

SO, WHO ARE THESE KNIGHTS?

On March 29, 1882, the Knights of Columbus was founded by **Father Michael J. McGivney**, a Priest at St. Mary's Church in New Haven, Connecticut. (Father McGivney will be beatified next month on Saturday October 31st at the Cathedral of St Joseph in Hartford, Connecticut.)

He had a **vision** that Catholic men of faith could unite to:

- Strengthen themselves and each other in Faith
- Strengthen families and family life
- Support their priests and bishops
- Create a simple insurance plan so the surviving family did not face poverty
- Serve the Church and the community by providing aid to those in need.

We are called Knights to highlight the chivalrous ideals of charity and support for the Church, community and life itself. We give meaning to these ideals through a framework of fellowship and activities we call Faith in Action focusing on Faith, Family, Community and Life.

The Knights of Columbus is the largest Catholic fraternal organization in the world. The local council affiliated with St. Edmond Catholic Church is Star of the Sea Council 7297. Today, we have about 190 members.

Any man, 18 years or older, who is a practical Catholic (accepting the teaching of the Church, aspiring to live accordingly, and in good standing with the Church), is welcome to become a member of the Knights of Columbus.

Men become Knights in a short public induction ceremony that presents a full and rich understanding of who we are, what we stand for and what we are called to do. Men are encouraged to have their families and friends in attendance so they see firsthand, the organization that their husbands, fathers, brothers, sons and friends are joining, and the principles and values they are committing to, and why it matters.

For more information about the Knights and Star of the Sea Council 7297, call Mark Petrusic at (240)-478-1011.