



GOOD NEWS! The venerable Father Michael J. McGivney will be beatified! The good news was decreed this week by Pope Francis following recognition of a miracle attributed to the intercession of Father McGivney. The Beatification Mass will take place in Father McGivney's home state of Connecticut. He died of pneumonia at the age of 38 on August 14, 1890, in the midst of a global pandemic that claimed over 1 million lives worldwide. Father McGivney founded the Knights of Columbus in St. Mary's Church basement, New Haven, Connecticut, as a way to support families who had lost husbands and fathers and faced destitution. The fledgling membership grew to a remarkable 2 million members internationally. The Knights are a major force in the areas of evangelization, charitable works, racial integration, pro-life initiatives and the defense of religious freedom.

GOOD NEWS IN KITCHENER! Dr. Tom Stewart, President and CEO of St. Joseph's Health System announced early this week that the Ministry of Long-Term Care has issued a Mandatory Management Order appointing St. Mary's General Hospital to temporarily manage Forest Heights Long-Term Care for the next 90 days. St. Mary's General Hospital has been supporting Forest Heights LTC to manage the response to an outbreak of COVID-19. May the compassionate care and other support provided by St. Mary's Hospital team help bring Forest Heights LTC through this challenging time.

THE EXTENSION OF THE STATE OF EMERGENCY until June 30th in Ontario means that the re-opening of the Chancery and Parish Offices is further delayed. Scheduled ZOOM conferences with Pastors and Parish staff, and with Chancery staff, were cancelled this week as it was considered too early to prepare for opening. The conferences will be held in a week or two with a view to reopening. Documents to assist this process are being prepared and safety material is being purchased in bulk.

THE NEW CEMETERY SITE FOR THE SCHOOL SISTERS OF NOTRE DAME is located at Gate of Heaven Cemetery on Snake Road, Burlington. The transfer of the bodies was completed late last autumn. The landscaping was recently completed and the grass will soon be growing. The plot was to have been blessed next Saturday, June 13th, but due to the pandemic "pause", a September date for the celebration is being considered.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS are celebrating the graduations of students in a variety of ways throughout the Diocese. Virtual graduation events, posters on the front lawns of graduates, graduation certificates presented during "at home" events, all demonstrate the creative initiatives of Principals and teachers. Their caring concern for the students is very moving and a great example of the goodness that is shared every day in our schools! Congratulations graduates!

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF ST. JOSEPH'S LIFECARE FOUNDATION IN BRANTFORD have announced that Julie Powell has been appointed President and CEO of the Foundation effective June 8th. She brings over 23 years of non-profit and fundraising leadership to the position. For the past three years she was Director of Leadership Giving for St. Mary's Hospital Foundation in Kitchener. Welcome, Julie!

I HAVE BEEN APPOINTED STATE CHAPLAIN to the Ontario State Council of the Knights of Columbus to complete the term of Archbishop Marcel Damphousse, recently appointed coadjutor Archbishop of Ottawa-Cornwall Archdiocese. The appointment, made by the Executive Committee of the Assembly of Catholic Bishops of Ontario, is effective July 1, 2020, and continues until the autumn of 2022.

Our Lady of Canada (Health of the Sick), pray for us!