



The

Korona

St. Mary's Council 11961
Website: www.council11961.org

Charity
Unity
Fraternity



AUGUST 2026 Grand Knight Message

In service to one. In service to all



Well, I got through the first meeting without too many hiccups. Hope to be better the next meeting. Thanks everyone for the great attendance.

Coming to the meetings is important as it will keep you updated on coming events and news. I know that some think they are boring, but you need to be aware of all the things ahead and be able to help out when needed. They rarely last longer than one hour, and if you hang around after the meeting, we usually have a group that gets together and talks about all different subjects.

I am really going to need your help to be able to do more great things like those done this year.

This is a Christian organization, and you chose joining so we can help those in need. I commend all that helped get so many awards and getting the award as the number one council in the state in our category. This would not

have happened if it wasn't for all your hard work and time.

I know that many of you get nervous when we ask for new officer candidates and you are hesitant to step up. I was very disappointed that more did not step up. It does not take that much time, and we are here to help you and get you involved in what we do as officers. This is not that hard nor time consuming.

We need to grow our council, and I would like to challenge all the officers to each find one new member to join. If you don't ask, it will never get done. Please come to the meetings and join us. We look forward to a large number at our next meeting. Thank you in advance.

GK Joe Marotti

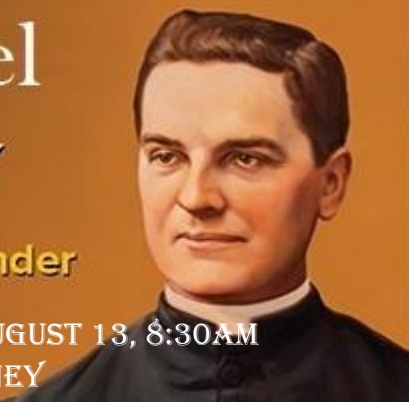
330-289-4557



Blessed Michael McGivney

Knights of Columbus Founder

MASS AT ST JOSEPH MONASTERY AUGUST 13, 8:30AM
FOR BLESSED MICHAEL MCGIVNEY



Chaplain's Message



Brother Knights,

As Knights of Columbus, we turn our attention to an important milestone in the life of our nation: the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, celebrated each year on July 4th (Independence Day).

This anniversary is more than a chance to remember an important event in our history. It is also an opportunity to reflect on one of the greatest gifts we have received: freedom. But what does freedom really mean?

The Declaration of Independence did more than announce the birth of a new nation. It expressed a profound conviction about the human person: that our dignity does not come from any government, and that our fundamental rights are not simply granted by political authority. They come from a source greater than ourselves. As Christians, we recognize that source as God, our Creator.

Yet over the years, the meaning of freedom has often changed. Many people think of freedom simply as the ability to do whatever we want, to live without limits, or to make our own choices without reference to anything beyond ourselves. The Christian understanding is different. Freedom is not simply the ability to choose; it is the ability to choose what is good and true.

We see this in ordinary life. A husband who remains faithful to his wife, parents who make sacrifices for their children, someone who tells the truth when it would be easier to remain silent, a volunteer who gives his time to those in

need—these are all examples of authentic freedom. No one forces these choices. They are freely made because they are good. That is the kind of freedom that builds strong families, strengthens parishes, and serves the common good.

As Knights of Columbus, this is exactly the kind of freedom we are called to live. Our faith is not something we leave behind when we step into public life. Through our charity, our service, and our commitment to our families and our communities, we witness that faith and responsible citizenship belong together.

As we prepare to celebrate this anniversary, we can ask ourselves a simple question: What kind of nation are we helping to build? The future of our country will not depend only on laws or public institutions. It will also depend on the character of its people, on the strength of its families, and on countless daily decisions that no one else may ever notice.

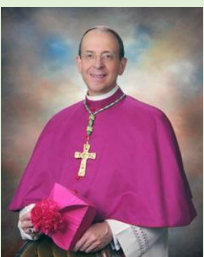
Perhaps the best way to honor those who founded this nation is not only to remember what they accomplished, but to renew our own commitment to live as men of faith, integrity, and service.

May this anniversary remind us that true freedom is always joined to truth, responsibility, and trust in God. And may God continue to bless our families, our communities, and the United States of America.

Vivat Jesus!
Father Robert

Supreme Chaplain's Challenge (August 2026)

A monthly reflection and practical challenge from Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William E. Lori



"He turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle to me. You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do.'" (Gospel for Aug. 30, Mt 16:23)

Who knows the mind of God? God is beyond human understanding, yet he has revealed himself to us most perfectly in the person of Jesus Christ. Through prayer we can come to know God more fully, and we grow in understanding of his plan when we make a habit of conforming our will to his holy will. We follow Christ in discipleship when we pray daily to the Father as he did: "Not my will but yours be done" (Lk 22:42).

This month, I challenge you to study the life and example of our founder, Blessed Michael McGivney, whose feast day is Aug. 13. Use the Blessed Michael McGivney Cor Session Guide (freely available at kofc.org/shopcis), noting in particular how Father McGivney always sought to align his will with that of God.

Questions for Reflection:

- How can you strive to better understand things from God's perspective?
- How can you discern when your thoughts are merely human thoughts and not of God?
- What virtues of Blessed Michael McGivney can you imitate in order to submit yourself more fully to God's holy will?

District Deputy – Greg Gully



Brother Knights,

As we begin a new fraternal year, I want to thank each of you for your dedication, faith, and service to your parish, your community, and our Order. Council 11961 has built a proud tradition of charity, unity, fraternity, and patriotism, and I am confident that this year will be another successful one.

Every new fraternal year gives us the opportunity to renew our commitment to Blessed Michael McGivney's vision of Catholic men serving God by serving others. Our council has already welcomed **one new member**, and I thank everyone who helped make that possible. Now, let's build on that momentum.

I am asking Council 11961 to set a goal of welcoming **five new members** this fraternal year. This is an achievable goal if every Brother Knight accepts one simple challenge: **Invite just one Catholic man to join our Order.** Every member knows a son, grandson, friend, neighbor, coworker, or

fellow parishioner who would make an excellent Knight. A personal invitation remains the most effective form of recruitment.

Membership is more than increasing our numbers—it is strengthening our ability to serve our parish, support our priests, defend life, assist families in need, and leave a legacy of faith for future generations. Every new member brings new talents, new ideas, and new opportunities to do God's work.

As we continue this Jubilee Year with the theme **"Pilgrims of Hope,"** let us be men who inspire others through our example and invite them to walk beside us in this great mission.

May God bless Council 11961, your Grand Knight and officers, our chaplain, and every member and family throughout the coming year. Together, let us make this our best fraternal year yet.

Vivat Jesus
Greg Gully DD

Field Agent – Larry Kennedy "August Message"



Will you have enough income in retirement? The last thing any of us wants to worry about is running out of money to cover our needs, especially in our golden years.

An annuity from the Knights of Columbus can help give you peace of mind with a guaranteed income stream.

How does it work? Simply put, an annuity is a retirement savings product. You make contributions, and, after a specified amount of time, the annuity pays you regular income. Unlike other ways you may be saving for retirement, annuities remain stable during volatile market conditions. In fact, each Knights of Columbus annuity comes with a guaranteed minimum interest rate. No matter the market fluctuations, your annuity is guaranteed to never earn less than the contractually stated amount, on an annual basis.

As you prepare for retirement, you can also consider the tax advantages, income flexibility, and estate planning benefits that permanent life insurance offers. It's a potentially valuable,

and often underutilized, tool for families when it comes to preparing for retirement.

You're hopefully maximizing your contributions to savings plans like a 401(k) at work or Individual Retirement Account (IRA). What about other investment options that take your targeted retirement date and risk threshold into account? Knights of Columbus Asset Advisors, a wholly owned subsidiary of Knights of Columbus, has resources to help you understand your options. If you need assistance, I'm happy to connect you with a registered advisor.

Let's look at your finances together to see what plans you already have in place, and what gaps you may have to ensure you don't run out of income in retirement. Safeguard your future today — set up time to meet with me in the coming weeks!

For more information contact:
Larry Kennedy, FICF, MDRT
407-579-9888
lawrence.kennedy@kofc.org



Council 11961 Officers 2026-2027



Grand Knight
Joe Marotti



Financial Sec.
Mike Gossman



Deputy GK
Chris Grecek



Chancellor
Nestor Ramos



Recorder
Darren Molony



Treasurer
John Thomas



Advocate
Phil Lajeunesse



Inside Guard
Paul Vicario



Outside Guard
Tony Flynn



1 Year Trustee
Joe Jurec



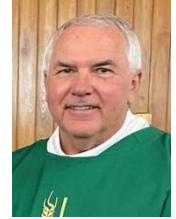
2 Year Trustee
Dr Jim St John



3 Year Trustee
John Picucci



Lecturer
Dr. Jim St. John



Warden
Deacon John



So also faith of itself, if it does not have works, is dead. **James 2:17**

Council 11961 Chaplain & Directors



Chaplain
Fr. Robert Marciniak



Program Director
Chris Grecek
jcgrecsek@gmail.com



Life Director
Mike Gossman
Gossmanmike@gmail.com



Family Director
Darren Molony
dmolony@proton.me



Faith Director
Paul Vicario
pvcrosscap@comcast.net



Community Director
Chris Grecek
cgrecek40@gmail.com



If you are over 18 years of age; a citizen of the country in which you reside; a practical Catholic in union with the Holy See; and you are a Third Degree member in good standing, it's time to consider joining the ranks of the Fourth Degree. To learn more about the Patriotic Degree and how to join its ranks, contact:

SK Ramon Marrero 386-793-2251

OFFICER INSTALLATION JULY 2026

On a hot afternoon on July 17, Council 119061 installed our 2026-2027 officers. The service was presided over by our DD Greg Gully. In attendance was DW Owen and Father Robert plus our Grand Knights family, seen on the right.

DD Greg Gully opened the ceremony with a prayer from Father Robert and followed with a salute to the USA flag. He then thanked PGK Darren Molony and his staff of officers for a stellar year.



Father Robert blessed the Jewels and DD Greg advised GK Joseph Marotti that he had been chosen by his Brothers to guide the destiny of our Council during this year. As its Chief Administrative Officer, Joseph is directly responsible for every aspect of the Council's operation and success. He had the DW Owen present the GK Joseph with his Jewel. The GK is responsible to the council for the next year.



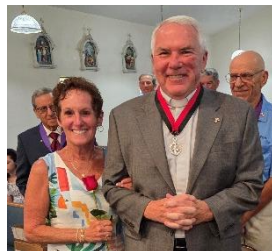
The Officers then swore an oath to promise to support and obey the Constitution and Laws of our Order and to insure that, insofar as they are able, the Members of their Council will also do so. And that they promise to devote the necessary time to the discharge of their responsibilities as designated by the Laws of our Order. Upon swearing of the oath, the DW presented each officer with a Jewel emblematic of his office and present a token of appreciation to his wife.



Chancellor Nestor Ramos



Financial Sec Mike Gossman



Warden Dea John Harvey



Recorder Darren Molony



Treasurer John Thomas



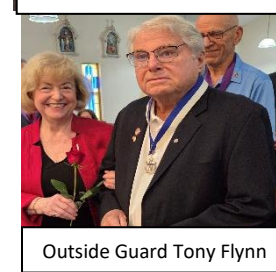
2yr Trustee Dr Jim St John



Advocate Phil Lajeunesse



3yr Trustee John Picucci



Outside Guard Tony Flynn



Inside Guard Paul Vicario

Excused were Deputy Grand Knight Chris Grecek and 1yr Trustee Joseph Jurec.

Chaplain Father Robert then blessed the Officers: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen. Worthy Officers, as you now stand you form a living Cross. May the Cross ever be a reminder to you that you must be renewed in Christ and that your administration must show that Catholic lay leadership among the people of God flows from this renewal. Invoking God's help to fulfill this mission, I will now impart to each His Blessing.

COUNTRY BREAKFAST AT THE MONASTERY



July 4th and 5th was an event filled weekend. As we all know, the 4th was our Nations 250th Birthday with backyard BBQs, parades, and fireworks. Sunday was our Council's first Family Breakfast after Sunday Mass. The menu was eggs, sausage, pancakes, juice and coffee. Upwards of 75 guests enjoyed the meal either outside or in the newly renovated Pavilion.

As in all cooks, many Brothers pitched in to make sure the event was a success. Brother Ken Fehner was the biggest contributor. Ken chaired the day by filling the assignments, building the flyer, and directing the setup. Ken cracked 96 eggs into two gallon bottles, for scrambling them, he mixed the pancake batter, brought the OJ, and sausage patties. So Brother Ken, when is the next Family Breakfast???



DONATE BLOOD

St. Mary's Knights of Columbus
Sunday, July 5
 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM

All donors will receive*:

- \$25 eGift Card
- Limited Edition T-shirt
- Wellness Checkup including blood pressure, pulse, temperature, iron count, and cholesterol screening.

Fact: Only 3% of those who are eligible actually donate blood.

Appointments are encouraged, please scan the QR code or visit oneblood.org/donate now and use sponsor code 75752.

ID REQUIRED

Donors Receive

\$25
eGIFT CARD

- PLUS -

- PLUS -

ALONG WITH THE FAMILY BREAKFAST, DGK CHRIS GRECEK HAD ANNOUNCED OUR BLOOD DRIVE. ONE MORE TIME, WE MET THE GOAL. BROTHER CHRIS REPORTS, WE HAD 12 PEOPLE OFFER TO DONATE. 10 OF WHICH DID DONATE. 5 WHOLE BLOOD AND 5 DOUBLE RED DONATIONS. AS USUAL FATHER ROBERT WAS ONE OF THE DONATORS



Special Fourth Degree Exemplification (Port Orange, FL)

Grand Knights and Faithful Navigators of Volusia, Flagler and Seminole Counties

You are urged to invite eligible Knights in your respective councils to register for a special Fourth Degree Exemplification for the Florida District of the De Soto Province, set for Port Orange, FL on Saturday, August 29, 2026.

The ceremony will take place at Our Lady of Hope Catholic Church, Clyde Morris Blvd, Port Orange. Registration begins at 9:30 a.m., at the Father O'Leary Parish Center, followed by the ceremony at 11:00am.

Our Lady of Hope (Port Orange) Pastor Very Rev. Father Matthew Mello will be the Exemplification Honoree.

This will be the full Fourth Degree Exemplification ceremony that was first performed at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City on Washington's Birthday in February, 2022. The event will be open to Third Degree Knights in Volusia, Flagler and Seminole Counties (Districts 17-18-19-20-24). The cost for candidates is \$60.

In lieu of a banquet, host Council 8086 will offer a luncheon following the ceremony at the Parish Center (donations will be accepted, but Knights/guests should pre-register). Vigil Mass will be celebrated at the church at 4 p.m.

Council 8086 Grand Knight Vito Benedetto is handling arrangements for the lunch, which is not included in the candidate cost.

Unlike former years, family members and friends are encouraged to attend. Sir Knights who took the Fourth Degree prior to 2025 are also invited to experience the ceremony that stresses the importance of being a Patriotic Catholic Citizen.

Councils should begin by gathering the completed Form 4 membership application from their respective candidates along with the \$60 exemplification fee, and turning them over to their Financial Secretary. The FS will then prepare a roster, and write a council check payable to Robert Urrutia, Master. The FS is required to send in a downloaded copy of the registration form, signed Form 4 (all four copies for each candidate), and check payable to the Master, Robert Urrutia. Forms are available on the Corpus Christi Assembly 2810 website <https://assembly2810.org/forms/> or the Florida State Council website <https://www.floridakofc.org/Fourth-degree-Forms>. The package should be mailed to: John O'Malley, 4641 South Moon Trail, Port Orange, FL 32129, by August 19th. The registration form/roster should also be emailed to John O'Malley, Executive Assistant to the Master, at jjomalley99@outlook.com.

Please note the dress code for the exemplification. While tuxedos are no longer mandatory, candidates must wear a dark suit (not brown!) and black dress shoes.

Vivat Jesus!

Robert S. Urrutia, Master

PLEASE WELCOME TWO BROTHERS WHO JOINED OUR COUNCIL

STEPHEN BOND



EUGENE MUSCILLO



August 2026

Sun, Aug 2, 2026	10:00pm – 11:00pm	K of C Mass at St Joseph Monastery
Thur Aug 6, 2026	6:00pm – 7:00pm	Business Meeting at the Pavilion
Thur Aug 13, n2026	8:30am- 9:30am	Mass -Michael McGivney - Monastery
Sat Aug15, 2026	To be determined	Dinner Dance for Monastery at SMdM Hall
Tues Aug 25-31,'26	All Day	Sacred Heart of Jesus Icon - Monastery
Tues Aug 18, 2026	4:30pm – 6:30pm	Assem. 2810 Meeting (SMdM Parish Hall)
Thur Aug 27, 2026	6:00pm – 7:00pm	Officers Meeting at the Pavilion
Sat Aug 29,2026	9:30am – 11:00am	4 th Degree Exemplification Our Lady of Hope

August 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31	1	2	3	4	5

September 2026

Thur Sept 3, 2026	6:00pm-7:00pm	Business Meeting at the Pavillion
Sun Sept 6, 2026	10:00am – 11:00am	K of C Mass St. Joseph Monastery
	08:00am-1:00pm	Blood Drive – St. Joseph Monastery
Tues Sept 15, 2026	4:30pm – 6:30pm	Assembly 2810 Meeting (SMdM Parish Hall)
Thur Sept 25, 2026	6:00pm – 7:00pm	Officers Meeting at the Pavilion

September 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	1	2	3



August Birthdays

Noel Deguzman	08-01
Don Worthington	08 -05
Joseph Jurec	08-09
Alex Velez	08-22
Joseph Marotti	08-27

If you haven't paid your dues, payments can be brought to the August 6th meeting in the newly renovated Monastery pavilion, or they can be mailed to Mike Gossman at 87 Longridge Ln, Ormond Beach, FL 32174. Dues are \$35 payable to KofC Council 11961. (Honorary Life members are only \$15, Life Members and Religious are \$0)

Brother Knights, as most of you know, we support two seminarians from the St. Augustine diocese. With your

Membership Dues

generous support we were able to increase our support from \$400 to \$500 in May and a second \$500 at the end of their semesters, we also sent them a \$100 Christmas present. This support won our council the Seminarian RSVP award. The officers

thank you for your generosity. If you would like to make a voluntary contribution to help continue our funding of this worthwhile cause, please add it to your dues check and it will be designated for the seminarians.

Thank you for your continued membership and help at our events that allowed St Mary Council 11961 be "Council of the Year" in division 1.



Formation Meetings

The Meetings are Scheduled for Tuesdays During the 2nd and 4th Weeks of Each Month.



For More Information, Please Scan the Code to Contact the Monastery.



Topics Covered Will Include:

- Lectio divina
- The Catechism of the Catholic Church
- The Lives of the Carmelite Saints
- Introduction to the Holy Scriptures



Financial Secretary Mike Gossman had breakfast with one seminarian we support, Loc Huynh. As you remember Justino is now Father Justino. The other seminarian pictured is Paul Sajous, who is off to Rome for 4 years.



The Sacred Heart Icon is coming back to our council in August!

On Friday, August 28th right after the 8:30am Mass, there will a brief talk on the Enthronement of the Sacred Heart in our homes. By doing so, families recognize Christ's role in their lives and give the image of the Sacred Heart a place of honor in the home. We will then proceed to the Gardens for a Special Blessing of the Sacred Heart Statue in it's new location. We will then recite the Litany of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. We hope to see many of you there!



300 CLUB WINNERS JULY \$50 Winners

#209 Gena Marotti
#280 Patty Shaw
#223 Donna Karas
#170 Rick Stevens



ST MARY COUNCIL 11961

Golf Tournament

Place - Halifax Plantation
Keep the Date - October 14, 2026
Golf scramble, Continental Breakfast, Lunch, Buffet Dinner
Events - Fun Day - hole in one, longest drive, putting contest.
Plus - Raffle, muligans and silent auction

is



Our annual Golf Tournament is currently being renegotiated. When final decisions are made that benefit the Guests, Monastery and our Council, it will be announced.

Saint Joseph Carmelite Monastery

Week of July 19, 2026

Sunday - July 19th
5:00pm - Mass

Monday - July 20th
8:30am - Mass
6:00pm Men's Prayer Warriors Group

Tuesday - July 21st
8:30am - Mass - Chaplet of Divine Mercy

Wednesday - July 22nd
Feast of Saint Mary Magdalene
8:30am - Mass - Litany of Saint Joseph

Thursday - July 23rd
8:30am - Mass - Litany of Loreto
10:00am Mass in Polish
12:00noon - 6:00pm - Exposition, Adoration, and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament

Friday - July 24th
8:30am - Mass

Saturday - July 25th
Feast of Saint James, The Apostle
8:00am - Mass in Latin

*Come and spend time in
silent adoration in the
presence of the Lord.
"Remain in me, as I also
remain in you." John 15:4*

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

EVERY THURSDAY
12:00 pm - 6:00 pm

St. Joseph Carmelite Monastery, Bunnell, FL



Holy Father's Monthly Prayer Intention
Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation and hope.

If you know of any Brother or family member in distress, please notify one of the council officers.

PRAY FOR THOSE ON OUR SICK LIST

MARY, QUEEN OF THE KNIGHTS
intercede to Jesus for those in need of his healing.

Nacci Family, Eric Bonilla, Mel Young, Nestor Ramos, Joe and Joan Beck, Enzo Pistritto
Bob Stearns and son, Peter Capozzi, Judd McNally, Nigel Powell and daughter Megan Cuna
Joe Rios Family, Dr. Joe Moore, Joe Pimentel, PDD Kevin Ryan's son Shane, Glenn Shaw, Ron Kiceina
Tom Flemming, Dave Norris, Brother Patrick, Joe Leahy, David Bailey

Almighty and Eternal God, You are the everlasting health of those who believe in You. Hear us for Your sick servant for whom we implore the aid of Your tender mercy, that being to bodily health, he (she) may give thanks to You in Your Church. Through Christ our Lord.



Prayer for the Healing of Loved Ones

Almighty God, look with mercy and kindness on our loved ones who are sick, especially those listed here. Grant them good health. Send your holy Angels to watch over them. Protect them from danger, and keep them safe from lasting injury or harm. May the life-giving grace of Your Divine Son relieve their suffering and bring them to a full recovery. Embrace them with Your constant love, and with the power of Christ's healing presence, that Your bountiful goodness may be their source of comfort, strength and joy. Amen.

Prayer for the Faithful Departed

O Loving Father, Source of all life, please accompany Your servants, listed here, from this earth, to the Kingdom of heavenly peace, rest and eternal life that You have prepared for us. Forgive any sins that have been committed, and welcome these departed souls into the joyful embrace of Your never-ending love. Amen



Pray for our Deceased Brothers

Let us remember and pray for our Brothers that are no longer with us, Norman Mugford, Paul Przybysz, Richard Rentz, Gus Simms, Mel Vevera, Rev. Francis Zammit and also our former District Deputy Paul Gloekler, and our founder Hank Kesselring. May our Lord welcome them home.



Pray for Vocations

"The way Jesus shows you is not easy. Rather, it is like a path winding up a mountain. Do not lose heart! The steeper the road, the faster it rises towards ever wider horizons."
St. John Paul II





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August 2026

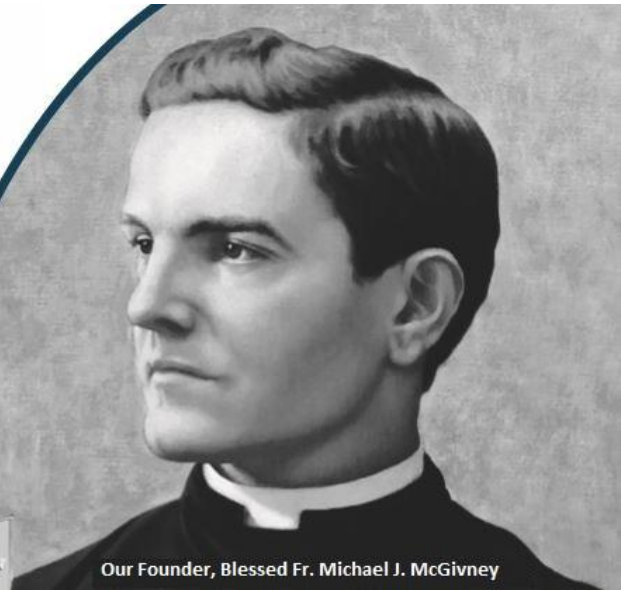
Charity
Unity
Fraternity

Offer a Catholic gentleman the
GIFT of becoming a Knight.
Please use the e-membership
function on KOF.C.ORG/JOINUS



Different for a reason

Discover the Catholic difference
of doing business with the
Knights of Columbus.



Our Founder, Blessed Fr. Michael J. McGivney



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Larry Kennedy, Field Agent
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