

## Exploring Asylum Hill – Saint Joseph Cathedral

It was late in October on a Friday at about lunch time, that if you happened to be going down Farmington Ave, that you would have noticed the event on the right. The cross at the very top of the Cathedral bell tower had been illuminated not too long ago as part of an Archdiocesan-wide capital campaign that among many other improvements would mean upgrades to the Cathedral campus. earlier this year the horizontal lights went out and needed to be repaired.

No doubt the timing of this repair was determined in part by the Beatification of Fr. Michael McGivney that took place on October 31<sup>st</sup>. Fr. McGivney was a parish priest at St. Mary's parish in New Haven when he founded the Knights of Columbus in 1882.

Since then this Catholic fraternal organization has grown throughout North and Central America as well as parts of Europe and Asia.

Blessed Michael McGivney, as he is now known is on the path to being declared a Catholic Saint. His image is on display on large banners on the front of the Cathedral. He is one of a very few US born citizens so venerated.

The Archdiocesan Capital Campaign, mentioned above, is the first diocese wide campaign in the 176-year history of the Hartford Archdiocese. Their goal is to provide needed funds to support “projects, entities, and services that are integral to the long-term sustainability of the Archdiocese of Hartford” as is stated on their website at [www.hartfordbishopsfoundation.org/](http://www.hartfordbishopsfoundation.org/)

One of the projects that they are currently working on involves removing a portion of the old gymnasium that was part of the Cathedral School in order to provide usable space for the Malta House of Care that currently serves Hartford with their Mobile Medical Clinic. This is only a part of the plans that the Archdiocese has for the Cathedral campus. More will be reported as it develops.

For more photos go to: <https://bit.ly/Cathcross>

