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## Blessed Michael McGivney Statue Dedicated at National Shrine

*Knights of Columbus founder joins the basilica's Hall of American Saints*

By Cecilia Engbert

A new statue of Blessed Michael McGivney was dedicated at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C., on Dec. 8, the patronal feast of the basilica and of the United States.

Cardinal Christophe Pierre, apostolic nuncio to the United States, along with Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William E. Lori of Baltimore, presided during the dedication, which followed midday Mass in the Great Upper Church of the basilica.



Cardinal Christophe Pierre, apostolic nuncio to the United States, blesses the new statue with holy water as Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William Lori, Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly and Msgr. Walter Rossi (right), rector of the National Shrine, look on. (Photo by Matthew Barrick)

"With Mary as the queen of all saints, we thank God also that countless men and women after her have lived lives of heroic sanctity," Cardinal Pierre said in his homily. "This marvelous shrine displays many of those heroes of faith. ... Like Jesus and like Mary, Father McGivney was completely given to the will of God." The Italian marble statue — unveiled by Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly; John Walshe, a great-grandnephew of Father McGivney; and Msgr. Walter Rossi, the basilica's rector — depicts the priest standing in a simple cassock and holding a book of Scripture. Etched on its pages are the Order's founding principles — "Unity" and "Charity" — symbolizing their roots in the Gospel.

# Knights of Columbus

Our Lady Queen of Martyrs – Council #13639



## A Message from The Grand Knight



Worthy Brothers,

Here we grow again! We have interviewed three new brothers and will be introducing and voting them in at our February meeting. I hope we have a large gathering to meet our newest members. Dr. James Bo-vienzo, Vincent A. Fusco, and Steve Smith are all looking to be outstanding additions to our Council. Now, to keep this going for our goal of 6 new members before March 29<sup>th</sup>. I hope all of you are close to another potential new member as this newsletter goes to print. Bring your hopeful new candidates to our upcoming events and let them see our Council in action.

We just finished what will prove to be a very successful Spaghetti Dinner, are cooking at the first Trivia Night, Grilling on Superbowl Sunday, kicking off the Lenten Fish Frys, and gearing up for a great Spring Training Concession Stand operation. Our Council is active in the weekly Eucharistic Adorations on Monday nights, the daily Rosary before Mass, the monthly Rosary for the unborn along with the accompanying pot-luck and fellowship. Prospective new members can see our brothers engaged in virtually every happening at OLQM.

We teach at Faith Formation, Serve at Mass, fill the Usher rolls at Mass, serve as Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers at Mass and Bring Christ to the Homebound. Brothers Chair and serve on the Parish Council and Finance Council and participate in the counting of OLQM's collections. So recruiting new members should be easy because there is a Knight to be found everywhere in our Parish life. The fellowship support and love that is found in our Council is our calling card.

Vivat Jesus

Pat Thielen – Grand Knight





# Knights of Columbus

Our Lady Queen of Martyrs – Council #13639



## OLQM Council Officers

<b>Grand Knight</b>	Pat Thielen		
<b>Deputy Grand Knight</b>	Sal Antonicelli		
<b>Financial Secretary</b>	Kevin Oatman	<b>Chancellor</b>	Steve Dardinski
<b>Warden</b>	Bob Petrelli	<b>Recorder</b>	Joe DeStefano
<b>Treasurer</b>	Mario Gallo Jr	<b>Advocate</b>	Jack Mc Neeley
<b>Inside Guard</b>	Franco Gagliardi	<b>Outside Guard</b>	Frank Grosso
<b>Lecturer #1</b>	Don Daly	<b>Lecturer #2</b>	Eddy Zappacosta
<b>Trustee (One Year)</b>	John Fry		
<b>Trustee (Two Year)</b>	Steven Anzalone		
<b>Trustee (Three Year)</b>	Chris Maffettone		
<b>Chaplain</b>	Fr. John Hoang		
<b>District Deputy</b>	Kirk Brown		
<b>Benefits Advisor</b>	Ron Moliterno		

### Officer's Meeting

Rm 10 / 7pm

~~Tuesday, July 11, 2023~~  
~~Tuesday, August 1, 2023~~  
~~Tuesday, September 5, 2023~~  
~~Tuesday, October 3, 2023~~  
~~Tuesday, November 7, 2023~~  
~~Tuesday, December 5, 2023~~  
~~Tuesday, January 2, 2024~~

**Tuesday, February 6, 2024**

Tuesday, March 5, 2024  
Tuesday, April 2, 2024  
Tuesday, May 7, 2024  
Tuesday, June 4, 2024

### Council / Business Meeting

Flynn Hall / 6:15pm

~~Thursday, July 13, 2023~~  
~~Thursday, August 10, 2023~~  
~~Thursday, September 14, 2023~~  
~~Thursday, October 12, 2023~~  
~~Thursday, November 9, 2023~~  
~~Thursday, December 14, 2023~~  
~~Thursday, January 11, 2024~~

**Thursday, February 8, 2024**

Thursday, March 14, 2024  
Thursday, April 11, 2024  
Thursday, May 9, 2024  
Thursday, June 13, 2024



# Knights of Columbus

Our Lady Queen of Martyrs – Council #13639



## OLQM Council 13639 Event Calendar

February						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Knights of Columbus				1	2	3
4	5		6	7	8	9
						10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
24	26	27	28	29	Council 13639	

- |                                  |                          |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Feb 2 - First Friday Fish Fry    | Feb 18 - Tootsie Roll    |
| Feb 6 - Officer's Meeting        | Feb 23 - Lenten Fish Fry |
| Feb 8 - Council/Business Meeting | Feb 24 - Baseball        |
| Feb 10 - Trivia Night!           | Feb 26 - Baseball        |
| Feb 14 - Ash Wednesday           | Feb 27 - Baseball        |
| Feb 16 - Lenten Fish Fry         | Feb 29 - Baseball        |
| Feb 17 - Tootsie Roll            |                          |

What's Happening around the council





# Knights of Columbus

Our Lady Queen of Martyrs – Council #13639



## Council Happenings



### Tootsie Roll Drive

Our brothers in Council #13639 banded together at Publix on University Parkway the first weekend of the new year to continue our Tootsie Roll drive. Due to horrendous weather that Saturday, the brothers could only do the drive Sunday. Despite the drive being cut in half, the turnout was still good! To date, we have amassed over \$4,000 for the drive. Kudos to our brothers in their efforts!



## OLQM Spaghetti Dinner

Council #13639 assisted OLQM with the annual Spaghetti Dinner on January 20.

A great time was had by all! As you can see by the totals presented here, great turn out, great food, great fellowship!!

Looking forward to the next event!

(Photo credit: Brother Don J. Daly)



### Thank you

to all who volunteered for the Spaghetti Dinner and everyone that attended to make it such a fun and successful event!

Dinner tickets:  
\$3,879.54

Raffle tickets:  
\$2,094.76

Total Event Profit:  
\$5,974.30





# Knights of Columbus

Our Lady Queen of Martyrs – Council #13639



## NEW!! FROM OUR BENEFITS ADVISOR

Happy New Year, Brothers!!

Wow! Did 2023 fly by, or what!

I pray for all of you to enjoy a safe, healthy, and spiritual 2024! A new year is like a brand-new birth, a new beginning, a new opportunity to grow and prosper. I hope you are all excited for a fresh start.

I am looking forward to more and better ways to serve my Brother Knights.

Late in 2023, I passed the Series 65 securities test which authorizes me to sell investments through the Knights of Columbus. Historically, the Knights offered their proprietary funds exclusively to dioceses, churches, and other organizations. All that changed in 2020. We now offer the investment services to Brother Knights **AND** non-members.

My approach to investments is no different that it is with insurance and other benefits... everything starts and ends with protecting our members and their families. We always begin with identifying the client's Risk Tolerance and then designing a portfolio to match the client's profile.

When a client asks, "Why should I consider putting my investments with the Knights?", my response starts with the experience and quality of our seasoned portfolio managers.

I speak about performance, lower fees and having a local Advisor. But what truly distinguishes the Knights is the **Catholic Difference**. The Knights of Columbus WILL NOT invest in any company stock that is involved with activities that do not follow our Catholic Faith.

As one of your benefits, I am always happy to review your investments and retirement plans to give you an honest assessment regarding risk, safety, costs, and performance.

Please consider it!

God Bless you all Brothers!

Ron

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## Blessed Michael McGivney Statue Dedicated at National Shrine

Continued from Page 1

“Father McGivney had a timeless vision, which is captured so well on the statue itself,” the supreme knight said in remarks following the dedication. “Generations of pilgrims started visiting the basilica in the 1920s, long before any of us were born. And long after we’re gone, pilgrims will still come to the basilica, and now they will see a statue of Blessed Michael McGivney and will pray for his intercession.”

The statue, a gift from the Order, joins statues of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, St. Frances Xavier Cabrini, St. Katharine Drexel and St. Kateri Tekakwitha, in the Hall of American Saints on the lower level of the shrine.

Its sculptor, Chas Fagan, also painted the image of Father McGivney that became his beatification portrait in 2020. But that commission was not the first time he encountered the priest’s legacy. As a student at Yale University in the 1980s, he frequently visited St. Mary’s Church, where he experienced “absolute, supreme welcoming.” Only years later, while painting his portrait, did Fagan discover St. Mary’s was the parish where Father McGivney first served and where he founded the Knights of Columbus in 1882.

“What I never realized when I was just a college kid is that I had gotten to enjoy the lasting embrace of Father McGivney and his parish,” he said. “That is why it means so much to me to work with the Knights of Columbus, to tell the story of Father McGivney, either in paint or clay or bronze or marble.”

Fagan said his artistic vision in sculpting Father McGivney was to create a figure that expressed the priest’s approachability and “can-do” attitude.

“I really could not imagine creating a stone piece that was totally static, immobile, with no action or life to it,” the sculptor said. “I wanted the opposite, I wanted to infuse it with movement.”

Fagan previously created two statues of Pope John Paul II for the Saint John Paul II National Shrine in Washington, and he painted the beatification portrait of St. Teresa of Calcutta.

“When I paint or sculpt a figure, I always feel like I get to know them a little bit, and so it’s like adding one more person to the long list of your lifelong friends,” Fagan said. “I am happy and honored to have had this chance to spend time with Father McGivney. He’s a man of dedication and a classic caring parish priest.”

The Knights of Columbus has longstanding ties to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. Before it was built, Knights from Brooklyn, New York, participated in the first pilgrimage to the proposed site in 1923. In the 1950s, the Knights donated \$1 million to build its campanile — the Knights Tower — and a few years later funded the tower’s 56-bell carillon. More recently, the Order provided significant financial support for the basilica’s Incarnation Dome, completed in 2007, and its Trinity Dome, completed in 2017. A K of C usher ministry that began at the shrine in the 1980s continues to this day.

BLESSED MICHAEL MCGIVNEY





# Knights of Columbus

Our Lady Queen of Martyrs – Council #13639

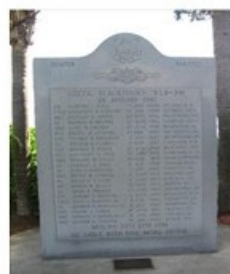
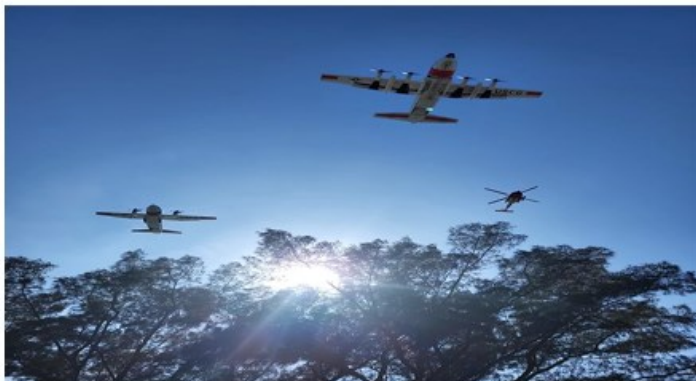


## USCGC BLACKTHORN MEMORIAL

Sunday, January 24, 2024 marked the 44th anniversary of the collision between the Coast Guard Cutter Blackthorn and the motor vessel Capricorn near the Sunshine Skyway Bridge on Jan. 28, 1980, resulting in the deaths of 23 Blackthorn crewmembers.

The ceremony included a wreath-laying by Coast Guard Air Station Clearwater, an honor platoon representing each lost soul, acknowledgment of each Blackthorn victim, gun salute, laying of roses, and presiding official comments.

Our brother Knights were in attendance along with Padre Louis DeSoto Assembly #1860 Color Corp Members, in full regalia, and Worthy Faithful Navigator, Chris Maffettone who presented a wreath from our Assembly.





# Knights of Columbus

Our Lady Queen of Martyrs – Council #13639



**Robert Bowermaster**

**William Burke III**

**Raymond Celentano**

**Kenneth Fowler**

**Hayden Palino**

**Daniel Pelletier**

**Joseph Pezzino**

**Marcelo Reichert**

**Michael Rizzo**

**Jose Roca**

**Mike Ross**

**Gerry Smith**

**Jose Smith**

