

[PDF] Parish Priest: Father Michael McGivney And American Catholicism

Douglas Brinkley, Julie M. Fenster - pdf download free book

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Description:

From Publishers Weekly Fr. Michael McGivney (1852-1890) is under consideration for sainthood in the Roman Catholic Church. So why has almost no one heard of this Connecticut parish priest who helped to transform American Catholicism? McGivney entered seminary when he was just 16 and studied there until his father's unexpected death forced him, the eldest child, to abandon his studies and support his family. Although the diocese eventually came through with a scholarship, McGivney never forgot the devastation of his family's sudden poverty and devoted much of his priestly life to helping the Catholic poor. He founded the Knights of Columbus, an organization that simultaneously met two critical needs of Catholics in the late 19th century: it was an insurance policy for the indigent, and its devotion to America and patriotic ideals helped to assuage anti-

Catholic prejudice. Brinkley and Fenster offer a popular history that is accessible in style and respectful, albeit at times hagiographic, in tone. *(Jan.)*

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About the Author

Douglas Brinkley is a professor of history at Rice University and a contributing editor to *Vanity Fair*. The *Chicago Tribune* has dubbed him "America's new past master." His most recent books are *The Quiet World*, *The Wilderness Warrior*, and *The Great Deluge*. Six of his books have been selected as *New York Times* Notable Books of the Year. He lives in Texas with his wife and three children.

Julie M. Fenster is an award-winning author and historian, specializing in the American story. In 2006 her book *Parish Priest*, written with coauthor Douglas Brinkley, was a *New York Times* bestseller for seven weeks. She also wrote *Ether Day: The Strange Tale of America's Greatest Medical Discovery and the Haunted Men Who Made It*, which won the prestigious Anesthesia Foundation Award for Best Book. Fenster is the author of six other books, including *Race of the Century: The Heroic True Story of the 1908 New York to Paris Auto Race* and *The Case of Abraham Lincoln: A Story of Adultery, Murder, and the Making of a Great President*.

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