



January

Official Newsletter of St. Pius X Council 11101
Greensboro, NC

Special Edition

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- **His life and History of the Knights of Columbus**
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Volume I Issue I

Special Edition

2021



Father Michael J McGivney, founder of Knights of Columbus, is beatified by Faith Catholic

Father Michael J McGivney was beatified at the Cathedral of Saint Joseph in Hartford, Connecticut October 31. The parish priest from the Archdiocese of Hartford, Connecticut founded the lay fraternal order of the Knights of Columbus in 1882 and died of pneumonia while ministering to the people of his community during the pandemic of 1890.

The beautification follows the approval by Pope Francis in May of a miracle attributed to Father McGivney's intercession. The miracle involved the healing of an unborn baby from a life-threatening condition in 2015.

The son of Irish immigrants, Michael McGivney was born in Waterbury, Connecticut in 1852. When his father died while still a young man, the McGivney children had to work to help provide for the family.

He was ordained as a priest in Baltimore in 1877 for what is now the Archdiocese of Hartford. Assigned to St. Mary Church in New Haven, Connecticut, a parish with a pastor in ill health and tremendous debt, Father McGivney rose to the occasion. Described as a natural and engaging leader, Father McGivney's concern for the poor and marginalized touched the hearts of parishioners as well as those of the community at a time when anti-Catholic sentiment was strong. In an effort to alleviate the suffering endured by widows and orphans, Father McGivney founded the Order of the Knights of Columbus in the basement of Saint Mary church in 1882.

Dedicated to the principles of charity, unity and fraternity, the order also served as a community where laymen could become "brothers" in serving others and supporting one another spiritually.

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Though Father McGivney founded the order, he insisted that the organization be led by the laity, not by the clergy. The first and largest lay-led Catholic organization in the world now has more than 2 million members. There are more than 16,000 councils throughout the world including the United States, the Philippines, Mexico, Canada, France, Poland, Ukraine and Korea.

Father McGivney was the pastor of Saint Thomas parish in Thomaston, Connecticut during the pandemic of 1890 that killed some 1 million people. He developed pneumonia while caring for the sick and died August 14, 1890, just two days after his 38th birthday.

The Diocese of Hartford opened his cause for sainthood in 1997 in recognition of his charitable devotion to the marginalized and his commitment to his faith. Pope Benedict XVI declared Father McGivney Venerable in 2008 following the investigation into his life by the Congregation for the Cause of Saints that found he had lived "a life of extraordinary and heroic virtue."

In order for Father McGivney to be canonized and acquire the title of saint, another miracle is required and must have occurred after his beatification.

St. Pius X Council 111101 exemplifies the principles set forth by Fr. McGivney of Charity, Unity, and Fraternity. We are a community of “brothers” in serving others and supporting one another spiritually. This is the largest lay-led Catholic organization in the world with 2 million members.

Through our council’s initiative:

- An ultrasound machine has been purchased for The Triad Pregnancy Center, and in the process of purchasing a second one for the Winston Salem location
- 1800 new coats have been donated to Backpack Beginning for distribution to the needy,
- Tens of Thousands of Dollars have been donated to Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities through “Least Among My Brother” [L.A.M.B.],
- A rosary is given as a sacramental gift to every new RCIA member and every First Communion recipients
- Financial support is given each year to the youth group of our parish
- Knights have lead the Escorts at Mass during the COVID-19 Pandemic
- Refund Support Vocation Program [RSVP] financial support for seminarians
- Flag Retirement Ceremony
- Family Brunch each month with the proceeds going to support our charities
- Annual Fish Fry with the proceeds going to support our charities
- Cook-out for the Parish Youth Kick-Off
- Annual Novena for Life
- Right To Life March in Charlotte, Raleigh and Washington, DC
- Consecration of the Holy Family Each Year
- Food for Families Support the Local food Pantry
- Special Olympic Support
- Leave No Neighbor Behind Campaign
- Into the Breach
- Disaster Relief Locally and State Wide
- Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest
- Family of the Month, Knight of the Month

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
ST. PIUS X COUNCIL 11101
GREENSBORO, NC

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We are on the Web
[http://
Stpiusxcouncil11101.org](http://Stpiusxcouncil11101.org)

Members Meetings—
Second Thursday of the Month

Officers Business Meeting -
Monday before the Business
Meeting

All Meetings in the Simmons Par-
ish Center at 7:00 pm

Membership Chairman -
Grant Holmes
joinknights@gmail.com



Benefits of Membership

- **Columbia Magazine** - Free subscription to the Order's award-winning magazine examining issues of concern to Knights, Catholics and families
- **Knights of Columbus rosary** - Blessed by the supreme chaplain, presented during the Admission Degree to each new member
- **Daily Mass** of Remembrance at **St. Mary's Church** - Mass for deceased members and their wives at the birthplace of the Order
- **Insurance** - Access to a portfolio of top-quality life insurance, long-term care and annuity products exclusive for members and their families
- **Family Fraternal Benefit** - For eligible families: a) pays \$1,500 for the child who dies before the age of 61 days; b) pays \$750 for the child who is stillborn at least 20 weeks after conception; c) offers guaranteed-issue insurance - up to \$5,000 - to any child under age 18
- **Orphan Benefit** - \$80 monthly allotment for orphans of eligible families; up to \$7,000 in college scholarships available
- **Member/Spouse Fraternal Benefit** - Accidental death coverage for member and spouse at no cost
- **Widow Benefits** - a) continues to be covered under the Member/Spouse Fraternal Benefit; b) may purchase life insurance, long-term care insurance or annuities up to one year after insured member's death; c) receives a free lifetime subscription to Columbia; d) eligible with her children for scholarships, student loans, etc.
- **Scholarships** - Scholarship programs for higher education available to members, their spouses and children
- **Leadership Development** - Opportunity to build personal leadership skills, public speaking ability, organizational skills, etc.
- **Fourth Degree** - Eligibility to join the Patriotic Degree
- **Honorary Life Membership** - At age 70 with 25 years of membership
- **Membership Card** - Entitles participation in all Catholic, fraternal and social activities in member's council and also in over 15,000 councils throughout the world
- **Activities** - participation in a variety of programs and activities conducted by your

Every Member Should Ask An Eligible Catholic Male to Join This Great Order. We are a ministry of service to Our Brotherhood, Our Church, Our Community and Our Youth. Who Have You Asked?