

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Knights of Columbus Raise over \$235,000 for the Newly Dedicated Father Michael J. McGivney Hall

Calgary, AB (June 15, 2011) On June 12, 2011 the building that once house Midlands United Church was dedicated as the Father Michael J. McGivney Hall because of the generous support of the Knights of Columbus of Alberta, and the Supreme Council.

For the past three years, the Knights of Columbus have led a very successful fundraising campaign which raised over \$235,000 for the renovation of the newly named Father Michael J. McGivney Hall at St. Mary's University College. Renovations have already begun and include re-roofing the building, and installation of engineered acoustical paneling.

The Dedication Ceremony was a great success and well attended by friends of St. Mary's, the Knights of Columbus, and the Calgary community. The ceremony began with a Mass celebrated by the Most Reverend Bishop Frederick Henry and included an invocation and blessing of the recognition plaque. Joe Ladouceur, Chairman of the Board of Governors of St. Mary's University College, Dr. Terry Downey, President of St. Mary's, and Neil Gannon, State Deputy, Knights of Columbus Alberta/NWT, among others, brought greetings and best wishes.

"We are extremely pleased with how the whole function went," said Leo Bunz, Chairman of the Knights of Columbus fundraising committee. "We very much appreciate the support and cooperation of the committee and the St. Mary's staff. We were also very honoured to have Bishop Henry with us at this significant event."

The dedication of the building to Father Michael J. McGivney (1852-1890), founder of the Knights of Columbus (1882), is in gratitude for the longstanding commitment of the Knights of Columbus to St. Mary's University College. Father Michael J. McGivney personified in his life and vocation Christ's command that we feed the hungry, clothe the naked, welcome strangers, attend to the sick and visit prisoners. The naming of this building in his honour serves as tangible recognition of the exemplary model of social justice in action that he provides for the youth of each generation

The newly dedicated building is the centre for the two-year after-degree Bachelor of Education (Elementary) program, the only program of its kind in Canada that specifically prepares teachers for Catholic schools.

About St. Mary's University College

St. Mary's University College is a Catholic Post-Secondary, student-focused liberal arts and sciences teachings and research institution in Calgary. St. Mary's offers Bachelors of Arts degrees, a Bachelor of Education (Elementary) degree and courses in 33 academic disciplines. For more information, visit www.stmu.ca

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