

The Shield

October 2025

Knights of Columbus
Fr Thomas A Brandon Council 451
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Ft Wayne, IN 46885-5296
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Grand Knights Message

Brothers:

Summer is officially behind us. Many folks aren't looking forward to having to break out jackets or sweatshirts, but it comes with the territory. Our council 451 has donated its share of sweat this summer with a number of projects done for the betterment of our parish and community. New landscaping around the church is the most recent project. Cardinal Fest saw a number of brother Knights donate their time and talent to help with the success of that parish event.

There are quite a few upcoming "opportunities" for Knights to help with or just enjoy as a participant. We're serving up lunch at the retreat for young adults this weekend at St. Felix. Our spaghetti dinner for Dominic is next Wednesday, Oct 1. Donate blood and then kick back and enjoy Trivia Night on Saturday, Oct 4. By all means, let us know if and how you'd like to get involved! Come hungry for pasta, roll up your sleeves, or show off your Cliff Clavin skills. Who is Cliff? Maybe trivia isn't for you!

We recognize the sanctity of life and strive to protect the unborn. The 40 Days for Life is a public show of support. We plan to again be proud participants. Sign up for a time slot. Our membership drive weekend is mid-October, but there's no reason to wait until then to ask your neighbor or friends about joining us as a Knight.

We're here to provide time, talent and treasure to improve the council, parish and community, and invite all our members to help with the effort. Come get to know us better as we get to know you. Reach out, take a chance by joining us for an event. The personal reward may surprise you!

Vivat Jesus!

Dennis Holp
Grand Knight, Council 451

	October		November
1	Mass at the VA Hospital - Noon	3	6:45 PM Monthly Meeting - Hession Center
1	Spaghetti Dinner for Dominic	5	Mass at the VA Hospital - Noon
4	Blood Drive	11	Veteran's & Memorial Mass 6:30pm at St. Charles
4	Trivia Night Fundraiser	13	8:15 AM Mass followed with breakfast with brother Knights
6	6:45 PM Monthly Meeting - Hession Center	22	St. Charles Youth Retreat lunch as St. Felix's
9	8:15 AM Mass followed with breakfast with brother Knights	25	8:15 AM Mass followed with breakfast with brother Knights
16	40 Days for Life-Pray at Planned Parenthood Clinic		
18-19	Membership Drive Weekend		
28	8:15 AM Mass followed with breakfast with brother Knights		
			1

We are looking at resurrecting the rosary call list for our fallen brothers. We will call when a brother has passed, and we will be saying a rosary for the repose of his soul. Generally, this will be at the funeral home. The times will vary depending on the wishes of the family. We started this practice with the recent death of Sir Knight Don Luther. If you received a call or message on Don's behalf, then you are on our current list.

If you would like to be added or removed, simply send an email to knights451fw@gmail.com or text Joe Mikolay at 260-34-9416. Please include your name and the phone number you would like to use to be contacted.



Monthly Mass & Breakfast !

Our monthly Knights Mass and Breakfast has expanded to the second Thursday and forth Tuesday of the month. We meet at St. Charles for 8:15A.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 Monday, October 9 and/or October 28, 2025



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 October 1, 2025 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.



Annual Membership Drive Weekend 2025

Council 451 will be holding the Annual Membership Drive Weekend

Saturday October 18 and Sunday October 19.

Mike Ripley and Justin Purdy will speak at the Masses that weekend.

We will need several workers throughout the weekend at the table in the Gathering Space and in the cafeteria to serve coffee and donuts.

A signup genius has been created to volunteer.

Click the link below to see what times and positions are available and consider signing up today.

[Membership Drive Weekend Signup](#)

Happy October Birthdays

Austin Barton
Paul Eisaman
Christopher Gustafson
John Hackman
Nathan Hartman
Christopher Hatcher
Walter James
James Langlet
Joseph Lauer
David Lothamer
Don Luther II
Joseph Mackela
Michael Maskal
John Murray



Robert J Offerle
Michael Parker
Stanley Passino
Gregory Rose
Robert Sordelet
Peter Steigmeyer
Rolland Taylor
David Yenser



Can Crushers Schedule

Sept 28 - Oct 4 : Sean Digan
Oct 5 - Oct 11 : Jim Pifko
Oct 12 - Oct 18 : Eric Seely
Oct 19 - Oct 25 : Chuck Smith



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.



TRIVIA NIGHT

St Charles Knights of Columbus, Council #451

Saturday, October 4

Time: 6:00PM to 9:30PM

Where: St Charles Cafeteria - Door # 9



Doors open at 6:00PM after 5:00PM mass and Trivia begins at 7:00PM

Cost is \$100 per table (8 people per table). BYOB, snacks & drinks. Must be 21 years old! Registration forms are available on table in the Church's Gathering space or you can email Sean Digan at digansm@comcast.net or text/phone Sean at 260-417-0216. Payment will be collected at event. Money raised will be used to support the various charity activities the Knights get involved in.



Anthony Wayne Assembly Fourth Degree News



Sir Knights,

On September 9th, we held the installation of our Assembly officers. It was conducted by our District Master, Pat Glavin, assisted by his Diocesan Marshal, Eric Van Meter. Two days later, on September 11th we held a special Mass with our Friar, Fr. Bill Kummer. This Mass was in memory of the lives lost in 2001 and to honor those who serve in public safety today.

Looking to the month of October we have a few activities especially concerning our Honor Guard. On Saturday, Oct. 4th, we have the Mass at the Cathedral for the World Apostolate of Fatima at 9:00 am. On Tuesday, Oct. 14th is the annual Northeast Indiana Right to Life Banquet at the Memorial Coliseum. That would be the date for our regular meeting but since many of our members would be attending the banquet, it was decided to move our meeting to the following Tuesday, Oct. 21st.

I am having a growing interest in the message of Our Lady at Fatima. Our Lady urged the three children to pray and fast for peace and to stop the spread of Communism, and to encourage others to do the same. The world needs the message of Fatima now more than ever: **prayer, penance and sacrifice**. We all need to remember who has the ultimate power over our world.

For God, Country, and Neighbor
Mike Blankman, Navigator
Anthony Wayne Assembly 239

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.

Knights Helping Neighbors

In September, the Knights received a couple of calls for help. Under our Knights Helping Neighbors program, we did some landscaping cleanup for a parishioner. This is one of those assignments that has its own rewards in helping one of our own and showing that we care.

We also answered the call from our St. Charles SVdP to help in moving the household items for a mother with children who was being evicted. In the case of an eviction, the situation has deteriorated far beyond what SVdP can do financially. For now, the Knights were able to move most of their belongings to a 60-day storage facility provided by some other agency. We hope the mother will be successful in working with a case worker to obtain shelter and keep her family together.



Jim Pifko with a load of sticks.



Geary Hoy at work trimming one of many bushes.



Jim Keefer removing a bush that has seen better days.



Tom Richter, Joe Lauer and Dennis Redding moving furniture to a storage unit.

Photos provided by Dennis Redding

Happy 100th Birthday, Robert Silva!

Council 451 celebrated Brother Robert Silva's 100th birthday at our September 8th meeting. Robert's actual birthday was September 5th. The Council had cake and gifts for him. His daughter and son accompanied him to the meeting. Robert was presented with a new Council 451 hat and shirt. Robert and everyone in attendance enjoyed the party.



Opening his gift



Robert modeling his new hat, with Nora and David watching



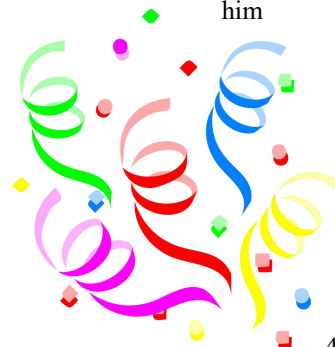
Robert holding his new Council 451 shirt



Robert blowing out his candles as the Council sings Happy Birthday to him



Robert's cake



Photos provided by Doug Baisinger

New Campus Landscaping

Now that the school windows project has been completed, additional steps were taken to improve the exterior of the school. Utilizing the expertise of the Plant Center, Inc. the proposal included new landscaping for the north and south sides of the school along with additional shrubbery on the southwest corner of the church. In all, nearly 80 trees, shrubs and plants were added. The Plant Center handled the planting of the 20 trees and larger shrubs with their heavier equipment. The Knights with a team of 23 tackled the remaining 60 smaller plants chiseling through the dry clay and spreading some 10 yards of mulch. In just a matter of a few hours, the improvements have added much to the beauty of our campus. Our thanks to all who contributed to its success.



The crew: Jeff Bauermister, Tom Lothamer, Tom Hope, Jack Wehrly, Jim Pifko, Tom Keefer, Jeff Henry, Jim Keefer, Pete Shutt, Sean Digan, Jason Gabet, Bruce Bennett, Mike Smith, Chris Boersma, Mike Havens, Sam Sliger, Mark Leeuw, Gene Delaney, Jay Lauer, Geary Hoy, Joe Lauer, Jason Wampler, Bill Sliger



Chris Boersma and Gene Delaney digging quite a hole.



Tom Lothamer, Tom Hope and Jim Pifko team up.



Bruce Bennett, Sean Digan and Jack Wehrly prepare to set a plant.



Bill Sliger, Jim Keefer and Tom Keefer planting some dwarf arbutus.



Jay Lauer, Jeff Bauermeister and Joe Lauer spacing hydrangeas for maximum view.



Geary Hoy and Jeff Henry are making it happen.



Jason Wampler, Mike Havens and Sam Sliger planting some buckthorn to shield the air conditioning units from view.



Mark Leeuw and Jason Gabet prepare to put one of many boxwoods in place.



Pete Shutt and Mike Smith hauling wheelbarrows of mulch.



Dennis Redding and Tom Lothamer working on the mulch pile



A finished view of the north side of the school.

Gibault Christmas List 2025



Did someone say Christmas?

With Christmas just a little over 3 months away (105 days, but who is counting?), our elves on both campuses are already preparing to make the holy season special for our kids. Below is a Christmas wish list. We welcome any and all donations for our kids. Thank you in advance for your generous support.

2025 CHRISTMAS WISH LIST

Electronics

Portable DVD players (without Wi-Fi access)
FM Radios – "boom boxes"
Nintendo Switches (used as DORM presents – not individual gifts)
Handheld electronics (games, music players)

Arts and Crafts

Diamond Paintings (found at Hobby Lobby or Amazon)
Coloring books for all ages
Play Doh sets

Games

Magic the Gathering cards
Pokémon cards
Board games
Card games

Clothing

Nike, Adidas, or Under Armor Shirts (t-shirts, crew sweatshirts-no hoodies, shorts)
Nike "Slides" (sandals) (variety of adult sizes)

Hygiene

Bodywash gift sets (Old Spice, Axe)

Toys

Lego kits (Minecraft, Marvel, etc.)
Lego Speech Champion Sets
Remote control cars
Squishmallows

Magnetic tiles

Transformers

K'Nex building sets

Books

Goosebumps Series
Hunger Game Series
"I Survived" Series
Warriors Series
The Lunar Chronicles by Marissa Meyer
Magic Tree House Series
Pokémon Books
The Shadow and Bone Trilogy by Leigh Bardugo
Twilight Series
Harry Potter Series
Wings of Fire Series

Girl Specific Gifts

Spa related items (nail polish, face masks)
Make up kits
"Wreck It" journals
Hairbrushes
Body mist
Fuzzy slippers
Journals

Recreation Supplies

Sports equipment (basketballs, kickballs, soccer, volleyball)
Fishing poles
Tackle boxes
Yoga items (mats, blocks)

Please Note: this list is for children on both of our campuses. Most of our youth are ages 12-17, there are no more than 32 girls on our campuses

The above is the most asked for things from our kids for Christmas. We always accept new puzzles, board games, sports balls, new sweatshirts with tags still attached in adult sizes without hoods, and art supplies.

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 750-7600

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 750-7600

Fraternal co-Director

Tim Isch 715-5984

Life Director

Kirk Crosby (865) 399-3052

Family Directors

Sam Slinger 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