

A PRAYER FOR OUR PRIESTS

We thank you, God our Father, for those who have responded to your call to priestly ministry. Accept this prayer we offer on their behalf: Fill your priests with the sure knowledge of your love. Open their hearts to the power and consolation of the Holy Spirit. Lead them to new depths of union with your Son. Increase in them profound faith in the Sacraments they celebrate as they nourish, strengthen and heal us. Lord Jesus Christ, grant that these, your priests, may inspire us to strive for holiness by the power of their example, as men of prayer who ponder your word and follow your will. O Mary, Mother of Christ and our mother, guard with your maternal care these chosen ones, so dear to the Heart of your Son. Intercede for our priests that, offering the Sacrifice of your Son, they may be conformed more each day to the image of your Son, our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Prayer for Canonization of Fr McGivney

God, our Father, protector of the poor and defender of the widow and orphan, you called your priest, Father Michael J. McGivney, to be an apostle of Christian family life and to lead the young to the generous service of their neighbor. Through the example of his life and virtue may we follow your Son, Jesus Christ, more closely, fulfilling his commandment of charity and building up his Body which is the Church. Let the inspiration of your servant prompt us to greater confidence in your love so that we may continue his work of caring for the needy and the outcast. We humbly ask that you glorify your servant Father Michael J. McGivney on earth according to the design of your holy will. Through his intercession, grant the favor I now present, Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Opening Ode (Tune of “O Tannebaum”)

Sing ye his praises loud and long,
And let the unenlightened know.
In ev’ry echo of your song,
The great deeds done, tho’ long ago.
By Columbus of the valiant soul,
Who first old Neptune has controlled.
Despite of envy, intrigue, gold,
In the dim past of long ago.
With vessels three o’er stormy sea,
He thrilled the world of long ago.
While wisdom linked with destiny,
In justice scales its weight did throw.
We are his heirs; we wear his name;
We boast his deeds; we spread his fame.
Our order is the shining flame
That lights the gloom of long ago.

The Knights Prayer

Our Lady, Queen of the Knights, bless all the activities of our order. Keep us true to the pledge to extend the Kingship of thy Divine Son on earth. Through thine intercession win for us the grace ever to exemplify in our public and private lives, the virtues which should characterize those specially dedicated to the service of the heavenly court. Make us always aware that as your knights we are constantly observed, and our faith judged, and our Order appreciated. Accept O Mary, this renewed pledge of fealty and devotion of thy servants the Knights of Columbus—Amen

Closing Ode (Tune of “America”)

Now our evening’s work is done,
Then let us ev’ry one,
Join in a song.
Long may our order stand,
Foremost in this free land,
Ready with heart & hand
to right each wrong.
We have a mission great,
True to our church & state,
onward we move.
We dry the mourner’s tear,
The tired heart we cheer,
Faith in our works appear,
Upheld by love.

Prayer for Vocations

Heavenly Father, Bless your Church with an abundance of holy & zealous priests, deacons, brothers & sisters. Give those you have called to the married state and those you have chosen to live as single persons in the world the special graces that their lives require Form us all in the likeness of your Son so that in Him, with Him, and through Him we may love you more deeply & serve you more faithfully always and everywhere. With Mary; we ask this through Christ our Lord - Amen