family or your council is helping strengthen people's faith and offering support during this time. Email [knightline@kofc.org](mailto:knightline@kofc.org).

## Forming our founder

*Father McGivney's seminary formation in Baltimore helped him to respond to the needs of his time*

Michael McGivney was preparing for final exams at a Jesuit-run seminary in Montreal when he heard the tragic news. His father, Patrick, had died suddenly at age 48. So 20-year-old Michael promptly packed his bags and headed home to Waterbury, Conn., where his mother and six younger siblings were reeling from the loss.



*Michael McGivney is pictured during his seminary days in Baltimore. Photo courtesy of Associated Archives at St. Mary's Seminary & University.*

A few months later, after ensuring his family's financial security, McGivney received support from his bishop to continue his priestly formation. He did not, however, return to Sainte-Marie College in Montreal. Instead, in what proved to be a decisive turning point, he began studies at a different St. Mary's – a Sulpician-run seminary in the bustling port city of Baltimore. [READ MORE](#)

**To learn even more about our founder's** heroic life and continuing legacy, check out Father McGivney's biography, *Parish Priest*, and the newly-released book *The Knights of Columbus: An Illustrated History*.

**Have a prayer?** Many have turned to Father Michael J. McGivney's intercession. Here are testimonials from those who needed a prayer answered and turned to Father McGivney for help. [READ MORE](#)

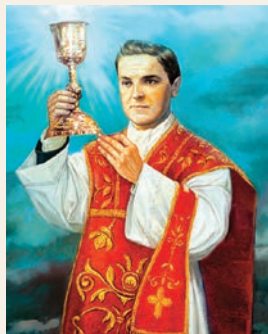
## Invite men to carry on Father McGivney's legacy

Invite a friend or a family member to join the Knights of Columbus – the great legacy left behind by Father McGivney. If he joins by May 31, his first-year online membership fees will go directly to the Leave No Neighbor Behind fund and the Supreme Council will match that donation 100%! Use code GIVE2020 at [www.kofc.org/join](http://www.kofc.org/join).

**Did you know? Father McGivney played baseball** with his fellow seminarians. Explore the place of faith in baseball during the "Pray Ball!" webinar sponsored by the Saint John Paul II National Shrine. Paul Menhart, pitching coach for the Washington Nationals, will discuss the role of faith during the team's championship run. He'll be joined by Ray McKenna, president of Catholic Athletes for Christ. [REGISTER](#)

## Looking to Father McGivney during COVID-19

Just a couple months ago in March, we published an article looking at four aspects of Father McGivney's life and legacy, hoping to inspire those of us working from home during COVID-19. If you missed it, check it out and read the message Father McGivney has for Knights during a pandemic. [READ MORE](#)



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## A timeline of the life of Father McGivney – a model for today



Father Michael J. McGivney was a central figure in the growth of Catholicism in America, and he remains a model today. His example of charity, evangelization and cooperation with the laity continues to bear fruit and guide Knights of Columbus around the world.

We encourage all Knights to get to know Father McGivney better, pray through his intercession, and read accounts of him by his contemporaries. Start with this timeline of his life. [READ MORE](#)

**More to celebrate** Saturday marks the feast day of St. Joan of Arc – [here's how](#) our brother Knights in France are celebrating her. And this Sunday, we celebrate the feast of Pentecost – [here's a few pointers](#) to help us discover the Holy Spirit's personal mission for each one of us.

## The McGivney letters



*The surviving writings of the Knights' founder show a pastor determined to meet the needs of his people and the vision behind the Knights of Columbus*

Just 13 letters and a few quotes recorded by the local newspapers – that is what remains of all the words written and spoken by Father McGivney across his 38 years. Much of what we know about him comes from the testimonies of people who knew him, but what do his own words tell us?

Some of his letters are of a kind that priests write routinely, such as a recommendation to his bishop on behalf of a young man discerning a religious vocation. But more than half of the letters chart the earliest days of the Knights of Columbus – the spiritual vision behind it, as well as its practical workings and the initial challenges it faced. [READ MORE](#)

MEMBERSHIP IN THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS is open to men 18 years of age or older who are practical (that is, practicing) Catholics in union with the Holy See. This means that an applicant or member accepts the teaching authority of the Catholic Church on matters of faith and morals, aspires to live in accord with the precepts of the Catholic Church, and is in good standing in the Catholic Church. Invite Catholic men to join today at [www.kofc.org/join](http://www.kofc.org/join).