



Father Michael McGivney

August 14

Who was Father Michael McGivney?

Father Michael McGivney's Feast Day falls on August 14th. He was the founder of the Knights of Columbus, a fraternal organization that provides support to its members and their families. He was born in 1852 in Waterbury, Connecticut, one of 13 children, six of whom died very young. The family learned early about sorrow and the harsh grip of poverty. However, young Michael also learned about the power of love, faith, and family fortitude.

Father Michael McGivney recognized the importance of education as a means for people to integrate into their new cultural environment and earn a living. He saw prayer as a force for daily sustenance. He believed in the transforming power of the good news of Jesus. He humbly accepted his own frailty, and full of gratitude, he praised God's love for mankind.

Father Michael was plugged into the source of all life. He was a hero in an unassuming way, responding to the call to holiness. He developed a serious case of pneumonia in January 1890 and he died on August 14 of that same year. The cause for his sainthood is under consideration by the Vatican. He was given the title "Venerable Servant of God" by the Holy See in March 2008. The bestowed title of "Venerable" marks an important step on the journey to beatification and canonization.

Our school is fortunate to have such an illustrious patron. We honour his memory by living out the gospel of Jesus. We share with our Pope Benedict XVI the hope that schools and organizations like the Knights, founded by Father McGivney, "will make every effort to draw young people to Jesus Christ and to help them understand that the true meaning and value of life is to be found in the generous gift of self to God and to others."

[Fr. Michael McGivney CA Website](#)

[Prince of Peace Parish Website](#)



Quotes

"God will give eternal life to those who convert sinners and bring them to the right path."

- St. Mariam

"Prayer keeps man from sin, and sin keeps man from prayer."

- Brigham Young

"The gospel is not a doctrine of the tongue, but of life. It cannot be grasped by reason and memory only, but it is fully understood when it possesses the whole soul and penetrates to the inner recesses of the heart."

- John Calvin

Prayer

In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit;

Heavenly Father,

On this Feast Day of Father Michael McGivney, we lift up our students and the entire community to your loving embrace. May the life and legacy of Father McGivney be a source of inspiration and guidance for all.

Grant our students the wisdom to recognize the importance of education, as Father McGivney did, as a means of integration and livelihood. Fill their hearts with the understanding of prayer as a source of daily sustenance and the transforming power of the Gospel message of Jesus Christ.

Guide our community in fostering a spirit of humility, gratitude, and service, following the example of Father McGivney. May we emulate his dedication to helping others and his unwavering faith in your commitment to humanity.

Bless our school with the fortitude to live out the Gospel of Jesus Christ, honouring the memory of Father McGivney through our actions and deeds. May we strive to draw young people closer to Jesus Christ, understanding the true meaning and value of life in the generous gift of self to God and others.

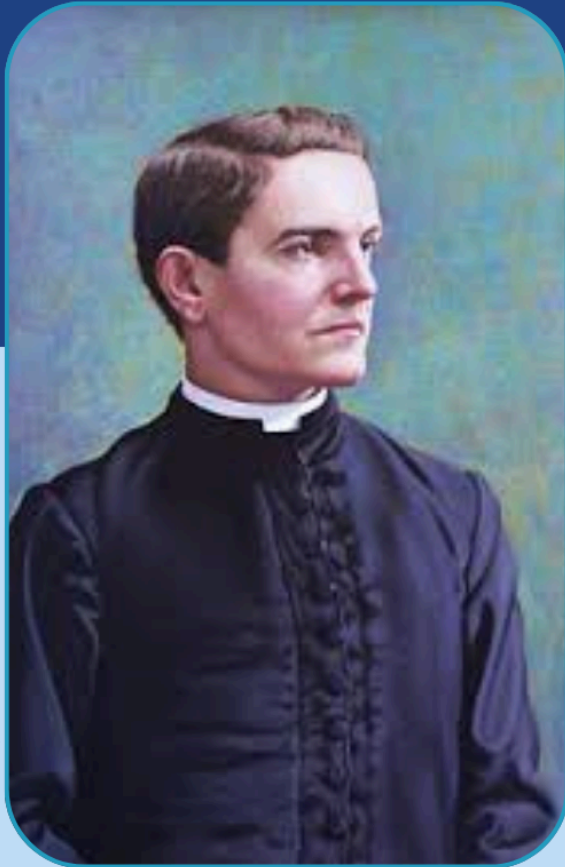
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, inspired by the life and mission of Father Michael McGivney.

Amen.





York Catholic District School Board



**FEAST DAY:
August 14**

**SCHOOL LOCATION:
Markham, ON**

'Unity and Charity' is our motto. Unity in order 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."

-Fr. Michael McGivney

**Father
Michael
McGivney**

