



The Blessed Father Michael J. McGivney Honoris

Saint Patrick Basilica
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SECOND SUMMER BULLETIN 2023

August is a special time to remember the life and legacy of our Order's Founder.

On August 12, 1852, Blessed Michael J. McGivney was born into such a family. He was the oldest in a family of thirteen, of which only seven would survive their childhood. He completed his primary education at thirteen and then worked in factories for a few years to help his family before he pursued his calling to the priesthood. Unfortunately, Father McGivney's father passed away while he was in the seminary, and he had to return home to support his family once again.

Now Father McGivney's story could have ended when he returned to help support his family, but his calling was strong and with the help of the Bishop of Hartford, Connecticut he returned to complete his studies and was ordained on December 2, 1877. Once a Priest, Father McGivney realized that there were many in his congregation who had similar problems to what he experienced during his youth. Asking a group of men in his parish to step out of their comfort zones he helped found the Widows and Orphans Fund that would later become the insurance program the Knights of Columbus enjoys today.

Unfortunately, at the age of 38, Father McGivney died of pneumonia during an outbreak of the Russian flu, but the knights he helped found continued and has become a worldwide movement in the Catholic Church. On 31 Oct 2020 the Venerable Father Michael J. McGivney was beatified and became Blessed Father Michael J. McGivney. Every year on 13 August we celebrate and honor Blessed Father McGivney. If you aren't a member of the Blessed Michael McGivney guild, please consider becoming one, and pray for a second miracle for use in his canonization as a saint, which many think will happen soon. This is the link for joining the guild <https://www.fathermcgivney.org/en/ssl-join-the-guild.html>. Please continue to pray for our Founder's elevation to sainthood so that in the near future, we might offer our prayers to Saint Michael J. McGivney.

Submitted by Brother Bill Country, PGK, FDD.