

## Deep Devotion in the Heart of Texas

*A relic of Blessed Michael McGivney tours the Lone Star State for the first time*

By Cecilia Hadley

A first-class relic of Blessed Michael McGivney visited Texas in early March, traveling almost 900 miles through three dioceses and drawing thousands to venerate the Knights of Columbus founder.

From March 5 to 9, the reliquary made stops at five parishes, including two cathedrals, in Keller, San Angelo, Odessa, Lubbock and Wichita Falls. At each church, Masses were said, Father McGivney's story was shared, and Knights and other parishioners had the chance to pray for the priest's intercession in front of his relic.

"The purpose of the tour is to raise awareness of Blessed Michael's life and mission and charism, but also to increase devotion, to let people know that they can ask his intercession," explained Dominican Father Jonathan Kalisch, the Order's director of chaplains and spiritual development, who accompanied the relic. "The [Catechism](#) speaks about a spiritual exchange of goods between we who are still on earth and all those who have gone before us, especially blessed and saints. Their prayers for us can be very effective from heaven."

A steady stream of people came to ask for those prayers.

"Not one minute was Father McGivney alone," noted Knights of Columbus General Agent Chris Stark, who organized the pilgrimage. Stark had to ask for an additional shipment of prayer cards and other materials from the Supreme Council only a day into the tour.

The turnout at Holy Redeemer Church in Odessa, where the relic traveled escorted by a group of Knights on motorcycles, was particularly large. Hundreds of people venerated the relic before a packed weeknight Mass on March 7.

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### *Minutes of the March Business Meeting*

The meeting was called to order at 6:37 PM on March 14, 2023 by Grand Knight (GK) Justin Machovec. No guests were present at the meeting. The Deputy Grand Knight, Inside Guard, Trustee two year and Trustee three year were excused. Roll call followed our Chaplain leading us in prayer. The Warden led us in the Pledge of Allegiance. Minutes from February were approved as written.

### **Grand Knight Report**

The GK was thankful for the opportunity to be back together as a group after a month of crazy weather.

### **Chaplain's Report**

The Chaplain report included a brief story on Unity, how K of C worldwide is a great support to families and that Knights are known to spread faith and acts of charity across the world.

### **Treasurer Report**

CD account balance \$1,148.91  
Checking account balance - \$16,343.99

### **Financial Secretary Report**

Income – \$70 Dinner  
Dues - \$104.95  
Fish dinner ticket sales - \$170  
Donation to Youth - \$25

**Continued on page 2:**

**March Meeting Minutes****Continued from page 1:**

Bills—Brother Koenig – Fish dinner - \$1514.43  
 Brother Strazzo – Fish dinner and hospitality Sunday  
 - \$332.25, Supreme - \$182, Liability insurance –  
 \$315

**Communications**

Several thank you notes were received and read aloud. One from the youth group for the ping pong table, and helping to prepare and provide dinner for the Winter Formal, and the final one from the ARC for the Tootsie roll proceeds donation of \$3414.

**Membership Report**

One candidate in the hopper

**Programs Director Report**

Every second Sunday the Council sponsors donuts after the 10:00 mass. Volunteers are needed to help set up, serve and clean up. Wine and cheese after the vigil mass will resume after the Easter season. There will be a training session for new officers. More info in the future. First Tuesday night of the month Rosary. April host to be determined. March 17 at St Pat's there will be a Eucharistic procession – four volunteers needed to carry the canopy. March 28, family pot luck, look for an email from the KG. Operation Care – there was a brief discussion. April dinner host is Kevin Darr. Lent soup supper shall be hosted by the council on March 31. May 13 – Rib dinner, a ticket lead is needed. Fish dinner summary - \$3327 profit and \$480 tips to the youth group.

**Unfinished Business**

It was M/S/A to pay the bills. There is a sign up sheet circulating to donate blood in the spring. Fr. Colin celebrates a 10 year anniversary and suggested a blood drive in lieu of a party. Brother Ragusano provided a summary of hits to the web site and answered questions.

**New Business**

Brother Sanders recommended the book Man Your Post

**Advocate Report**

No report

**Chancellor Report**

No report

**Insurance Agent Report**

Brother Greg Bronson is no longer our field agent. The new agent is Dave Muller. Contact information is forthcoming.

**District Deputy Report**

By Email the DD reported an upcoming Fourth degree at Good Shepard in Elk Grove on April 22.

**Vocations Report**

No report

**Good of the Order**

Please pray for the repose of the souls of Cindy Curtin and Beverly Woodard. Pray also for Connor, the grandson of Cindy Curtin, Mark Koenig, Miguel Fuentes, Steve Oneto, Deacon Ed, and Fr. Relihan.

**Lecturer Report**

No Report

**Chaplain's Summation**

The meeting was closed in prayer.

GK Machovec closed the meeting at 7:21

Respectfully submitted by David Sanders

## Heart of Texas

### Continued from page 1:

During the week, Father Kalisch and Stark also brought Father McGivney to three schools, two K of C exemplifications, a priests' retreat, a pediatric hospital, and even the grave of a Knight who had died a few days before.

Everywhere they went, Stark said, he could feel Father McGivney at work — but nowhere more so than during this graveside visit on the last day of the pilgrimage.

Brad Wolf, the grand knight of Ketteler Council 1824 in Windthorst, had died March 3, leaving his wife, Dena, and their 11-year-old daughter, Riley. He was 39. Stark, whose agency handled Brad's life insurance policy, offered to bring the relic to his family in Windthorst. Dena, Riley and other family members met him and Father Kalisch at their parish before going together to the cemetery where Brad had been buried the day before.

"We were never planning on coming to Windthorst,"

Stark told Dena. "But God knew we were coming, Blessed Michael McGivney knew we were coming. He is here to bring you comfort as he greatly understands the grieving."

"When Father Kalisch put the relic in Dena's arms, she just hugged it with a sense of peace on her face," Stark later recalled. "This is what Father McGivney founded us for, to aid the widow and the orphan. He had to come there. Father McGivney is still working — he's working hard."



Knights of Columbus General Agent Chris Stark touches a prayer card to the reliquary of Blessed Michael McGivney at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church in Keller, Texas. *(Photo by Shannon Faulk)*

**Dinner Hosts for Next Business Meetings**

**April 11, 2023—Kevin Darr**

**May 9, 2023—Bob Strazzo**



**The Officers of Council  
1849**

Grand Knight Justin Machovec  
Spiritual Advisor Deacon Jaime Garcia

Deputy G.K. Matthew Waverly

Chancellor Phil Gonzalez

Warden Jacob Schmidt

Treasurer Bob Strazzo

Recorder Dave Sanders

Advocate Mark Koenig

Inside Guard Mark Watt

Outside Guard Charlie Esola

Trustees

Three Year Stephen Frias

Two Year Joe Trassare

One Year Jack Magee

Financial Sec. Tim Burr

Dist. Deputy Steven Morris

Field Agent Greg Bronson

All Council Officers (except Br. Charlie Esola) can be reached by email. Use the first letter of their first name, the entire last name, followed by: @kofc-1849.org

Sample: mkoenig@kofc-1849.org

## Knights of Columbus Council 1849

### Events Calendar 2022—2023

Events Calendar 2022-2023 Officer meetings at Saint Patrick's Hall, first Wednesday at 5:30 PM of every month, starting July 2022 until June 2022 Monthly Business meetings at Saint Katharine Drexel on 2nd Tuesday at 6:30 PM

Installation Mass and Picnic, SKD 10 AM August 21, 2022 (2nd Sunday)

Summer Dinner (Tri-tip), at SKD after 5PM Mass September 24, 2022 (4th Saturday)

Clergy Appreciation Dinner, Sacred Heart Hall 6 PM October 7, 2022 (1st Friday)

Tootsie Roll Drive, weekend of October 14, 15, 16, 2022

Mass for Departed Knights, SKD 10 AM November 13, 2022 (2nd Sunday)

Christmas Party, 3 PM – 9 PM, December 9, 2022 (2nd Friday)

Winter Dinner (Fish), SKD Noon to 9 PM February 11, 2023 (2nd Saturday)

Family Potluck, SKD 3 PM – 9 PM March 28, 2023 (4th Tuesday)

**Spring Dinner (Ribs), SKD Noon to 9 PM May 13, 2023 (2nd Saturday)**

**Family Potluck, SKD 3 PM – 9 PM May 23, 2023 (4th Tuesday)**

Hospitality Donuts every 2nd Sunday at SKD

Hospitality Wine and Cheese every 1st weekend Vigil Mass at SKD

Rosary before 10 AM Mass, SKD every 5th Sunday of months with 5 Sunday

KVGC Rosary Tuesday before the first Wednesday of each month at 5:30 at SKD – St. Maximillian Kolbe Rm

## April Calendar of Events

*Tuesday, April 4: KVGC Rosary at Saint Katharine Drexel, in the Saint Maximilian Kolbe Room at 5:30 PM.*

*Wednesday, April 5: Officer Meeting at St. Patrick's Hall at 6:00 PM.*

*Tuesday, April 11: Business Meeting at Saint Katharine Drexel at 6:30 PM. Dinner at 5:30 PM.*

*Sunday, April 30: Knights Rosary before 10:00 AM Mass at Saint Katharine Drexel (Please arrive by 9:30 AM).*

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