

The Shield

August 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:

August already! We started a new fraternal year on July 1 and its full speed ahead. August 13th is the feast day of the founder of our Knights of Columbus, Blessed Michael McGivney. He saw the need to establish our organization with the mission of helping keep men Catholic and ensuring their families' financial protection. In his announcement of his beatification, Pope Francis stated that our Founder's "zeal for the proclamation of the Gospel and generous concern for the needs of his brothers and sisters made him an outstanding witness of Christian solidarity and fraternal assistance." It is our duty and responsibility to continue his zeal as we serve our parish, community and brother Knights.

At our upcoming meeting on August 3rd, we will be introducing the draft budget for Council 451's 2027 fiscal year. It will be available in the Shield for review by all members and will be formally voted on at our meeting on September 14 (to avoid the Labor Day weekend). The budget has been reviewed with a recommendation of approval by your Board of Trustees and officers. If you would have questions on any details, reach out to me or one of your officers. We're happy to explain things.

The 451 Mush ball tournament is scheduled for Sunday, August 16. Contact one of the following for additional info: Dennis Redding (260-615-1692), Steve Lutz (260-341-7556), or Sean Digan (260-417-0216). We're hoping to have active participation by 451 members. Skill is optional! It's open to any parish member over 18, male and female. You don't need a team, just a desire to play and tolerance for getting embarrassed! The grill will be fired up for nutritional supplementation between games, so come out to enjoy yourself!

We'll be supporting Cardinal Fest again this year, in need of volunteers. We'll be discussing opportunities for Knights at our membership meeting as we help with this popular parish event.

Enjoy the balance of this fast-moving summer. We're always happy to see new faces at our events!

Vivat Jesus!

Dennis Holp
Grand Knight, Council 451

	August		September
1	Blood Drive at the Red Cross Blood Center	2	Mass at the VA Hospital - Noon
3	6:45 PM Monthly Meeting - Hession Center	12	Cardinal Fest
5	Mass at the VA Hospital - Noon	14	6:45 PM Monthly Meeting - Hession Center
16	Mushball	22	8:15 AM Mass followed with breakfast with brother Knights
25	8:15 AM Mass followed with breakfast with brother Knights		
			1



Deceased Members

Please remember all the deceased brother Knights in your prayers.



Monthly Mass & Breakfast!

Our monthly Knights Mass and Breakfast is held on the fourth Tuesday of the month. We meet at St. Charles for 8:15 A.M. Mass, and follow Mass with breakfast at Lakeside Cafe. All knights 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, **August 25, 2026**



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 **August 5, 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.



Red Cross Blood Drive

Council 451 will hold their next Blood Drive on **August 1, 2026** at the

Red Cross Blood Center located at 1212 E. California Road, Fort Wayne.

You may donate if you have NOT donated blood after June 6, 2026.



Happy August Birthdays



Eric Ade
Leroy Carcione
V. John Elsasser
Michael Furniss
Kyle Hartman
John Henry, Jr.
Christopher Jozwiak
Joseph McKenna
William Meyer
Daniel Munson III
James Piet
Philip Poinsatte

A. Joseph Rager
Chris Rittenhouse
Chris Rodenbeck
Mark Russett
Terrill "Terry" Stults
Jared Thompson
Craig Vander Maden
Robert Weingartner
Jason Wellman
Kevin Zehr
Mark Zwierko



Can Crushers Schedule

July 26 - Aug. 01 : Eric Seeley
 Aug. 02 - Aug. 08 : Joe Mikolay
 Aug. 09 - Aug. 15 : OPEN
 Aug. 16 - Aug. 22 : OPEN
 Aug. 23 - Aug. 29 : OPEN
 Aug. 30 - Sept 05 : Dave Lothamer



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.



Habitat for Humanity - Build 1

The St. Charles Knights of Columbus Council 451 was busy Saturday, June 27, 2026
 volunteering to build a new home for a deserving Fort Wayne family through Habitat
 for Humanity on Lillie Street in Downtown Fort Wayne. Brother Knights Deacon Rob
 Lortie, Justin Purdy, Gene Delaney, Matthew Smith, and Michael Vanderpool spent the day installing vinyl
 siding as they worked to “build on faith, build up families and build community together,” the mission of
 Habitat for Humanity. We also provided Subway lunch for our volunteers and 4 other outside volunteers.



Justin Purdy, Michael Vanderpool,
 Deacon Rob Lortie, Matthes Smith,
 Gene Delaney



Michael Vanderpool
 Nailing Siding



Matthew Smith
 Nailing Siding



Gene Delaney and Deacon
 Rob Lortie Installing Front
 Porch Post



Justin Purdy Installing Siding
 Under a Window

Photos provided by Justin Purdy



Habitat for Humanity - Build 2

The St. Charles Knights of Columbus Council 451 was busy Saturday, July 25, 2026 volunteering to build a new home for a deserving Fort Wayne family through Habitat for Humanity on Lillie Street in Downtown Fort Wayne. Brother Knights Alex Maher, David Bokhart, Phil Kramer, Mike Jolgren, and Justin Purdy spent the day painting interior walls as they worked to “build on faith, build up families and build community together,” the mission of Habitat for Humanity. We also provided Subway lunch for our volunteers and 4 other outside volunteers.



Pictured Left to Right: Mike Jolgren, Justin Purdy, Phil Kramer, Alex Maher, & David Bokhart (Future Habitat Homeowner in Front Sitting)



Alex Maher



Mike Jolgren



Phil Kramer



David Bokhart



Justin Purdy

Photos provided by Justin Purdy



A Knights Out

For those with a love for baseball or just good fellowship, the Knights enjoyed an evening out at the TinCaps game on July 23rd. The stadium was alive with all kinds of entertainment and excitement hosting the



2nd largest crowd of the season and the 5th sellout to date. Fort Wayne scored the first run of the evening raising high hopes. Unfortunately, as the innings ticked off, things went from bad to worse resulting in a 15-3 loss to the Lake County Captains. Still, no one really seemed to mind as the company was good and the beer was flowing. Our thanks to Blane Ryan for making the arrangements and to a successful event.



Anthony Wayne Assembly 239 Fourth Degree News



Sir Knights,

On July 14th our Assembly officers were installed in their offices by Diocesan Marshall, Eric Van Meter, from South Bend. Following the installation, we held our planning meeting for the coming fraternal year. Following our tradition, there will not be a meeting in August. We will be running a food booth at the St. Aloysius Festival, Saturday August 22nd. Workers are needed from 1:00 to 5:00, Steve Heckber will be calling for workers.

On Saturday, July 25th, our Assembly hosted a 4th Degree Exemplification. It was held in Fort Wayne at St. Charles church. The ceremony was followed by a Mass at noon and followed by a luncheon. The honoree for the Exemplification was Msgr. Thomas Shoemaker. I want to welcome our new members. I attempted to capture the names of all the new members. They are Andrew Roussey, Donald Smith, Josh Torres, Thomas Lapsley, Robert Vachon, John Palmershein, Steve Beckman, Jay Girardot, Donald E. Smith, and Ben Klinker. I hope I managed to get every name. If you know of someone I missed let me know. I want to thank everyone who helped with the preparations, the ceremony and the luncheon.

Our next meeting will be September 8th.

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

There will be no Assembly meeting in August.

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 summer season flies by; or so it seems; after we celebrate the Fourth of July summer is over. Although we enjoy the warm and long days there is still a feeling that Fall is near, especially when we have a cool day. This is a moment of melancholy. We "old timers" easily recall a moment when we were being initiated. There hanging on the wall was that banner, "*Tempus Fugit. Memento Mori!*" I recall this, not to be morbid, but to remind us that we should celebrate life, live it well, and honor those who have gone before. In this August newsletter our Assembly is asked to remember one my predecessors, Monsignor Bernard Galic. Ordained a priest for Sacred Heart Fathers, later was incardinated into the Diocese of Fort Wayne – South Bend, and here served as pastor of several parishes. In this part of the diocese, he was at St. Mary of Assumption, Avilla, Indiana; and as we are reminded by brother Steve Heckber, St. Aloysius, Yoder. We will miss him, and together we now pray for the repose of his soul, that through the mercy of God Our Father, he may have eternal life.

Thank you, Monsignor, and may our memory of your ministry among us continue to guide the work of our assembly.

Also, I offer a word of welcome to our newest members and brothers of the Anthony Wayne Assembly.

Vivat Jesus!
Fr. William Kummer F.F.



Installation of New Council 451 Officers

Induction of the newly elected officers for the 2026 – 2027 fraternal year was held at the July monthly meeting. The ceremony was conducted by District Deputy Dave Barrett. Thirteen officers under the leadership of the Grand Knight will work together in leading the council in the coming year.



Since Joe Pothoff was unable to attend the annual awards dinner on June 1st, he received his Shining Armor Award at the July general membership meeting. The

award was presented to him by Deputy Grand Knight Sean Digan.



Officers for the new fraternal year: Jack Wehrly, Gene Delaney, Joe Mikolay, Doug Baisinger, Vince Lochbihler, DD Dave Barrett, GK Dennis Holp, Jason Gabet, Blane Ryan, Mike Ripley, Bruce Bennett, Sean Digan and Steve Lutz.



Jewels to be worn by the various officers.



Grand Knight Dennis Holp is congratulated by District Deputy Dave Barrett.



District Deputy Dave Barrett during ceremony.



View of some of the officers as they are sworn in.



View of the remaining officers as they are sworn in.

Photos provided by Dennis Redding

Knights Helping Neighbors

The summer continues to be a busy time for the council in our Knights Helping Neighbors program. In June and early July, the Knights helped six parishioners with special requests. We installed a 70-foot mesh fence, did a late spring yard cleanup, we spruced up the landscaping at St. Charles in front of the kindergarten rooms and removed old railroad ties along the football field, moved furniture for a couple from their basement for donation to SVdP, did numerous smaller projects for another by installing a new doorknob, closet floor guides, shower head and even packed away a Christmas tree. In most cases, we limit our activities to one day a week and send out the call to whomever can help. If you wish to be part of this team and are available during the week, notify Dennis Redding 260-615-1692.



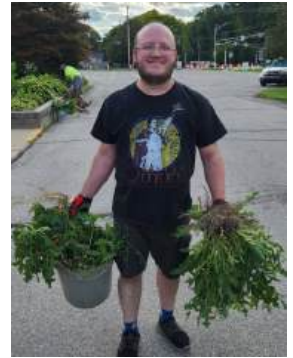
Tom Richter and Joe Lauer tackle a busy as part of a yard cleanup.



St. Charles landscaping team: Frt row - Dennis Redding, Don Smith, Tom Richter, Eric Seely, Dave Lothamer Back row - Tom Keefer, Tom Lothamer, Jim Keefer, Sean Digan, Geary Hoy, Jack Wehrly, & Jim Pifko. Not shown - Dawn Smith.



Dave Lothamer doing some final cleanup.



Eric Seely hauling buckets of clippings.



Jim Keefer making sure these weeds don't come back.



Tom Keefer doing some fine shaping.



Don and Dawn, our couple team, teaming up to clean an area.



Jack Wehrly on an 8-foot ladder cutting a bush down to size.



Sean Digan and Tom Lothamer loading one of the many old railroad ties.



Putting the final touches on a 70-foot mesh fence - Dennis Redding, Geary Hoy, Tom Richter & Jim Pifko.



Installing a new door handle - Geary Hoy and Don Smith.



A back breaking morning of hauling couches from a basement. The team: Dennis Redding, Tom Richter, Jack Wehrly and Dave Lothamer.

Photos provided by Dennis Redding

Fiscal Budget 2026/2027

July 1, 2026 thru June 30, 2027

PROJECTED INCOME FISCAL 2026/2027

Annual Dues	\$10,000
Checking Account Interest	\$100
Donations to Council	\$5,000
Fish Fry	\$10,000
Gibault Donations Income	\$5,600
Interest & Principal Reed Road	\$18,000
Membership Donation	\$5,000
Memorial	\$5,000
Seminarian Support	\$5,000
Shirt Sales	\$500
Spaghetti Dinner	\$5,000
Misc. Income	\$550
Special Events Income	\$1,000
TOTAL INCOME	\$70,750

St. Charles Borromeo



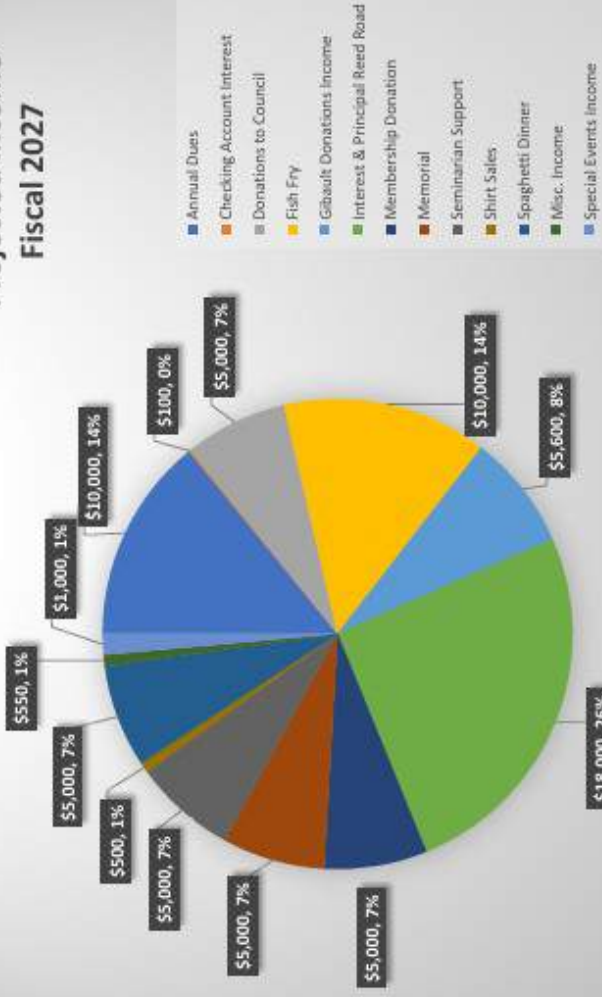
Council #451

PROJECTED EXPENSES FISCAL 2026/2027

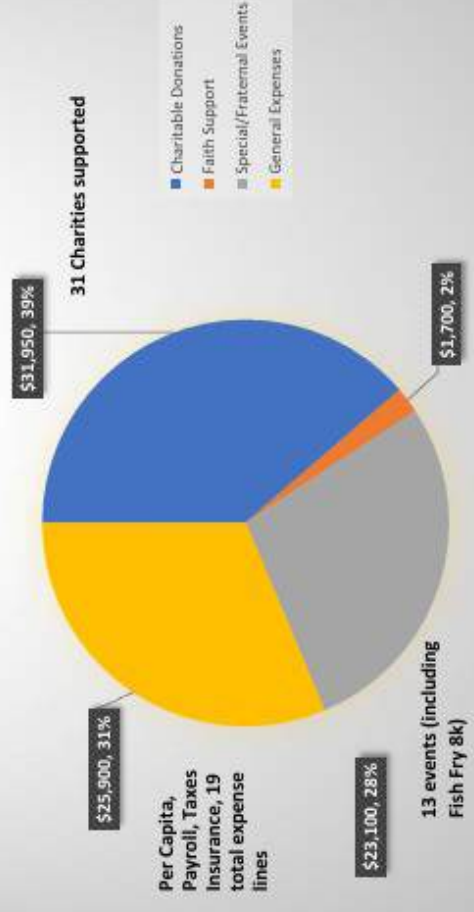
Charitable Donations	\$31,950
Faith Support	\$1,700
Special/Fraternal Events	\$23,100
General Expenses	\$25,900
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$82,650

7/29/2026

Projected Income Fiscal 2027



Projected Expenses Fiscal 2027



Fiscal 2026 Actual v Budget

7/1/2025 - 6/30/2026	7/1/2025 - 6/30/2026	Difference +/-
Budget	Actual	

INCOME

	Fiscal 2026	
Annual Dues	\$10,000	\$10,261
Checking/Savings Account Interest	\$400	\$463
Donations to Council	\$5,000	\$7,678
Fish Fry	\$10,000	\$13,616
Gibault Donations Income	\$3,800	\$5,554
Interest & Principal Reed Road	\$19,000	\$16,500
Membership Donation	\$5,000	\$21,021
Memorial	\$5,000	\$10,720
Misc. Inc	\$250	\$1,326
Seminarian Support	\$4,500	\$5,291
Shirt Sales	\$500	\$598
Spaghetti Dinner	\$5,000	\$9,140
Special Events Income	\$3,000	\$4,204
TOTAL INCOME	\$71,450	\$106,372

St. Charles Borromeo



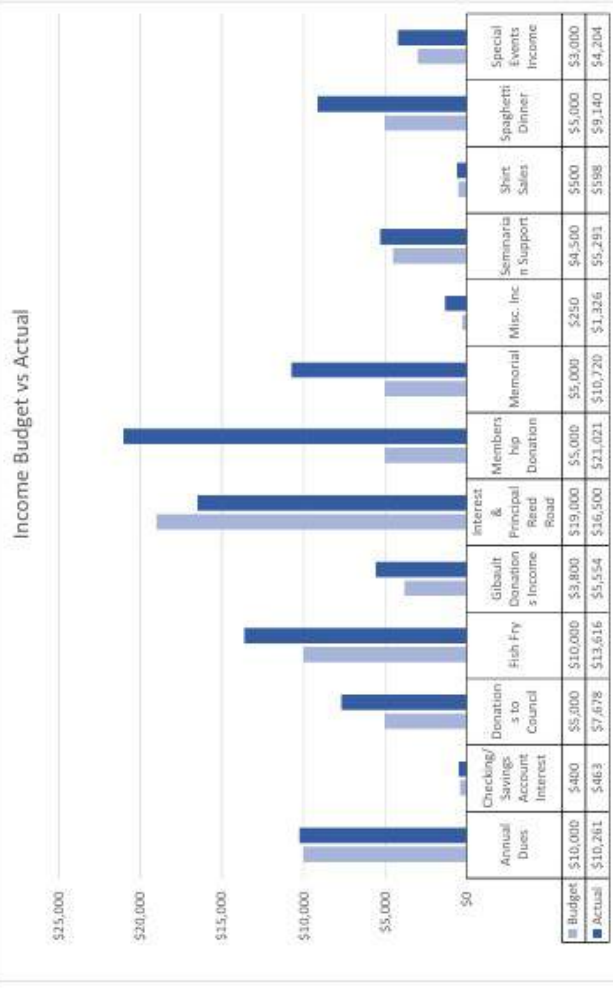
Council #451

EXPENSES

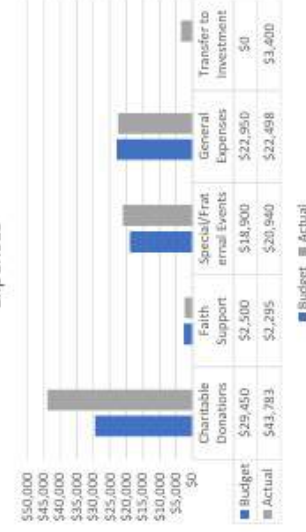
	Fiscal 2026	
Charitable Donations	\$29,450	\$43,783
Faith Support	\$2,500	\$2,295
Special/Fraternal Events	\$18,900	\$20,940
General Expenses	\$22,950	\$22,498
Transfer to Investment	\$0	\$3,400
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$73,800	\$92,916

Income	\$106,372
Expense	\$92,916
Difference	\$13,456

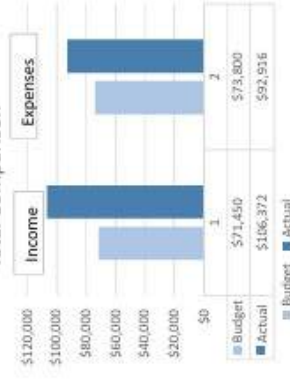
7/29/2026



Expenses



Total Comparison



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

Dave Barrett

david_e_barrett@frontier.com



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

Mark Braun 260-409-2337

Faithful Outside Sentinel

Dennis Redding 260-615-1692

Faithful Trustee

1. Mike Discala 260-553-2572

2. Ed Koehl 260-338-0743

3. Steve Heckber 260-622-7796

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