

The Shield

April 2026

Knights of Columbus
 Fr Thomas A Brandon Council 451
 P.O. Box 15296,
 Ft Wayne, IN 46885-5296
 Phone: 260-438-3112
 Office: 260-484-3392 x347
 E mail: Knights451fw@gmail.com



Grand Knights Message

Brother Knights:

Easter is just around the corner, when we celebrate Christ’s rising from the dead. Christ made the ultimate sacrifice for us. Our emotions go from sorrow at his death on the cross, to immense celebration and a new, spiritual life of our own, one we strive to achieve throughout our lives and after our mortal passing.

Brother Knights may have noticed that Council 451 has been making changes in the manner members can access info that hopefully will be seen as “enhancements”. If you haven’t taken a recent look at our 451 web page, I recommend you do so. Our goal is to have it be the sole source of info related to our Council. It’s a work in progress, so bear with us as we add and tweak things to get up to technological speed for our members! Stay tuned for additional upcoming tech changes as we embrace electronics.

Congratulations to 451 for another successful fish fry! Sean Digan gets the nod for another great job herding the cats and again orchestrating the cogs of a well-oiled machine. It was great to see so many 451 brothers step up and help out at this event. I saw lots of faces I didn’t know by name, but it was a great indicator of the dedication Council 451 recognizes the importance of supporting our parish and community.

We’ll again be accepting nominations for officers at our April meeting. Current officers usually serve for 2 years, but annually positions are open to nominations. Self-nominations are acceptable, so don’t be shy if you have a desire to increase your impact on matters related to our Council. Voting will be at the May meeting. Your support by casting a vote helps us officers gauge how well we represent our membership.

Finally, be sure to keep Monday June 1 open on your calendars for our annual meeting/dinner. No official business, just arrive and dine!

Vivat Jesus!

Dennis Holp
 Grand Knight, Council 451



	April		May
1	Mass at the VA Hospital - Noon	4	6:45 PM Monthly Meeting - Hession Center
6	6:45 PM Monthly Meeting - Hession Center	6	Mass at the VA Hospital - Noon
11	Red Cross Blood Drive	26	8:15 AM Mass followed with breakfast with brother Knights
17-19	Indiana K of C State Convention in Fort Wayne at Grand Wayne Center		
28	8:15 AM Mass followed with breakfast with brother Knights—Mass for Maurice Linder		

**Tempus fugit. Memento mori —
“Time flies. Remember death”**



For generations, when Knights are inducted into the fraternal order, they hear the words Tempus fugit. Memento mori — “Time flies. Remember death.” At the time of one’s passing, those simple yet profound words take on new meaning for all those whom they have touched in life. Death is not the end.

We do well by praying for our brothers who have moved on to Eternal Life. As we lose one of our own, Council 451 has a Mass offered for the repose of his soul. In this corner of The Shield, we will let you know the date and time of this Mass. If possible, we encourage you to attend.

** Maurice Linder – entered Eternal Life on 12/17/2025
– Mass 4/28/2026, 8:15am at St. Charles Borromeo

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace. Vivat Jesus!



**Prayers for
Brother Knights**

Brother Knights, please pray for the following Brother Knights or family members:

Mike Bonaham, Larry Delaney, Teri Dennison, A J Drew, Elsie Faghih, Justin Fralick, Michael Friend, Caroline Grote, Dave Grote, John Hackman, Jo Ellen Koehl, Patty Kohrman, Tony Kraft, Lillian Krider, John Londt, Sharon Luther, Kathleen Magasam, Family of Jay Nelson, Bill & Kathy Palmersheim, the Tom Pycz family, Keith Robertson, Janet Rose, Carl Sabo, Emily & John Sasser, Ann Schwartz, Ray & Tony Shot, Colin Smith, Roger Steup, John Thieme, Barbara Tratnyek, Janet Waldschmidt, Diana Wallace, Richard Wallace, Ed Welling, Sheila Welling and Frank Yeranko.

Pray for all the brother Knights sick or in distress, those confined to nursing homes and all deceased brother Knights.

Pray for all the Priests of our Diocese and for all Seminarians studying for the priesthood.
Please pray for our military.

If there are changes to this list, (additions or deletions), please notify any officer.



**First Wednesday of The Month
Mass**

The first Wednesday of each month Steve Lutz, State Knights of Columbus Veterans Affairs Chairman and Dr. Thomas Ryan PGK sponsor the noon Mass at the Fort Wayne VA Hospital at 2121 Lake Avenue, Ft. Wayne, IN 46805.

They would like for you to join them on April 1, 2026 and each following month. Steve will greet you at the main entrance and direct you to the Mass location. Brother Knights from other Councils have been attending and they look forward to seeing you.



Monthly Mass & Breakfast !

Our monthly Knights Mass and Breakfast is held on the fourth Tuesday of the month. We meet at St. Charles for 8:15A.M. Mass, and follow Mass with breakfast at Lakeside Cafe. All nights and potential Knights are welcome to join us for this faith and fellowship opportunity.

If you have any questions, call or text Darren Schortgen at (260)385-7603.

Please join us on Tuesday, April 28, 2026

From the Financial Secretary:

I want to thank the many Brother Knights who have paid their 2026 dues. We still have 40 members who have not sent in their dues. I am requesting that you send in your dues immediately. I mailed a second reminder on March 8, 2026. You can send your payment to our P,O, Box, drop off at the Church business office, put in the collection basket addressed to K of C at any weekend mass or bring to our next meeting April 6, 2026. If you are experiencing a financial hardship at this time and do not think that you will be able to pay your dues, please contact Doug Baisinger at 260-450-0804 or email dbaisinger@gmail.com.

Happy April Birthdays

Christopher Boersma	Martin Lortie
Richard Burton	Mark Minick
Nate Cheviron	Graham Moore
Richard Deutsch	Patrick Morello
John Difilippo	Thang Tung Mung
Samuel Ensley	Bruce Patterson
Thomas Ensley	Robert Schlup
James Gregory	David Schmidt
Keith Harris	David Sordelet
Paul Hilger	Brian Tomlinson
Tom Hogan	William Twohig, III
Geary Hoy	Edward Welling
Ryan Kiel	





Can Crushers Schedule

Mar 29 - Apr 04 : Eric Seely
 Apr 05 - Apr 11 : Jim Pitko
 Apr 12 - Apr 18 : Joe Lauer
 Apr 19 - Apr 25 : Dave Lothamer
 Apr 26 - May 02 : Sean Digan



If you would like to volunteer your time to help crush can please contact **Jason Gabet** at 260-403-6230 or gabet60@aol.com.

Remember all funds collected from the cans go to support Gibault.



Anthony Wayne Assembly 239 Fourth Degree News



Sir Knights,

We survived the month of March, now we enter the month of April. I don't really mind the change of seasons. I just wish it wouldn't change a couple times a week.

At our last meeting we finalized the order for the shirts with our 4th degree logo and Assembly number. If you ordered a shirt, we will notify you when they are ready and you can pay our assembly and pick up your shirt. We also elected delegates to our District Meeting in Greenwood held on March 28th. Blane Ryan and I will be representing our Assembly. We will be selecting 3 candidates to be our next District Master. The Supreme council will pick one out of the three. Also, we began the nominations for officers. If you are interested in running for an office there is still time to get on the ballot.

The Indiana Knights of Columbus State Convention will be held in Fort Wayne at the Grand Wayne Center, April 17-19. There will be a call for members of the Honor Guard to participate.

At this time in our Church year, I think about a book I have spent much time with. It examines all the many relics of the life, passion, and death of Jesus Christ. The fragments of the cross, crown of thorns, nails, the spear, various burial cloths, pillar of the scourging, and many others. How can anyone think Jesus Christ is just a myth. **Proclaim Christ Crucified!**

Our next meeting will be April 14th with the rosary at 7 and the meeting at 7:30.

For God, Country, and Neighbor
 Mike Blankman, Navigator
 Anthony Wayne Assembly

**Meetings are held at the Saint Mother T. Guerin Chapel basement on the 2nd Tuesday of the month.
 The Patriotic Rosary begins at 7:00 PM and the meeting begins at 7:30.**

FOURTH DEGREE FRIAR'S PHRASES

The Christian world, especially, the Catholic world, is filled with an overwhelming joy. How is this possible? We are again involved in a Persian war, our government is seriously divided, they cannot talk with each other without making traitorous accusations. Even some of our families are breaking. Worse yet the strength of religion seems strained to a breaking point. Yet, in spite of all this there is a reality of Eastertime that makes live in and proclaim with loud voice, Joy.

For it is the firm conviction of the Anthony Wayne Assembly of the Fourth Degree of the Knights of Columbus that: Love is stronger than hate, that Virtue is more powerful than evil, and that faith overcomes doubt. How? Because the Resurrection of Our Lord defeated sin and death. May the good works and the shining faith of our Assembly change sadness into unrelenting joy.

He who was dead is alive and death has no more sting!

Happy Easter Alleluia!!!

Vivat Jesus!

Fr. William Kummer F.F.



FISH FRY 2026

Given the number of people served and participation by so many Knights and others, there is no doubt this year's fish fry can be classified as a huge success. If you were one of the hundreds that dined in, you probably noticed a nearly full cafeteria throughout most of the evening. Meanwhile outside, the drive-thru operation was handling another 325 meals. In all, 905 dinners were served, which is an increase of 20% over last year. That 905 number does not include the 75 or so free children's meals. Plans are already in motion for next year's event. So, mark your calendar for March 5th, 2027.

An undertaking like this is not possible without a good leader at the helm, and Council 451 has the best in Sean Digan. I doubt he knows himself how long he has been heading this event, but clearly, he has it dialed in. Backing him up were more than 80 Knights. Many of them were new faces or relatively newer members. This bodes well for the future of our council. Also present and busily going about their work at the dessert tables were volunteers from St. Vincent de Paul. Many of their members were responsible for donations of the pies, cakes and various other treats. Those home-baked goods are always a big hit.

We cannot express how important this fund raiser event is to our Council. Much of the money raised will be used in the Knights charitable contributions and in financing other activities. Our thanks to all who gave of their time and talent to make this a lovely evening for others. Below are pictures of many of the workers. My apologies if we did not capture everyone's photo; there were just so many volunteers. Know that your contribution was very much appreciated.



Bruce Bennett and Tom Keefer



Ed Schmieman and Justin Purdy



Don Smith



The Delaney family: Gene, Charlotte and Anna



Steve Lutz and John Prascsak



Don Hayden and Eric Seely



Matt Smith and Joe Keane



Dennis Holp and Mike Ripley



Tom Ryan



Andy Selbert and Rick Claycomb



Pictures by Tom Richter and Dennis Redding

FISH FRY 2026 continued . . .



Kevin O'Sullivan and
Derek Phillie



Ben Williams, Mike Havens
and Mark Leeuw



A crowded cafeteria



Mike Wass and Doug Baisinger



Herb Halley and Blane Ryan



Joe Tratnyek and Dean Haselden



Jack Wehrly



Mike Smith



Joe Mikolay, Russ Suever
and Vince Lochbihler



Sean Bennett and Joe
Pothhoff



Dan Jordan



John Magsam, Adam
Osenga, Vince Lochbihler
and Sean Bennett



Tim Isch, Joe McKenna
and Jim Pifko

FISH FRY 2026 continued . . .



Mark Graf, Don Smith, Mike Kohrman, Bill Twohig and Bob Burke



Laura Underwood, Jill Redding, Brenda Harter and Frank Koehl



Bruce Bennett, Jay Lauer, Joe Lauer, John Prascsak, Dennis Redding, helper, Tom Keefer and Ed Lubomirski



Tim Isch, Gene Delaney, Chris Rittenhouse, Frank Koehl and John Murray



Andy Meyer, John Minick, David Lothamer, Tom Lothamer and Ron Russell



Tim Slater and Joe Lauer



John Murray and Jim Pifko



Rolland Taylor, Geary Hoy, Mike Arvin's, and Chuck Smith

Pictures by Tom Richter and Dennis Redding



On Saturday, March 21, 2026 Council 451 helped prepare and serve the lunch for the St. Charles Teen Retreat at St. Felix Retreat Center in Huntington, IN. We served over 40 teens and adults.



Knights left to right:
 Doug Baisinger
 Tim Isch
 Gene Delaney
 Joe Mikolay
 Jim Pifko
 Jack Wehrly
 Tom Ryan
 Frank Koehl
 Tom Richter

40 DAYS FOR LIFE

THE BEGINNING OF THE END OF ABORTION.



40 Days for Life Spring 2026
 Held on March 19th outside
 Planned Parenthood on Lake Avenue.



Herb & Marge Halley



Gary & Mary Ann Mackela,
 Tom Richter and Gary Mackela



Mary Mondok and
 Stacey Huneck



Stacey Huneck, Dennis Redding,
 Tom & Diane Keefer



Joan Lutz and
 Kathy Vande Zande

Photos provided by Dennis Redding and Tom Richter



Please welcome a new member. **Ben Williams** is our newest new Brother Knight to join Council 451. Ben came to our Fish Fry and asked if he could help and said that he wanted to be a Knight. We put him to work and signed him up. The Council is glad to have him become part of Council 451 and hope to see him at our meetings and activities.



Our Second Blood Drive for 2026

Council 451 will be sponsoring our second American Red Cross Blood Drive for 2026 on Saturday **April 11, 2026**. Please sign up to donate blood during this Blood Drive. The Blood Drive will begin at 7:00 AM in the Cafeteria. Everyone who donated February 14th can donate at this Blood Drive.

2025-2026 Officers

Council 451

Chaplain

Deacon Robert Lortie

Grand Knight

Dennis Holp 438-3112

Deputy Grand Knight

Sean Digan 417-0216

Chancellor

Jason Gabet 403-6230

Financial Secretary

Doug Baisinger 486-8533

Recorder

Michael Ripley 205-3689

Warden

Gene Delaney 699-0544

Treasurer

Joe Mikolay 348-9416

Trustees

3 Jack Wehrly 414-0421

2 Bruce Bennett 409-0229

1 Dennis Redding 615-1692

Advocate

Vince Lochbihler 515-7870

Inside Guard

Blane Ryan 615-1728

Outside Guard

Charles Smith 403-7792

District Deputy

Tom Ryan DO

District14@indianakofc.org



2025-2026 Directorships:

Membership and Public Relations Director

Justin Purdy 410-3125

Fraternal Director

Gene Delaney 699-0544

Fraternal co-Director

Tim Isch 715-5984

Life Director

Kirk Crosby (865) 399-3052

Family Directors

Sam Sliger 750-8657

Gibault Envoy

Mike Smith 479-7199

Faith Director

Tony Hasselschwert 413-5310

Community Director

Dennis Redding 615-1692

Anthony Wayne Assembly
2025-2026

Faithful Friar

Rev. William Kummer 574-780-0824

Faithful Navigator

Mike Blankman 260-413-6376

Faithful Captain

Mark Steiglitz 505-710-1553

Faithful Pilot

Pete Duran 260-579-6054

Faithful Scribe

Blane Ryan 260-623-6808

Faithful Comptroller

John Murray 260-486-6870

Faithful Purser

Loren Nichter 260-413-1463

Faithful Inside Sentinel

Mike Shane 260-246-1117

Faithful Outside Sentinel

Dennis Redding 260-615-1692

Faithful Trustee

1. Ed Koehl 260-338-0743

2. Rick Jennings 260-494-5982

3. Mike Descala 217-553-2572

Faithful Admiral

Richard Burton 260-432-7030

Faithful Honor Guard

Pete Duran 260-579-6054

peteduran@frontier.com

Master IN District

SK Pat Glavin 773-954-3975

master@indianakofc.org

Master Sir Knight IN District

Michael R Ticich 773-447-7587



Please bring your cans to the Knights of Columbus shed!
We will crush the cans and recycle them
for cash to be donated to Gibault!

**PLEASE DO NOT INCLUDE ALUMINUM FOIL
OR ALUMINUM PANS—ONLY CANS.** Thank you!



**Have you recently
moved or are you
moving?**

If so please advise us by
emailing your new
address to:

Knights451fw@gmail.com

or send a note to:

P.O. 15296

Fort Wayne, IN

46885-5296.

Thank you!!!



Your Insurance Agent
For The Knights of Columbus Insurance is:
Nicholas Goralczyk
574-457-8111
nick.goralczyk@kofc.org