



## The Venerable Father Michael J. McGivney Honoris

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He was before his time.

“God the Lord has entrusted to men the noble mission of safeguarding life and men must carry it out in a worthy manner”: Catechism 2271. That statement would have been known to our founder Father McGivney. In founding the Knights of Columbus, he offered family protection and education for a better existence that would have been foremost on his mind.

But why? We sometimes forget the time in which Father McGivney lived, it was during the Civil War in the United States, at the assassination of President Lincoln in 1865. Father McGivney was 13 years old. His concern for widows and their children and the future of Catholics would have come from the times he lived.

History tells us that we Knights of Columbus can say proudly that he is one of the first voices to be heard in an organized way that all life is sacred and must be protected. Father McGivney put in place the strong moral and ethical and theological principles that our order holds to this day. Paramount was the sacredness of life and happiness for all, while it comes from a time in which he lived it is as meaningful to all of us today.

One of the pillars of The Venerable Father Michael McGivney Honoris is to explain and reveal the life and works of our Venerable Founder, as a priest and as a man. His knew his life's work was centered around the families in his charge and care. He did this spiritually and economically and created protection when there was none around.

Father cared about people, about life, and the future. A statement by Mother Teresa many years later would mean the same to him in his time, **“If One Heartbeat Means Life, What Do Two Heartbeats Mean?”** Our support and involvement and prayer for a Culture of Life would be something our founder would want us all to support, he would expect nothing less.

Vivat Jesus,

The Venerable Michael J. McGivney Honoris,

Ottawa, Ontario.



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