

# Brother Barnabas McDonald And The Squires Founding

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Brother Barnabas McDonald F.S.C.

The existence of Columbian Squires organization is due to the vision of the Knights of Columbus, and Christian Brother Barnabas McDonald.

Brother Barnabas, born in Ogdensburg, NY, in 1865 entered the Christian Brothers' novitiate in 1885. After spending years working to improve conditions in institutions and foster families for needy boys, he was appointed executive secretary for the Boys Life Bureau of the Knights of Columbus and charged to design the Squires program.

In 1925, in Duluth, Minn, Circle 1 was instituted at the Order's annual meeting as the first Columbian Squires circle. In 1926 the first circle were established in Canada.

Beginning in 1924 Brother Barnabas spent several years teaching a graduate course at the University of Notre Dame in Indiana and seminars throughout the United States and Canada on working with young people. In 1929, at the age of 64, Brother Barnabas died in Albuquerque, N.M. He is buried in Gate of Heaven Cemetery in Hawthorne, N.Y. A short distance from his grave stands a large cross monument erected in his honor by the members of the organization he forged 75 years ago.