NEBRASKA KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Fr. McGivney



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Insert St. Joseph Prayer



- Why did Fr. McGivney Found the Knights of Columbus?
- How do we honor that today?
- What does the Knights of Columbus give to families today?





VOL. XIII. NO 156

WATERBURY CONN., MONDAY, JUNE 11, 1910.

PRICE TWO CENTS.

Reverend J.J. O'Donnell

Address to those gathered at the grave of Fr. McGivney





Waterbury Evening D

citizen as ever obeyed the laws, as

stanch a friend as ever honored

another with his friendship. Your

pilgrimage to the spot hallowed by

the dust of this anointed

representative of Christ presages a

still more glorious future for the

order, which his genius brought into

existence. It bespeaks your

unwavering adherence to the

principles which underlie our

organization. These principles ever

animated Father McGivney and

regulated his life, principles that find

expression in the ritual and which

make for the moral uplifting of our

fellow men. You will, we believe,

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS DAY heartfelt benisons of number

Pilgrimage to Founder's Grave hold the name of as true a priest as a Great Success. ever received the character, as loval a

GRAVESTREWN WITH FLOWERS

Thousands of Knights Were in Line - With Solemn Tread, as the Band Played a Dirge, the Knights Marched Past the Grave of the Founder - Monument Bedecked With Garlands of Flowers and Evergreens - Eloquent and Appropriate Orations by the Rev. Father Slocum and the Rev. J. H. O'Donnell.

Father O'Donnell's Address.

Fellow Knights, Ladies and Gentlemen:

You are come from your cherished carry hence to your homes the homes to this sacred enclosure to pay influences that are enshrined about homage to-day to the memory of a this grave, influences that are vital, departed priest, whose name is potent, far-reaching, ennobling: influences that survive from a life inseparably linked with the splendid organization of which it is our unselfishly given to the service of privilege to be members. You are others, a life spent in the promotion come hither to gather about the of his neighbors' welfare, a life grave of your founder and to place redolent of deeds whose motive was upon his tomb tributes, which bear the social, moral, intellectual and silent but eloquent testimony to the affectionate remembrance in which With him the demands of self were speak. The poor found in him you hold him. To the tomb which ever subordinated to the needs of contains all that is mortal of Father others, and the splendid legacy he McGivney you make pilgrimage, not has left in the Knights of Columbus only to give honor to departed actests the love in which he held his worth, but to emphasize your brotherman, as it also evidences his respect for the memory of him who profound knowledge of the special are now, no doubt, the bright laid strong and deep the foundations needs of the hour. Co-incident with of a brotherhood that embraces his spiritual labors, he wrought also from the just Judge. There are f almost the Union, and whose record for the temporal welfare of his clergymen in my recollection w for good deeds and heroic well doing brethren, and in so doing, imitated enjoyed in a greater degree than is not surpassed by any fraternal the Divine Exemplar, whose the respect of his colleagues and t organization. A source of joy and minister he was. A practical, reverence of the people. His life v congratulation is it to us who conservative and intelligent an open book, whose pages enjoyed his friendship, and who exponent of the needs as well of the might read, and the influences th valued his worth, to witness the duties and obligations of young men, radiated from his active, energe coming hither of our brethren from he has bequeathed to society an and zealous personality, broug a distance, thus inaugurating a organization whose merits shine many a poor wanderer to the hor custom which, we trust, will endure resplendent and whose devotion to of God, back to the faith of throughout the succeeding years. the Church is one of its pronounced childhood, and to the saci Your presence here to day is an characteristics; an organization rich tribunal of penance, where wi earnest of the exteem in which you in deeds that have evoked the faith, contrition and humility,

widows and orphans: organization faithful to its hi ideals and to the spirit infused in it by its founder: successful in past: prosperous and progressive the present: a glorious future prospect; in a word, an organizati whose unwritten motto "Excelsior," and which is destine we would fondly believe, to ma still greater conquests in the field philanthropy. Beneficent a enduring as have been t achievements of the past, they w yield to the victories that will croy the labors of our successors, if th maintain undivided allegiance the principles upon which the ore

Well shall it be with the Knights

Columbus as an order, if individual members possess t spirit that dominated its found Gental, approachable, of kine disposition, cheerful under reven profoundly sympathetic with the upon whom had fallen the hea hand of affliction, a man of str probity and sterling integrity in business transactions. He w religious improvement of his fellows. charitable to a fault, if I may good Samaritan, and were freque recipients of his bounty. In time, t years spent by Father McGtvney the sacred ministry were repli with deeds that honor his name a tewels in the crown he has receiv

was nil, into one grand, compact whole, whose where of prefulness would be enlarged and whose rnoses. It was his aim to surround eligion and to bring them into even

rgantzing the Knights of actuated primarily by religious notives. Zeal for souls is the corner stone of the superb organization. which to-day, through its honores and thrice welcome representatives. gys tribute to his memory.

became a reality. I witnessed the who, in his judgement, was the Haven, there were eleven members, basis of civil society, and the source living embodiment of those virtues all in the insured class. At the of all good and of all comfort." It that best adorn the Catholic present time there are 510 well the sweetest of all bonds and join character. When asked why he equipped councils, an average of the creature with the Creator !

replied in substance, that, as the the state of Connecticut of 5,800 chief virtues that adorned the and in the whole order of 29,000, 1 mediaeval knights were chivalrous addition to this number, we have respect and deference for 32,000 associate members. Th womankind, unalterable devotion order is now operating in twenty ommensurate with its high to the church, personal courage, one states, in the District of mortification of self, and Columbia, and in the Province of unswerving adherence to high and Quebec. A goodly showing trul noble principles, their reproduction and one which speaks eloquently fr closer relationship to Mother in the young men of the present, the principles of the order. An Church, to give them a practical could not but prove a precious boon these successes shall be multiplied; Illustration of the strength that to society. As to the name long as the order remains faithful t comes from intelligent organization "Columbus" he said, that in the tits original purpose. Development these were the motives that person of this, the world's greatest there will be, as there have been, t Inspired Father McGivney in the admiral, were embodied those meet future extrencies of time an foundation of the Knights of virtues that are essential to the place. Modifications in nor Columbus. To him the familiar saw, rounding out of the Catholic essentials may be deemed advisable "In union there is strength," was no character in an age when a dismall, but the watchword of the Knight mere figure of speech, no empty materialism is so rampant, namely, of Columbus should forever remai shibboleth. It was the expression of unconquerable faith in Providence "Unity and Charity." They are the a great truth to the inculcating of in the midst of the gravest trials and marks which have hithert which, he bent all his energies; and difficulties, unfilinching courage distinguished it. The conquests the results of his labors in this amid cruel disappointments, has made and which glorify it, has direction are visible to-day in this tenacity of purpose in the face of been won by the practic magnificent assemblage of Knights. treachery and ingratitude, the application of the meaning of the But after everything is said, the great humility of a saint, though words to our lives individually an fact stands out prominently, that in profoundly impressed with the collectively. No organization, how conviction that dominated his life. numerous so ever its membership slumbus Father McGivney was that he was the instrument chosen can long maintain a successful of Heaven to open up new lands existence in which there is no unit into which would be brought the of purpose: but the Knights (priceless blessings of Christianity Columbus relates in such unity W. Here was the figure, unquestionably have a community of interest the greatest of his age, whom Father which bind us together, though McGtvney summoned from the widely separated by town, city an tomb of the past for imitation, a state boundaries. Not for sel-I have a vivid remembrance of the magnificent personality, and one aggrandizement, nor for the welfar days that preceded the foundation worthy of the veneration of all time. of a select coterie, do we exist. Or of the order. I have personal. Here was the patron, under whose interests are co-extensive with th recollections of the anxiety that spotless banner his young men were membership of the order; so the preyed upon Father McGivney as he called upon to enlist. The standard every true Knight, every Knight resolutely sought the realization of of the great navigator became the who is thoroughly imbued with the his heart's desire. I know something Labarum of the order, and in its sign. spirit which permeates the order of the obstacles he encountered and which is that of the cross, it has written law, may be said to be a surmounted before the Knights achieved many and splendid victories, active disciple of altruism. An revision of this article and of that The grain of mustard seed planted that of religion. It is the highest, th section of the organic law of the in February, 1882, has grown with noblest, the most exalted of a order, until he was satisfied that it wonderous vitality. The order has interests. All other interests as met all needed requirements. I developed with marvelous rapidity, subordinate, or rather, all other recall, as though it were but nor has this rapidity been at the interests flow from this as from yesterday, the bestowal upon the expense of its solidarity. In February, source. "We know, and what Infant organization of the name of 1882, when the first council, San better, we feel inwardly," sa the immortal Genoese navigator Salvador, was organized at New Edmund Burke, that religion is the

munificent donation "Tis a little thing, To give a cup of water: vet its draught Of cool refreshment drained by fever'd ltps, May give a shock of pleasure to the frame foremost among these interests More exquisite than when nectarean folce Renews the life of tox happtest hours." selected the name of the "Knights of nearly thirty councils formed yearly. holy friendship. Our faith is Columbus," for his new society, he We have a membership insured in golden tie that unites priests wit

The second distinguishing mark, but walk with them that mourn. Be not upon an equality in its councils. of Columbus; and so should it ever in reality the first, of the Knight of slow to visit the sick." The true Equality should have no distorted be. The most perfect organization Columbus, is charity, the queen of Knight of Columbus is ever an meaning, nor should fraternity be on this earth is the Church, to the virtues - charity, "the virtue of exponent of charity in its best sense, an empty sound, the heart and not of the hands." a dispenser of kindness, "a language Charity is the love of God and the which the dumb can speak and the I commit no indiscretion when I say Columbus learn from her, as far as love of the neighbor in whom dwells deaf can understand. In his person that the order in the letter and spirit possible, the lessons of organization the Image and Itkeness of God. It is he exemplifies the Golden Rule, of its laws is Catholic to the core. It - and it would seem to be the part of the most beautiful ornament of the which is the essence of fraternity. Is our boast, our pride. Cardinal worldly wisdom to do so - and the human soul. It expands the heart of With his conferers he strengthens Satolli, when Apostolic Delegate to prosperity of the order in the world man and enlarges his vision. It is a the ties of friendship, that chain of purest gold that binds him "Mysterious cement of the soul. a loving captive to the throne of the Sweet'ner of life, and solder of Master. It sweetens his own life and society* brightens that of others. The faithful by these little amenities that confer ments of this great Catholic bind you in still closer bonds to and earnest practice of it lifts him so much happiness upon the organization, that in the present your local brethren; may you carry above the things of earth, earthy, and recipient. But the charity of the active period of social and fraternal gives him a foretaste of the toys that Knights of Columbus is not alliance in America, there exists a your first pilgrimage, to the tomb of

are of heaven, heavenly. He confined to, nor does it cease, with society of practical Catholics which your founder. participates in the mission of Christ. Iffe. Faithful and solicitous at the offers them the best advantages of who went about doing good and couch of sickness, the order comes a insurance, benevolence and A burst of music consistent with the whose blessings for soul and body "kindly light into the encircling fraternity, proffered by the most address followed, and the host of fell alike upon all. He assuages pain gloom, when death, that mysterious popular societies, without any of visitors, dusty and tired, but still and relieves distress. The corporal visitant, has entered the home. It the disadvantages of prohibited cheerful looking, turned citywards, works of mercy are his field in which banishes the dread attendant upon companionship." he delves for treasures that will be his the fear of poverty, and amid the for eternity, for Divine Truth has sorrow that follows the final The written law of the order awaited them. Stirring music said, that "The alms of a man is as a departure of loved ones, bestows demands as a qualification for maintained a military step and stance with him, and shall preserve assistance which brightens the membership that the applicant be a whetted appetites that were already the grace of a man as the apple of the existence of mother, or wife or practical Catholic. These are in buoyant mood. eye." From the sweet face of Charity children. How many homes weighty words. They should be no fites every evil. Misery, dishonor, sin clouded with grief have been made empty formula. Any other than Arriving at the City hall, the have no abiding place in her brighter by the Knights of practical Catholics would prove an banquet scene, the local Knights presence. It disdains not the lowliest Columbus we may not know. The incubus, a detriment to the order, an gave way to their visiting brethren, offering, nor shrinks from the most record is beyond our ken. Let it be affront to the memory and purpose and in two sittings, 900 men were

day is receiving the precious reward influence, the Knights of Columbus music of the American band put it of the good works accomplished by cannot afford to admit into its right. Here, more than in any other Brother Knights, the rapid they have practically severed operated was seen fine tudgement. expansion of the order - and its connection with the Church. The Everything moved with pregrowth is a marvel - with its order should not, it cannot take arranged desirability, and a keen increasing responsibilities, under its sheltering protection men appreciation and foresight of the admontshes us to jealously who make voluntary surrender of appetites of the folly visitors. The safeguard its interests. To conserve that which alone dignifies man, his service was excellent, the menu fine, its influence and to perpetuate its faith in God, the most previous for it contained all the season power for good, calls for the exercise boon that earth possesses. Charity - this is the virtue that of the highest wisdom. No object ennobles the Knights of Columbus foreign to its present purpose Another word: Among the shining picture seldom seen by thousands, and attracts so many within its fold. should be incorporated into its characteristics of the Catholic that the auditorium of City hall

It impels each Knight to extend the constitution, nor should there be church none is more conspicuous presented, with eight tables helping hand, to banish sorrow, to any modification in its requirements than the equality of its membership, extending from stage to entrance, oring sunshine into gloomy lives, to for membership. Its catholic Before the alter all are equal. The and at each about 100 merry men, lift up the fallen, to strengthen the character should be maintained: the beggar if such there be, kneels by the many of whom were partaking of weak, to encourage the downcast. man of wealth and his less favored side of the possessor of wealth and the hospitality of a portion of the He bows submissively to the divine neighbor: the high in station and the man of dark skin occupies the Nutmer state for the first time. They injunction: "Be not wanting in the humble laborer; the professor same pew with his white brother. received a good impression of it and

the United States, bore weighty testimony to its Catholic character "We also wish to express our great pleasure," said he, "after learning the your sojourn in Waterbury: may it

generous gift. It recognizes the cup our hope that he whose name is of its founder. Strong as it is in dined. If any Knight's digestive of cold water, as well as the upon our lips and in our hearts to-membership, powerful as it is in apparatus was out of kilter, the fine councils men whose lives give part of the great field in which the foundation for the signicion that committee of arrangements

comforting them that weep, and and the artisan - all classes standing. And this spirit pervades the Knights they appreciated it.

which you cheerfully yield spiritual allegiance. Let the Knights of of the future is doubly assured.

Visiting Knights, may you enloy hence pleasant memories of this

where dinner, provided by the hospitable people of Waterbury

afforded and the best that could be obtained. It was a great sight, a





the scattered units whose influence But after everything is said, the great fact stands out prominently, that in organizing the Knights of Columbus Father McGivney was actuated primarily by religious motives. Zeal for souls is the corner stone of the superb organization, which to-day, through its honored and thrice welcome representatives, pays tribute to his memory. illustration of the strength that comes from intelligent organization



- Evangelization and Faith Formation
- COR Meeting
- Cor ad cor loquitur Heart speaks to Heart
 - John Henry Cardinal Newman
- Centered on three things
 - Prayer
 - Fraternity
 - Formation
- Knights of Columbus driven but not Knight of Columbus centric



- 21 Jurisdictions Beta
- Three Year Rollout
- State Team
- Beta Councils
- Pastor involvement/support
- Start small
- Intentional Prayer
- Small Changes



JOIN US

Increase Your Faith

Protect Your Family

Be Part of Something Larger than Yourself



