



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

Medina Knights of Columbus #4168

May 12, 2026

Grand Knight: Rick Dudas - present

Deputy Grand Knight: Kevin Lynch - present

Financial Secretary: Steve Durbin - present

Chancellor: Dan Cathcart - present

Recorder: Jon Cwalina - present

Treasurer: Mark Shee - excused

Warden: Barry Norris - present

Advocate: Matt Lower - excused

Inside Guard: Dave Swancer - present

Outside Guard: Michael Conley - excused

1 Year Trustee: Andy Swancer - excused

2 Year Trustee: Tom Maren - present

3 Year Trustee: Brian Coughlin - excused

Spiritual Director: Bob Cavanaugh - excused

Lecturer: Brian Lombardi - present

Call to order:

1. 23 Knights were in attendance at the start tonight's meeting.
2. Meeting began at 7:03 p.m. All in attendance recited the Lord's Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. A motion to Approve Last Month's Meeting Minutes made by Dan Cathcart; Second by Tom Maren; Motion Approved.

Grand Knight's Report:

- 1. Exemplification of Charity, Unity, and Fraternity:** Prior to reciting the Rosary and this monthly Meeting, we held an Exemplification of Charity, Unity, and Fraternity for Knights of Columbus Council 4168 newest Member: Davaris Williams. Davaris stood up and introduced himself to the membership. The Knights officiating in the Exemplification were Brian Lombardi (Charity and Discourse on the Rosary), Dan Cathcart (Unity), Kevin Lynch (Fraternity) and Rick Dudas (Presiding Officer). Our District Deputy, Tom Donovan was also in attendance in his official capacity.
- 2. Field Day Lunch for St. Francis Xavier School Children and Staff:** Two weeks from Today (Tuesday May 26, 2026), our Council will be cooking and serving lunch for the St. Francis Xavier School Children and Staff. This effort will be led by PGK Brian Coughlin and the following volunteers: Diane and Ed Bugner, Bernadette and Dave Swancer, Bill Elligott, Jim Prebis, Gregg Finkler, Marty Tusim, Vincent Arndt, Brian Feron, Mike Conley, Kevin Wright, Rick Dudas, and anyone else who wants to participate. Brian Coughlin will inform us when to be at the school.
- 3. Feast of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ:** On Sunday June 7, 2026, the Catholic Church will celebrate the Feast Day otherwise known as Corpus Christi. Just like last year, I invite all Council 4168 Knights to attend the Noon Mass at St. Francis Xavier together. After Mass, there will be a Procession out the back of the church, proceeding east towards the Gym, and back west along the parking lot to Mary's Courtyard for a short Benediction. Jennifer Webb and the Church have been gracious enough to supply us with a Banner we can proudly display during the procession. Hopefully, many of our Brother Knights will participate in this Feast Day Celebration.
- 4. Knights of Columbus 2026 Ohio State Campout:** The 2026 Ohio Knights of Columbus Campout will be held this year at the Mercer County Fairgrounds from July 20 - 26, 2026. For more information, please contact Tom Maren or Rick Dudas for more information.

5. A Century of Song - April 25-26, 2026 - Medina United Methodist Church: A concert was performed by the Medina Chorus in conjunction with “The Sing Me A Story Foundation”. The song was about Lexi Cerio and was inspired by a story from her Brothers Nicholas and Patrick. We received notification about a YouTube video from Brian Cerio, Lexi’s Father and Brother Knight. The link is included in the Meeting Minutes below.



6. Knights of Columbus Council 4168 - Election of Officers - June, 2026: Tonight, as promised, we will be taking The Nomination of Officers for Council 4168. All Officer positions are available, with the exception of the Financial Secretary, which is an appointed position and will be held by Brother Steve Durbin for at least a few more years. The Officer positions are as follows (we will be conducting a discussion to accept nominees):

A. Grand Knight (Current): **Rick Dudas** - Nominated for 2026-2027: **Brian Lombardi and Vincent Arndt**

- *The grand knight is the council's chief executive officer. He is responsible for setting council goals and ensuring that all officers fulfill their duties in reaching these objectives. He presides over all meetings; appoints program and committee directors as needed; fills officer roles in the event of vacancies; countersigns checks and orders for payment; and oversees the council's degree team. Ideally, the grand knight should be a junior so that as a senior he can serve as a mentor for the next grand knight. The grand knight must complete the Safe Environment training.*

B. Deputy Grand Knight (Current): **Kevin Lynch** - Nominated for 2026-2027:

Kevin Lynch

- *The deputy grand knight serves as the grand knight's right-hand man and fills in for the grand knight when he is not present. Some deputy grand knights serve as their council's program director. Ultimately, he assists the grand knight in leading the council and reaching council objectives. In some councils, the deputy grand knight role might be used to groom a possible grand knight candidate for the following year. Finally, the deputy grand knight may serve as a liaison between the council and other groups that share similar interest (i.e. Newman Club, pro-life club, etc.).*

C. Treasurer (Current): **Mark Shee** - Nominated for 2026-2027: **Gregg Finkler**

- *The treasurer is responsible for managing the council funds, whether in bank or school accounts. He receives money from the financial secretary and deposits funds into council accounts. He is also responsible for paying all council expenses. He also balances and verifies the ledger and keeps the updated budget approved by the council.*

D. Chancellor (Current): **Dan Cathcart** - Nominated for 2026-2027: **Dan Cathcart**

- *The chancellor assists both the grand and deputy grand knights in the leading of the council by engaging and strengthening the council's membership. His primary responsibilities include recruiting and retaining members and to this end he should set up events that display the values and principles of the Knights of Columbus. The chancellor should participate in the council's degree team and should serve on both the Admission and Retention committees.*

E. Recorder (Current): **Jon Cwalina** - Nominated for 2026-2027: **Jon Cwalina**

- *The recorder has the responsibility of recording all meetings and events held by the council. He should record minutes, conversations and other information helpful to the council and prepare them to be distributed to the membership in a timely manner. Additionally, he should help with council event notifications, council meeting reminders, and assist with council social media responsibilities.*

F. Lecturer (Current): **Brian Lombardi** - Nominated for 2026-2027 (**will be appointed by the next Grand Knight**)

- *The lecturer (AN APPOINTED POSITION) provides brief spiritual discourses and reflections during business meetings for the "Good of the Order". If the lecturer cannot be present, he should appoint a council member to give the reflection for him*

G. Advocate (Current): **Matt Lower** - Nominated for 2026-2027: **Matt Lower**

- *The advocate acts as council parliamentarian. He should be knowledgeable in Robert's Rules of Order and Protocol, Meetings, and Ceremonials (#11620). He may seek legal assistance from the state advocate, should issues arise. The advocate should be able to take on additional responsibilities as the council deems necessary.*

H. Warden (Current): **Barry Norris** - Nominated for 2026-2027: **John Cygan**

- *The warden is responsible for the property owned by the council. He is also in charge of setting up meetings and leads both the inside and outside guards. Many college councils utilize the warden and guards as custodians of the campus ministry property which may include raking leaves, shoveling snow and assisting with interior maintenance*
- I. Inside Guard (Current): **Dave Swancer** - Nominated for 2026-2027: **Dave Swancer and Tony Prusinski**
- J. Outside Guard (Current): **Mike Conley** - Nominated for 2026-2027: **Jon Otto and Davaris Williams**
 - *The inside and outside guards carry out tasks given to them by the grand knight and follow the warden's orders. They are responsible for checking membership cards and allowing entrance to meetings. Councils should consider appointing additional inside and outside guards, especially among promising freshmen, as this provides early leadership opportunities*
- K. Trustee (3 Year-Current): **Brian Coughlin** - Nominated for 2026-2027: **Tom Maren**
- L. Trustee (2 Year-Current): **Tom Maren** - Nominated for 2026-2027: **Andy Swancer**
- M. Trustee (1 Year-Current): **Andy Swancer** - Nominated for 2026-2027: **Rick Dudas**
 - *The trustees advise the grand knight, supervise the council's financial matters, and conduct the semiannual audits. Usually the immediate past grand knight will serve as a trustee. Some college councils utilize alumni members and/or university faculty members as the other two trustees to provide additional oversight and support.*
- N. **Please Note: At our Monthly Officers Meeting - Medina District Library Room 2B Thursday June 4, 2026 6:30 PM - nominations for 2026-2027 may be changed/revised - as well as prior to the Election of Officers at the Monthly Meeting in SFX Basement Cafeteria - Tuesday June 9, 2026 7:00 PM.**

Financial Report:

Treasurer's Report:

<u>Charity</u>	<u>General</u>	<u>Gimme5</u>	<u>Troop 506</u>	<u>Clambake</u>	<u>Super Bowl Raffle</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
\$30,777.89	\$9,986.90	\$1,459.81	\$2,000.00	\$607.28	\$13,065.00	\$44,831.62

Financial Secretary Report:

Present any bills not previously approved for payment. No Bills to pay (no motion). \$30.00 in dues collected, \$5.00 in Gimme5, and \$50.00 in Super Cash Bonanza.

Membership Report: Our Membership Director Brian Lombardi reported former Knight Don Kagel wants to re-join Council 4168. Stay Tuned. (WGK: Many thanks to Membership Director Brian Lombardi for his valiant efforts recruiting new Council 4168 Knights of Columbus, which will make this council more vibrant and active in the future.

Other Reports:

Chancellor's Report: Worthy Chancellor Dan Cathcart, please report on upcoming events: I am excited to share several upcoming opportunities for involvement and celebration within our community. Please see below for important dates, details, and ways to participate.

Field Day at St Francis Day School is coming up on May 26, featuring hot dogs, chips, and drinks for the students. PGK Brian Coughlin is leading this event, and your participation will help bring joy to our students. If you are available, please let Brian know as soon as possible so we can plan accordingly. This is a fantastic chance to connect and support our school community.

Our annual elections for leadership roles are approaching in June, with nominations and voting taking place at the next meeting. I encourage everyone to thoughtfully consider serving in a leadership capacity. Please review the attached document for more information about each role and reach out if you have any questions or would like to discuss further.

The Annual Race for Glory (WGK: First Year of Race for Glory - 2019), organized by PGK Tom Schmidt, will be held on Saturday, August 29th. This event benefits Special Olympics of Medina, Society for Handicapped Citizens, Integrated Community Solutions, and our Knight's Charities. We are looking for volunteers, runners, walkers, and sponsors. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Tom, and if you wish to sponsor, please reach out to me. Mark your calendars for this meaningful event and help us make a positive impact together.

Additionally, we have reviewed our Council's charitable gifts for the year and now need help delivering checks and capturing a photo with our Giant Check for sharing on our Facebook site. Kevin Lynch (DGK) will be leading this initiative, and your assistance is greatly appreciated.

If you have any questions or would like more information about any of these events, please feel free to reach out. Thank you all for your support, enthusiasm, and commitment to our community. Together, we can continue to share the good news and make a difference.

One item I missed was that the Medina Knights Imburgia Scholarship Fund will award 7 winners on May 21st at the Awards Presentation at 9:15 at St Francis Xavier Church. With the \$5,000 awarded this year our Medina Knights will have gifted over \$84,000 to benefit

students and their families in support of Catholic education at St Francis Xavier Day School!
Vivat Jesus!!!

4th Degree Report: (Tom Maren) - No Report.

District Deputy: Worthy District Deputy Tom Donovan, please give us your report -
The Council (4168) is doing a Great Job. The Ohio State Knight of Columbus Convention will be held Memorial Day Weekend. State Per Capita will probably increase. Council 4168 is on track to receive a McGivney Award and could possibly receive a Columbian Award. The Fraternal Benefits night is next Tuesday evening (online). We should be in contact with an Agent.

Unfinished Business (motions carried over from the previous meetings - Ask the Membership): NO OLD BUSINESS.

New Business (new motions) - I will now entertain motions pertaining to New Business. Jim Sieniawski and Kevin Wright wanted to present New Business to the Membership. Jim and Kevin told Council 4168 they have secured Camp Paradise from The Society for Saturday September 19, 2026. They have also contacted the Clambake / Chicken vendor which they have used in the past. So, they will be taking Clambake orders starting later this Summer. The price of Clambakes / Chicken Dinner / Extra Clams, as well as where to send checks / money is TBD. Stay Tuned. (WGK: Many thanks to Kevin Wright and Jim Sieniawski for stepping up to organize and run this event. They will be looking for donations and volunteers this summer).

Lecturer's Reflection: Let us listen to Our Worthy Lecturer Brian Lombardi and his Reflection. Brothers, May is the month the Church has always set aside to honor the Blessed Virgin Mary. In parishes around the world, flowers are placed on her head, the Rosary is prayed with greater devotion, and her image is crowned in a gesture of filial love. But why Mary? And what does honoring her have to do with us — with the work of the Knights, with charity, and with the men we are called to be?

Let's start with a simple question: What is charity?

If you asked the average person on the street, they'd probably say charity means writing a check, dropping coins in a basket, or donating canned goods. And yes — those things matter. The Knights have raised and given hundreds of millions of dollars to those in need, and that generosity is a genuine reflection of God's love in the world.

But that is not the whole picture.

The word “charity” comes from the Latin “caritas” — which means “love”. Not sentimental love. Not love as a feeling. But love as a “total gift of self”. St. Paul puts it plainly in his first letter to the Corinthians: without love, even the greatest acts of giving are nothing. You can empty your wallet and still miss the point entirely if the love isn't there. As I've said repeatedly, the difference between the KofC and other charitable organizations like the Moose, Elks, VFW is that we openly promote that God and His Church are love-enabled and in action!

This is where Mary comes in. Mary is the model of charity — not because she was wealthy, not because she led programs or organized councils — but because she gave everything.

When the Angel Gabriel appeared to her, she had nothing material to offer. She was a young woman of no particular social standing. But she gave the one thing God asked of her — herself. Her “fiat” — her "let it be done to me according to your will" — was the most radical act of charity in human history. She didn't just give from her abundance. She gave her entire life, her body, her plans, her future, her comfort, and ultimately — she stood at the foot of the Cross and gave her son.

That is “caritas”. That is charity in its fullest form.

Brothers, consider what this means for us as Knights and ask ourselves what Charity may look like beyond our fundraising efforts;

Consider what some acts of Charity may look like for you this month:

- Checking up on a brother Knight who we haven't seen or heard from in awhile
- Sitting with a man who is struggling with his faith and doesn't know where to turn
- Speaking the truth to someone who needs to hear it, even when it's uncomfortable

These things cost something. They cost us our comfort, our time, our pride. And that cost — that sacrifice — is what makes them- Charity.

Grand Knights Summary: None.

Closing Prayer: Before proceeding to the Closing Prayer, let me ask: does any Brother know of a member of this Council or a Brother of the Order or a Family Member who is Sick or in Distress?

Read off the list of Sick below _____

Anonymous Donor - HM

Prayers for Our Country

Nancy Blinkhorn

Betty Braskie

Kara Hanna

Reno Buca

Rob Musial

Brian Cerio Family

Debbie and Bob Coons

Andrea Kennex

Amber Doucet

Eric Uturo

Elderly in Nursing Homes (and staff caring for them)

Wayne Boggs

Joseph Richards

Herman Dehring

Kim Ford friend of Steve Braskie

Lois Cathcart

Mark and Lindsey Phillips

Jim Sieniawski

Jeffrey Donovan brother of DD Tom Donovan

Bill Scheutow

Kasper Family

Dennis Kasper

Ed Martin (continuing Recovery)

Terry Moynihan brother of Mark Moynihan

Pete Meadows

Joan Selby

Aiden Bugner

Dan Galla

Jerome Dietrich

Jessica Park Daughter in law of Mike Park

Mary Maren (Stroke)

Rebecca Derrona (Steve Braskie)

Martha Anderson

Success of Pope Leo

Elizabeth Yoshida

Closing Prayer: Recited the Prayer for the Canonization of Blessed Michael McGivney

Meeting adjourned at 8:17 PM Motion by Vincent Arndt Second by Tom Maren Motion Passed and Meeting Adjourned.