



New Jersey State Council Knights of Columbus

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2021-7

RESOLUTION

Canonization of Blessed Michael J. McGivney

WHEREAS in 1882, Blessed Michael McGivney, a parish priest of St. Mary's Parish in New Haven, Connecticut, envisioned the establishment of a fraternal society that would strengthen the faith of Catholic men and provide aid to their widows and families after their death, and

WHEREAS on March 29, 1882, the Connecticut State Legislature officially approved and chartered this new organization, the Knights of Columbus, with its purpose of rendering pecuniary aid to its members and their families; rendering financial aid and assistance to the sick, disabled, and needy; overcoming prejudice and bigotry against the Catholic population and promoting religious, charitable, and social welfare activities, and

WHEREAS since then, inspired by his vision and dedication, the Order has grown to become the largest lay Catholic fraternal organization in the world, with over 2 million members in over 16,000 local councils, and

WHEREAS on March 15, 2008, Pope Benedict XVI approved a decree recognizing the heroic virtue of Father Michael J. McGivney, thus conferring upon him the distinction of "Venerable Servant of God" and significantly advancing his cause for sainthood, and

WHEREAS the decree recognizes that Blessed Michael McGivney, even when afflicted by poor health, excelled in his efforts to alleviate the many needs of the poor and marginalized in society, and

WHEREAS the decree affirms that Blessed Michael McGivney showed tangible concern for the conditions of the Catholic immigrants he served, and exhibited both the practice of the virtues and a ready response to the action of grace, which in every age signifies holiness, and

WHEREAS the decree recognizes that Blessed Michael McGivney was committed to an active collaboration with the laity, encouraging them to realize the full dignity of the person in their work, their marriages, and their families, and

WHEREAS Pope Benedict XVI, while celebrating Mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral during his apostolic journey to the United States in April of 2008, called Blessed Michael McGivney an "exemplary American priest ...

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whose vision and zeal led to the establishment of the Knights of Columbus."

WHEREAS in an Apostolic letter dated September 13, 2020 from Pope Francis it decreed that "the Venerable Servant of God, Michael McGivney, Diocesan Priest, Founder of the Knights of Columbus... henceforth be given the title of **Blessed** and that his liturgical memorial be kept each year on 13 August."

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the delegates of the New Jersey State Council Knights of Columbus, on this 15th day of May 2021, representing the 59,000 New Jersey Knights along with their families, will continue to pray for the canonization of our founder, Blessed Michael McGivney, and encourage all brother Knights and their families to become active members of the McGivney Guild, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we would pray for the intercession of Blessed Michael McGivney for our needs and the needs of all our loved ones, and report any favors received, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we commit ourselves to follow his courageous example by leading lives of heroic virtue in our marriages, our families, our parishes, and our places of work, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we would honor the vision of Blessed Michael McGivney through a commitment to charity, unity and fraternity that will cause our Order to grow and, through acts of charity, reach ever more people in need.

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