



2025 / 2026
NEW YORK STATE COUNCIL
Knights of Columbus

PILGRIMS OF HOPE

New York State Knight Life



"In Service to One. In Service to All."

January 1, 2026 Vol. 3 Edition. 1

Official Newsletter for the New York State Knights of Columbus

The object of a New Year is not that we should have a new year. It is that we should have a new soul and a new nose; new feet, a new backbone, new ears, and new eyes - Gilbert K. Chesterton

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Deacon for the State Council
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P.O. Box 8, Hopewell Junction, NY 12533 • Office: 516-900-5632 • Email: NYSKofC@aol.com • Website: newyorkknights.com

Tell others about Knight Life... Forward this newsletter to Catholic men interested in the Knights, and let them know they can become a member for free online at kofc.org/join You can also share your questions, feedback and story ideas by emailing mboehm1122@msn.com

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PUBLISHED BY THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS STATE COUNCIL

State Deputy's Message



Message for the New Year – 2026

As we enter 2026 with high aspirations and bold ideas, we do so with renewed energy and a clear plan to surpass our goals. From our Mid-Year Meeting, we emerged with focus—knowing what must be done and how we will attain it.

“I have tremendous trust in this Administration, deep confidence in our Directors and Chairmen, and unwavering faith in our District Deputies.”

I know the message shared will be carried faithfully to our councils and Grand Knights. We will paint with a different brush, and in time, the portrait we create will reveal the rewards of our labor.

The comments from our Mid-Year Meeting were overwhelmingly positive. The message was sent, and it was received. Our chaplains are doing extraordinary work, and many have told me their message is the strongest they have heard in years. The Blessed Sacrament in the adoration room, and the opportunity for confession, gave us all the time to reflect and renew

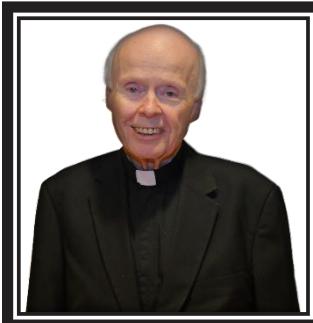
As I said back in July: God is at the door. Invite Him in, and all things become possible. Well, the door is starting to open.

We spoke of our goals in membership and programs, and we will not only meet them—we will surpass them. This is not about me. It is about us. About how we can make our New York Jurisdiction stronger, how we can lead rather than follow.

Let us begin this new year with action. “Let each of us extend one invitation—to a friend, a neighbor, a brother—so that they too may share in the joy and fraternity we cherish as Knights of Columbus.”

“Together, may we and our families be blessed with health, happiness, and the grace of God in this new year. May our unity as Knights be a light to all we serve.”

Vivat Jesus,
Gary J. Leonardo
State Deputy



My Brother Knights,

I am writing these words as we approach the joyous season of Christmas. Throughout this Advent tide so many individuals, families, and people around the world have experienced crises. Young soldiers pledged to our country's welfare have the ultimate sacrifice. Students looking forward to going home for celebrations never completed their journeys. And our elder brothers and sisters as St. John Paul II called them were martyred on the Feast of Lights commemorating the efforts of their ancestors to defend religious freedom. Yet with our faith we recognize that as the Maccabees stood in the eternal light of God so Jesus came to lead us through His suffering to the promise of eternal life.

The struggle He faced throughout His earthly life is the same that we face on a daily basis but we remember He was victorious. His victory is offered to us as the manner in which we not only witness to Divine Love but also invite others to receive the Good News. In that we also imitate our founder in reaching out to the needy, the sick, and the youth of our community.

I trust that taking time from our family visits, enjoying the various foods prepared so lovingly by our hosts, and utilizing the gifts received, we might meditate upon the name of Jesus given to us by the prophet Isaiah: "Emmanuel" which is "God is with us". There need be no fear, no sadness, no problem that the Lord will ignore in our prayer. Jesus is in our midst, Mary and Joseph are our examples and our intercessors throughout this year let us recognize that indeed Vivat Jesus, Jesus lives!

Father Brian E. McWeeney

Associate State Chaplain,

Brother Knights,



As we begin this new calendar year, I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to every council, district deputy, and individual Knight who made our December "A Knight Before Christmas" recruitment drive such a resounding success. Your tireless efforts brought many new brothers into our Order. The momentum you created is exactly what we need to carry us forward into 2026.



The winners of our "A Knight Before Christmas" recruitment incentive will be drawn at the **Right to Life Mass on Sunday, January 18, 2026**. We look forward to celebrating those councils and Knights who went above and beyond in inviting new members to join.

A Mid-Year Check-In: Fraternal Year 2025-2026

- **Council Officer Forms (Form 185)**

A few councils have not yet submitted their 2025-2026 Council Officers Form. If you are one of them, please complete and submit this form as soon as possible.

- **Service Program Personnel Report (Form 365)**

Likewise, the Form 365 is still outstanding for a handful of councils. This report ensures your council's leadership is properly aligned to support our Faith, Family, Community, and Life programs. Prompt submission is greatly appreciated.

- **Safe Environment Compliance**

Most councils have completed or are very close to completing Safe Environment training and compliance requirements. If your council is still working on this, please finalize it without delay.

Keep the Recruitment Momentum Going

Recruitment is not a seasonal activity—it is a 12-month commitment. I encourage every council to log into the Member Management Portal and check the Prospect Tab to convert any Supreme Council prospects into full council members. These are individuals who have expressed interest and are waiting for your personal invitation. Let's carry that December energy into January and beyond. Keep inviting new men to join us by sharing the great work we do!

Vivat Jesus!

Carl Schneider

State Membership Director

Knights of Columbus – New York State Council



January 2026 Program News



At the mid-year meeting in December, the State Programs Team presented the eight new featured programs released by Supreme council to our District Deputies. There are two new programs under each category of Life, Community, Family, and Faith. Four of these new programs are primarily directed at Hispanic parishes but can benefit all parishes and most resources are free to order.

The new programs are below and please ask your district deputy or refer to the Supreme website for information and resources. Please see where these programs can benefit your council, parish, and community.

Life – Holy Hour for Life with Our Lady of Guadalupe & Gospel for Life

Community – Celebrating Our Catholic Heritage & Bright Futures

Family – Remembering our Faithful Departed & Quinceanera Support

Faith - Imitating Saint Juan Diego & Viva Cristo Rey

Important upcoming program/form due dates:

Soccer Challenge – January 15th

Special Olympics Reporting Council Form – January 31st

Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity – January 31st

Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest – February 16th

Thomas M. Moran
NYS Council – Director of Programs
dd14pgkton@gmail.com - 516/260-1517



Congratulations to the Winners of this year's C&B program listed below. Some books arrived at Villa Roma after the drawing so we will have a full report next month. We ask each council to review their numbers on State Website and report any discrepancies to either Lloyd or myself. Winners will be paid in 2026 as well as Council bonuses. Thank you for the support of the women who attended the mid -year who fanned the almost 57,000 books. We acknowledge those councils who went above and beyond in achieving their goals. We are always open to any suggestions for next year.

C&B FINAL WINNERS - CONGRATULATIONS

25k: Mary Margaret Smith 191

10k: Michelle Natale #581

5k: John Craig #15446

1k winners

SK Kelsie McCabe #4299

Ron Oliver #11590

Milek Bolnick #6205

Mike Mason #15917

Jack Howell #3892

Jim Burgess #3481

Rene Arellano #18332

F. DeGlio #1675

William J. Molloy #430

Linda McElroy #11416

Best wishes for a Happy New Year

Ken Karchinski - Director C&B

New Award Unveiled



During the weekend of Dec. 5th – 7th the New York State Council conducted its annual Mid-Year Meeting at Villa Roma Resort. This meeting gives the Council an opportunity to review with the staff and District Deputies the progress made since the July Organizational Meeting. Additionally, eight new K of C programs were introduced.

Saturday's dinner, honored all District Deputies, and saw the first presentation ever of a new award to recognize *Cor Districts*. Since *Cor* takes its name from St John Henry Newman's episcopal motto, "*Cor ad cor loquitor*" (heart speaks to heart), the award was named for the saint. The mission of *Cor* is to help focus men on Jesus by building Christ-centered brotherhood through a flexible framework of prayer, formation and fraternity.

State Deputy Gary Leonardo and Immediate Past State Deputy Tony Ippolito presented these awards to 10 District Deputies from across the state from the Finger Lakes region in the north to Long Island in the south.

Congratulations to the below listed awardees:

<u>District</u>	<u>District Deputy</u>	<u>Conference</u>
21	Robert Guida	Nassau
23	Kevin Fox	Queens
26	Salvatore Ciampo	Queens
39	Karl Emigholz	B-M-S
40	John Thompson	B-M-S
51	Chris Crozier	West-Put
56	Steven Merschen	Hudson Valley
57	David Kubler	Hudson Valley
61	Burt Struble	Hudson Valley
89	Thomas Fellion	Finger Lakes

An image of the St John Henry Newman Award is shown below.



By: Jim Corrigan
Director, Evangelization and Faith Formation



NYS Knights of Columbus Council

“Clergy Spotlight”

The NYS Council would like to introduce a new initiative called **“Clergy Spotlight”** to further support and recognition our Clergy. The NYS Council is looking for councils throughout the state to nominate a local clergy. The nominating council will then put together an article with a small photo of a Priest, Deacon or Bishop who makes a difference in their parish, community, and the Order. The selected submission will be posted in the state's monthly newsletter.

Format:

Limit 250-300 words.

Single page article or narrative with photo already on the page

Email attachment only

Submission:

One Submission per council per month

Email **MUST INCLUDE** the council's name, number and location along with contact person's name and email address.

Submit spotlight articles:

Saville1@yahoo.com

SK Stephen Saville FN

State Chairman of Priest Recognition

NYS Council- Knights of Columbus

518-538-3391

In the Spotlight



Clergy Spotlight- Fr. Kevin McBrien

Msgr. Sherman Council #5103 of the Knights of Columbus proudly nominates Rev. Father Kevin McBrien for the Knights of Columbus Clergy Spotlight.

Fr. Kevin McBrien was the pastor at Our Lady of the Snows parish in Floral Park NY for twelve years, and a little over a year ago was appointed as our new pastor at Sacred Heart of Jesus parish, in Glendale NY. Even from his first busy days of shepherding our new parish, he eagerly accepted the role of Chaplain at our council. Each month he brings with him a message of prayer, reflection and thanksgiving for our brother knights to reflect and pray upon. He has been extremely supportive of our Faith programs at the parish and in helping to promote the many good works of our council. Fr. McBrien serves our council with the same dedication, kindness and love that he shows his parish. He is the quintessential Chaplain.

In addition, Fr. McBrien has shown a high level of commitment and dedication to the Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) sports programs. He is a constant help to our youth, teaching them lessons that enable them to achieve spiritual growth, assume leadership roles, and establish a sense of Christian community throughout the Diocese of Brooklyn.

We are most fortunate and blessed to have Fr. McBrien as our council's Chaplain and are grateful for his commitment to the Msgr. Sherman Knights of Columbus council and the worldwide mission of the Knights of Columbus.

Fraternally,

Christopher Russo
Grand Knight Msgr. Sherman Council #5103, Glendale, NY
347-684-2201



Happy New Year - how many times are you going to repeat that phase over the next couple of weeks? Probably dozens and dozens. And why not, it's



a nice way to bring joy, happiness, and positive energy to someone as they begin their year. It's a universal way to express goodwill, positivity, and renewal. This greeting symbolizes fresh beginnings, optimism, and hope for better days ahead. It's one of the most beautiful ways we humans share encouragement and celebrate life's ongoing journey together.

Catholic teaching about the New Year emphasizes the importance of reflection, renewal, and spiritual growth. It encourages Catholics to seek God's guidance, blessings, and protection for the year ahead. How do we go about doing this? Prayer becomes the compass that directs our intentions, decisions, and actions in alignment with divine purpose. Catholic New Year prayers are profound expressions of faith, invoking God's providence over our families, health, finances, and spiritual journey. These prayers remind us that our strength does not come from ourselves but from God's infinite love. Through prayer, we invite His wisdom to illuminate our paths, His protection to guard our homes, and His peace to dwell in our hearts. The New Year becomes a sacred canvas upon which we paint our Intentions with the colors of hope, faith, and devotion. The real trick is trying to figure out what we can do as the year goes on to keep all the hope and optimism going. Starting your day with a daily reflection or by praying a Rosary each morning is a great way to clear your mind and stay focused. I play the Rosary through my phone in the car in the morning on the way to work, and it always puts me in a good frame of mind (until someone cuts me off on the LIE 😊).

My New Year wish for everyone is that we all keep up our spirit and optimism as the year goes on. Remember as Knights, we have chosen to live outside of secular society and have pledged to live and devote our lives serving God and each other. Let's try to do it with a joyful heart.

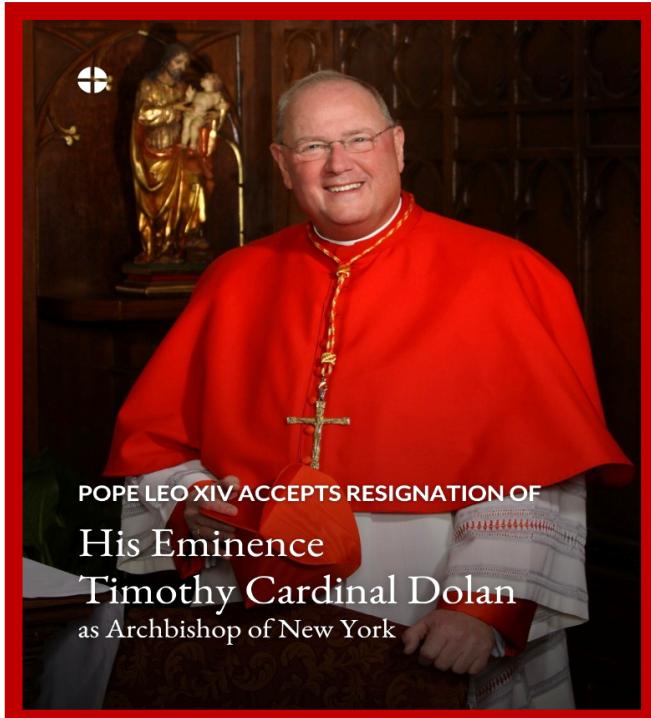
My Wife Jessica and I wish you all a very Happy and Safe New Year!!

Michael Boehm
NYS Newsletter Editor

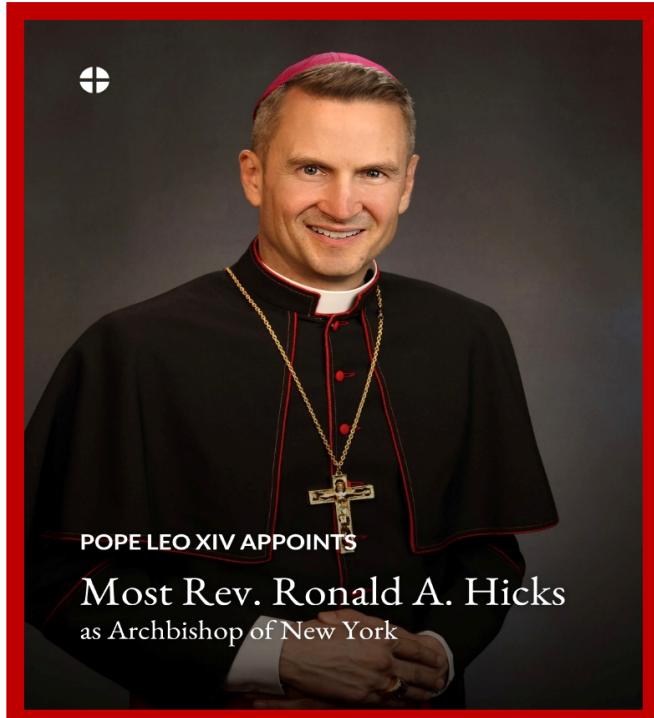
BREAKING NEWS

Pope Leo XIV has accepted the resignation of His Eminence Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan, 75, from the pastoral governance of the Archdiocese of New York, and has appointed Most Reverend Ronald A. Hicks, currently Bishop of Joliet, as the Metropolitan Archbishop of New York. The resignation and appointment were publicized in Washington, D.C. on December 18, 2025, by Cardinal Christopher Pierre, apostolic nuncio to the United States.

The NYS Council wishes to thank Cardinal Dolan on his outstanding Leadership for the past 17 years and wish him much happiness on his upcoming retirement!



POPE LEO XIV ACCEPTS RESIGNATION OF
His Eminence
Timothy Cardinal Dolan
as Archbishop of New York



POPE LEO XIV APPOINTS
Most Rev. Ronald A. Hicks
as Archbishop of New York

The Most Rev. Hicks said he looks forward to “working closely and collaboratively with the priests, the deacons, the religious, the lay leaders of [the] archdiocese” as well as working with the “great variety and diversity of faith leaders and civic leaders” that populate New York City. The NYS Council would like to congratulate him on his appointment and we look forward to working with him in the years to come.

NEW YORK STATE COUNCIL



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

ANNUAL PRO-LIFE MASS



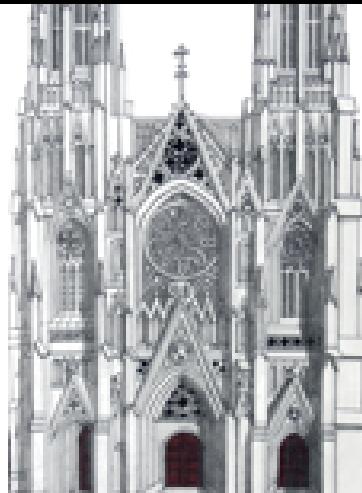
Sunday, January 18, 2026

10:15AM

**St. Patrick's Cathedral
New York, NY**

CELEBRANT

**His Eminence Timothy Cardinal Dolan
Archbishop of New York**



Every life. Cherished. Chosen. Sent.





2026 MARCH FOR LIFE D.C.

Life is a Gift

The theme for the 2026 March for Life offers a fresh vision, inviting all people to rediscover the beauty, goodness, and joy of life itself. Every January at the National March for Life, countless marchers from across the country and around the world unite in celebration of the gift of human life—radiating hope, unity, and a spirit that transcends politics. This is why the 2026 March for Life theme is **Life is a Gift**, emphasizing what lies at the heart of the pro-life movement—an unshakeable conviction that life is very good and worthy of protection, no matter the circumstances. **Life is a Gift** invites everyone to embrace life as something to be cherished and celebrated from the very beginning.

We invite you to be swept up into this movement of joy and celebration. The March is scheduled for **Friday, January 23, 2026** in Washington, D.C., join in by joyfully declaring to the nation: **Life is a Gift.**

Catholic New Year's Resolutions

If you want your New Year's resolutions to be rooted in your Catholic faith, you can focus on goals that nurture your relationship with God, strengthen your virtues, become a better Knight and serve others. Here are some ideas:

1. Deepen Your Prayer Life

- Commit to daily prayer, even if it's just 10 minutes of quiet reflection.
- Pray the Rosary regularly or try the Liturgy of the Hours, maybe in the car on the way to or from work. It takes the stress out of the drive and it keeps you calm when dealing with the antics of some of the people on the road.

2. Grow in Scripture

- Read a chapter of the Bible each day or follow a Catholic Bible-in-a-year plan.
- Meditate on the daily Mass readings.

3. Frequent the Sacraments

- Attend Mass more than just on Sundays when possible.
- Go to Confession monthly to keep your soul in a state of grace.

4. Practice Works of Mercy

- Volunteer at a parish ministry, soup kitchen, or shelter.
- Visit the sick, elderly, or homebound, perhaps bring them Communion if you are an E.M. - and if not, become one!

5. Cultivate Virtues

- Focus on one virtue each month (e.g., patience, humility, charity).
- Offer up small sacrifices for the intentions of others.

6. Strengthen Catholic Community

- Join a Bible study or prayer group. Better yet, join or start a Cor group in your Council or Parish.
- Invite friends or family to Mass or parish and Council events.

7. Live Liturgically

- Celebrate feast days and learn about the saints.
- Incorporate the Church's liturgical seasons into your home life.

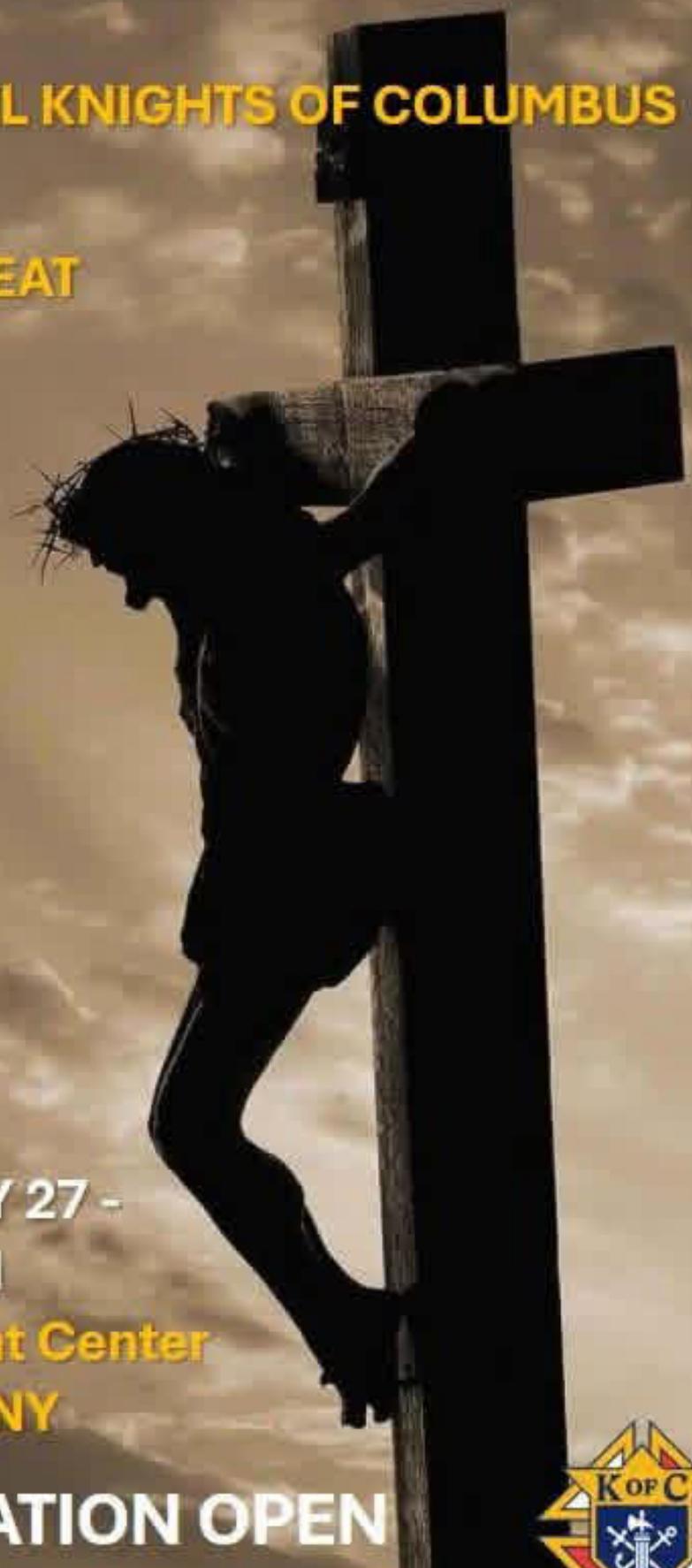
**NY STATE COUNCIL KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
LENT 2026
5TH ANNUAL RETREAT**

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27 -
SUNDAY, MARCH 1**

**Mt. Alvernia Retreat Center
Wappingers Falls, NY**

PRE-REGISTRATION OPEN

Please email: jcerato@ix.netcom.com





My Brother Knights

As the year comes to an end and a New Year begins, The New York State offices of the Columbiettes along with their 8 chapters and The 74 auxiliaries throughout New York continue to do fine works of charity and to the order. It is the goal of the Columbiettes to give assistance to the Knights when they request aid and support, they can assist in membership drives to recruit men and women to join the Knights of Columbus and the Columbiettes. The Columbiettes could help increase participation at social and religious functions sponsored by the Knights of Columbus. If you would like to have a Columbiette auxiliary in your council, ask other Councils who have Columbiettes see what good they do for the church and the community.

If you have any questions or like more information you could contact your Columbiette chapter or the state officer in your area for guidance.

I am always here for information or questions Please see attached flyer for the cruise that the New York State Columbiettes are hosting in May.

Happy Healthy and a safe New Year
Joe Muller
New York State Chairman Columbiettes
917-364-1800
joemul1024@gmail.com



Come Cruise with the New York State Columbiettes

May 9-16, 2026

NYSCC is sponsoring a 7-day cruise to Bermuda out of New York Harbor.

Balcony Cabin: \$1992.68 pp.

Included in this price:

Insurance, Government taxes and fees, Beverage package, 3 Specialty dining, 150 minutes of Internet
(per person) \$50 shore excursion (per cabin)

Inside Cabin: \$1372.70 pp.

Included in this price:

Insurance, Government taxes and fees, Beverage package, 1 Specialty dining, 150 minutes of Internet
(per person) \$50 shore excursion (per cabin)

\$125.00 Deposit is due at the time of your reservation

Make your checks payable to:

Travel Emporium

Mail Reservations to:

Catherine Bischoff, 1825 Maple Avenue, Peekskill, NY 10566.

Questions: call Cathy Bischoff, 914-943-9293.

Current US Passport is required

NO Ocean view cabins.



Surviving Documents of Blessed Michael McGivney

In the 13 surviving documents written by Blessed Michael McGivney, there are numerous references to the Knights of Columbus and its founding mission. Here are four excerpts from Father McGivney's writings about the Order.

“Our primary object is to prevent people from entering Secret Societies, by offering the same, if not better, advantages to our members. Secondly, to unite the men of our Faith throughout the diocese of Hartford, that we may thereby gain strength to aid each other in time of sickness; to provide for decent burial, and to render pecuniary assistance to the families of deceased members.” — *To Connecticut parish priests, April 1882.*

“You ask what is the membership? We only number about a hundred yet. The reason of this small number for the time established is that I have met with great opposition from the Foresters — a very strong organization in this state, especially among our young men — and again because anything new is always a hard thing to maintain.” — *To Martin I.J. Griffin of Philadelphia, Feb. 12, 1883.*

“We have set the wheel in motion, and with willing cooperation in a work that tends so much to our own welfare, we venture to say that soon, very soon, the Order of the Knights of Columbus will hold a prominent place among the best Catholic cooperative corporations in the Union. ... ‘Unity and Charity’ is our motto. Unity to gain strength to be charitable to each other in benevolence whilst we live and in bestowing financial aid to those whom we have to mourn our loss.” — *Letter to The Connecticut Catholic, Aug. 25, 1883.*

“The Order of the Knights of Columbus is the same now as when first instituted. viz.: It is an Order composed of Catholics and instituted for the welfare of Catholic families. ... Not only in sickness, but when death takes the support of the family away, the Knights of Columbus comes to the relief of the widow and the orphan in a very substantial manner.” — *Letter in response to “Clericus” in The Connecticut Catholic, May 30, 1885.*

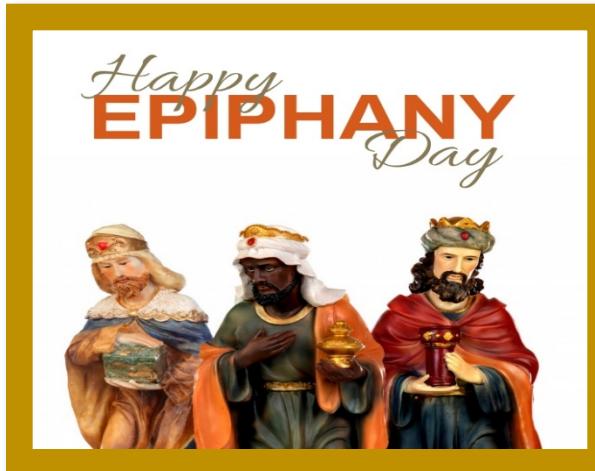
Michael McGivney is more than just the founder of the Knights of Columbus. He is the face of what the Knights of Columbus have become. He represents every person given a wheelchair, every child given a coat, every chapel that has been rebuilt, every pilgrimage we participate in and the endless list of all charitable deeds of the Knights. Fr. McGivney through our works has touched millions of lives.

As State Chairman for the McGivney Guild, if you are not already a member, I highly encourage to join, for the sake of our founder and the purpose and charitable works he represents. You can play a key role in advancing Father McGivney's cause for canonization by joining the McGivney Guild for free and praying for his intercession and canonization.

The Guild currently has more than 176,000 members, and you are encouraged to join by filling out and submitting the online form. Please assist in the cause of Father McGivney by spreading the word about this holy and blessed priest. You can join online at:

<https://www.fathermcgivney.org/join-the-guild>

Fraternally,
Thomas Freundsuh, PGK, FSD
New York State Council Chairman, McGivney Guild



January 6th marks the Feast of the Epiphany!

While the hustle and bustle of Christmas ends for many people on Dec. 26, throughout Christian history Christmas lasts for much longer. The feast marking the end of Christmas is called "Epiphany." In the Latin rite of the Catholic Church, Epiphany celebrates the revelation that Jesus was the

Son of God. It focuses primarily on this revelation to the Three Wise Men, but it also focuses on his baptism in the Jordan and at the wedding at Cana. In the Eastern rites of the Catholic Church, Theophany — as Epiphany is known in the East —commemorates the manifestation of Jesus' divinity at his baptism in the River Jordan.

However, the meaning of the feast goes deeper than just the bringing of presents or the end of Christmas, says Father Hezekias Carnazzo, a Melkite Catholic priest and founding executive director of the Virginia-based Institute of Catholic Culture. "You can't understand the Nativity without Theophany; or you can't understand Nativity without Epiphany." The revelation of Christ as the Son of God — both as an infant and at his baptism — illuminate the mysteries of the Christmas season, he said. "The feast of Epiphany, or the feast of Theophany, is a very, very early feast," Carnazzo said. "It predates the celebration of Christmas on the 25th."

In the early Church, Christians, particularly those in the East, celebrated the advent of Christ on Jan. 6 by commemorating Nativity, Visitation of the Magi, Baptism of Christ, and the Wedding of Cana all in one feast of the Epiphany. By the fourth century, both Christmas and Epiphany had been set as separate feasts in some dioceses. At the Council of Tours in 567, the Church set both Christmas Day and Epiphany as feast days on Dec. 25 and Jan. 6, respectively, and named the 12 days between the feasts as the Christmas season (that's where the song "The Twelve days of Christmas" comes from). These celebrations point to the family-centered nature of the feast day and of its original connection to the celebration of the Holy Family. The traditions also point to what is known — and what is still mysterious — about the Magi, who were the first Gentiles to encounter Christ. While the Bible remains silent about the Wise Men's actual names, as well as how many there were, we can say they were likely clever, wealthy, and most importantly, brave. "They were willing to take the risk in order to go searching for the truth, in what they discerned was a monumental event," he said, adding that the Magi can still be a powerful example.

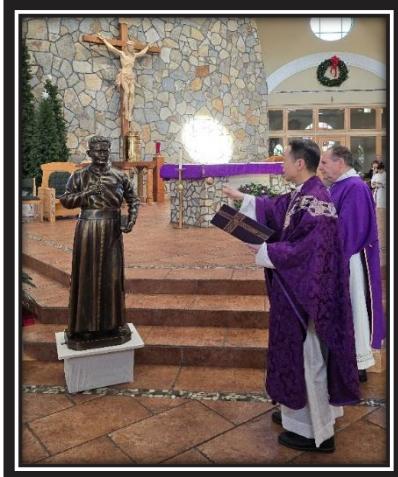
Whatever the reason, I just like the fact that we can stretch the Christmas Celebration out for as long as possible! So Happy Epiphany to you all!!

Just for fun, here is a little word search puzzle for the whole Family to solve:

Epiphany

I	Z	F	R	F	G	E	L	D	R	W	N	G	E	M	Y	H
E	P	G	J	N	Q	T	J	L	E	A	S	T	U	N	J	I
K	U	S	O	V	V	T	V	T	D	W	P	D	A	J	I	E
B	B	U	U	O	C	U	C	H	S	K	O	H	G	V	P	K
Z	E	X	R	F	K	L	Z	U	O	M	P	R	P	S	Q	V
H	C	F	N	R	M	I	S	T	Y	I	I	G	S	A	Q	W
Z	K	R	E	D	E	E	U	I	P	M	Y	P	H	H	T	W
Q	Z	A	Y	W	J	X	K	E	R	K	C	A	K	I	I	D
J	F	N	E	H	Z	B	L	J	R	T	K	V	I	K	L	P
M	M	K	F	O	X	H	E	W	E	Q	K	S	N	O	C	A
B	Y	I	E	R	O	C	H	T	I	L	F	V	G	W	Y	V
A	R	S	P	A	D	L	Y	E	H	S	H	L	S	I	Z	X
V	R	E	J	T	T	G	I	M	R	L	E	V	P	D	D	M
O	H	N	E	S	G	W	Q	K	L	R	E	M	M	E	I	Q
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V	M	E	L	P	I	P	J	D	Q	W	D	D	E	N	E	V
N	J	O	B	X	Y	E	F	Y	I	G	A	M	Q	M	X	S

frankisence	bethlehem	epiphany	journey
wisemen	worship	herrod	camel
jesus	myrrh	king	magi
east	gold	star	



On Sunday December 21st, Pius XII Council #4422 dedicated the new Blessed Fr. McGivney Statue that they purchased. The Statue was placed at St. Raphael's Parish in East Meadow, NY. On hand for the event was our NYS Treasurer Peter Lehr, NYS Advocate Robert Graziano, Program Director Tom Moran, Communication Director Joe Cerato, ASC for Faith Activities Lou Pepe, DD Matthew Antonucci, and C & B Director Ken Karchinski just to name a few of the participants! Great job by GK Robert Visone and the Council in keeping the mission of Blessed Michael McGivney alive!!



Thanks to their charitable fundraising efforts this year and donations from Brother Knights, St Jude Council 5814 of Rocky Point NY was able to give an early Christmas present to the residents of **Long Island State Veterans Home**.

More than 300 new sweatshirts of various sizes with the LISVH logo on the front of the navy blue sweatshirt were donated! Thanks to GK Bill Signoretti and Community Director SK Jonathan Romano for accompanying the delivery! Great job Brothers in supporting our Veterans!



Brother Knights from Christ the King Council 3993 were out spreading holiday cheer recently at the Mariners Residence and assisted living facility on Staten Island. The Council hosted the 2nd annual Christmas karaoke for the residents. Each resident received Christmas gifts of Holiday cups, ornaments and lotto tickets. Big thank you to Deputy Grand Knight Joe Tirone for organizing the event and his daughter Jackie for helping out. What a great way to bring the Christmas Spirit to those folks who can't get out into the Community.



Brothers all,

It's time to get ready for the **2026 Knights of Columbus Free-Throw Championship**. One of the great **Faith in Action "Community" programs**. As always, Council contests should be held in the December/January timeframe.

District Deputies should be checking with their Councils to determine if more than one Council is participating. If two or more councils are holding a Free-Throw a District

event should be held in February and DDs should make sure that they have the District medals for their events.

Here are a couple Important facts that you should be aware of:

- **Make sure that you are up-to-date on the program and rules.**
[Free-Throw Championship Playbook](#) Here are a few important ones
 - **Age is determined as of January 1, 2026 NOT their age when your event is held.** *Guide for age is attached*
 - Council Level participants shoot 15 baskets
 - District Level and above participants shoot 25 baskets
 - Ties at all levels must be broken.
 - To break a tie, contestants take a second round of five free throws. No warm-up tosses are permitted for the tie-breaker rounds. Successive rounds of five free throws each continue until a winner emerges.
 - **Do not use the old two-sided participant forms.** Click on this link for the [1598 score sheet](#) that you should be using. They should also be included in the new Free-Throw kits if you order one.
- Rules for proof of age/gender: "Paperwork that determines age eligibility of participants **should be viewed and confirmed but it should not be collected or copied.**" So, have them bring and show proof, but **do not make or attach copies of birth certificates or passports to the score sheets.** You can simply note on the score sheet that their eligibility has been verified.
Note: I have verified with our State Advocate, State Deputy and the Director at Supreme for the Free-Throw Championship that we still use the information for age and gender on the Birth Certificate.



New York State
Knight of Columbus



THE NEW YORK RANGERS
VS.
THE CALGARY FLAMES



TUESDAY, MARCH 10TH, 2026
7:00 PM at MADISON SQUARE GARDEN

\$125 PER TICKET



ACT FAST!

LIMITED TICKETS AVAILABLE



Seat Section 414/415

Proceeds will benefit the
Anchor Program Fund for
People with Special Needs

MAIL FORM with PAYMENT TO:

James De Francesco
23 Robinson Avenue
Staten Island, NY 10312

ATTENTION: RANGERS

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

James De Francesco (917) 903-8701
Email: JTDF717@Gmail.com

Make Check or Money Order payable to:

NYS COUNCIL, KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS. In MEMO, please put RANGERS



NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE: _____

CELL PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____ (Print Clearly)

OF TICKET: _____ at \$125 each

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$ _____



Roman Catholic Diocese of Brooklyn

Pro Vita Mass

Sponsored by the Long Island Chapter Knights of Columbus

Join the Knights of Columbus of Kings and Queens Counties as we celebrate the gift of life and pray for a respect for life at all stages.

PRESENTING

THE FATHER MICHAEL J. MCGIVNEY MEDAL FOR LIFE

VERY REVEREND PATRICK J. KEATING, ESQ.

THE BISHOP THOMAS VOSE DAILY PRO VITA AWARDS

DEACON JAMES J. GIORGIO (KINGS COUNTY)

SIR KNIGHT BORIS MUSICH (QUEENS COUNTY)

**Sunday, January 25, 2026, 11:00am Mass
St. James Cathedral-Basilica, Brooklyn**

home of the BISHOP THOMAS V. DAILY KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL #17000



S.K. Fr. Michael L. Gelfant, PGK, New York State Chaplain
S.K. Paul Eggert, Chairman, Long Island Chapter
S.K. Louis Pepe, PGK, FDD, PFN, NYS Religious Activities Director
For More Information: 718.236.3312

/KofCBklynQns





NY State Council Knights of Columbus
FAITH ACTIVITIES & SHRINE PILGRIMAGES

2026

Sunday, January, 18	Pro Life Mass (10:15AM Mass – St. Patrick's Cathedral, New York, NY)
Sunday, January 25	Pro Vita Mass (11AM Mass – St. James Cathedral, Brooklyn NY)
Sunday, March 29	Founder's Day
Sunday, May 17	Our Lady of the Island Shrine (10AM Rosary, 11:30AM Mass – Manorville, NY)
Sunday, July 12	St. Anne's Shrine (Isle of La Motte, VT)
Saturday, July 25	Our Lady of Mount Carmel Shrine (Middletown, NY)
Thursday, August 13	Blessed McGivney Feast Day (7PM Mass – St. Joseph's Co-Cathedral)
Saturday, September 19	Shrine of the North American Martyrs (Auriesville, NY)
Saturday, October 17	Our Lady of Fatima Shrine (Youngstown, NY)

Pilgrimage is a symbol of life. It makes us think of life as a walk, as a path. A path to meet Jesus.

POPE FRANCIS





Join us on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/nykofc>

Facebook Group of New York State Council Knights of Columbus.
Posts should be limited to the Knights of Columbus. As a member of the Knights of Columbus, you have access to resources, such as social media, to help you grow deeper in your faith, stay informed about the Order and connect to your Brother Knights. This is the **ONLY OFFICAL FB Page of the NYS Council**



In order to have enough time to get everything ready for the Newsletter, Please send your Articles and Photos in **NO LATER than the 20th of EACH MONTH.**

**Send them to the Editor at
mb1122@msn.com**



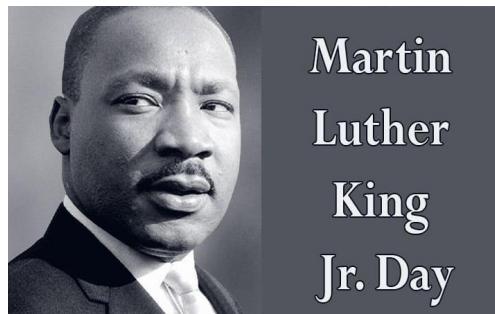
Still not receiving our Monthly Newsletter Directly to your Mail Box? Sign up here to receive it every moth, plus additional information about the NYS Council! Just click here:

<https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/s1/yeP7bU3>





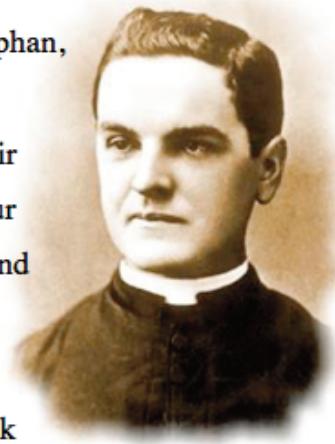
**Happy New Year
January 1st**



**Martin Luther King Jr. Day
January 19th**

Prayer for the Canonization of Blessed Michael McGivney

God, our Father, protector of the poor and defender of the widow and orphan, you called your priest, **Blessed Michael McGivney**, to be an apostle of Christian family life and to lead the young to the generous service of their neighbor. Through the example of his life and virtue, may we follow your Son, Jesus Christ, more closely, fulfilling his commandment of charity and building up his Body which is the Church. Let the inspiration of your servant prompt us to greater confidence in your love so that we may continue his work of caring for the needy and the outcast. We humbly ask that you glorify **Blessed Michael McGivney** on earth according to the design of your holy will. Through his intercession, grant the favor I now present (here make your request). Through Christ our Lord. Amen



The Father Michael J. McGivney Guild promotes the cause for sainthood of the founder of the Knights of Columbus, who was beatified on Oct. 31, 2020. Members of the Guild, and anyone devoted to Father McGivney, can play an active role in the cause by praying for his intercession in times of need, especially in cases of serious illness, and reporting to the Guild any favors received.

Membership in the Guild is free and open to anyone who is devoted to Father McGivney and wishes to invoke his intercession and assist in his sainthood cause through prayer. Members receive a quarterly newsletter and are remembered in a weekly Mass offered for their intentions.

Catholic men who wish to live out the vision and mission of Father McGivney are invited to join the [Knights of Columbus](#) and become part of a network of charity, unity and fraternity that serves local parishes and communities. Father McGivney founded the Knights of Columbus in 1882 in New Haven, Conn., and died at the age of 38 in 1890. His cause for sainthood was opened in 1997, and his heroic virtue was recognized by the Vatican in March 2008, when he was declared a Venerable Servant of God by Pope Benedict XVI. On May 26, 2020, Father McGivney took another step toward sainthood when Pope Francis approved the promulgation of a decree recognizing a [miracle attributed to his intercession](#). With the approval of this miracle, he was beatified on Oct. 31, 2020, with the title of Blessed.

Another miracle through his intercession is needed for him to be canonized as a saint.

Those devoted to Father McGivney are encouraged to recite regularly the prayer for his canonization, which is available online and on a special prayer card. You may Report favors through this website or by email or regular mail at the addresses listed below.

To request a third-class relic or to order devotional items, click on the [online form link](#). Print out the form, fill it out and mail it to the Father McGivney Guild.

The Guild has more than 176,000 members, and you are encouraged to join by filling out and submitting the [online form](#). Please assist in the cause of Father McGivney by spreading the word about this holy and blessed priest.

For more information or to request a prayer card:

Father McGivney Guild, 1 Columbus Plaza, New Haven, CT 06510

Tel: 203-752-4087

Email:guild@kofc.org