



Kolping Banner

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Lenten Project 2018

With Lent commencing on February 14, we are beginning our Lenten project for 2018. Below is an update on the results of our 2017 Lenten project and we are now in Phase 2 of the project with Kenya. There is a remittance envelope enclosed in the Banner for your assistance.

Lenten Project Update

I am happy to report that the final distribution of goats in Kolping Kenya occurred in December to the Donyo Sabuk and Kilimambogo Kolping families located in the Nairobi zone and to the Mundika Kolping Family in the Kisumu zone. Patrick Kioko, Executive Director of Kolping Kenya, sent us a project update, informing us that a total of 40 goats were purchased and blessed by the local priests prior to the selected Kolping families receiving their goats.

Participants in the program had attended

classes and signed a contract with Kolping Kenya agreeing to provide proper shelter, feeding and medication for their goat. As part of the contract, the first two kids from each goat are to be given back to Kolping Kenya to be distributed to other Kolping members. In addition, goat recipient member also contribute 1,000 Kenyan Shillings (+/- \$10.00 USD) to the Project.

Mr. Kioko expressed his continued gratitude for the Kolping USA membership and their participation in the Lenten

Project.

To sum it up – money from our 2017 Lenten Goat Project was used to purchase a total of 60 goats for Kolping Kenya members.

With the Lenten Season just around the corner I look forward to a successful 2018 Lenten Goat Project and the continued support of our Kolping Brothers and Sisters in Kenya.

Ted Wilke
Treasurer Kolping USA.



In the Banner this Month:

From the President's Desk ... page 2
A Praeses Proclaims page 3
National Endowment Fund ... page 3
Annual Kolping Raffle..... page 3
International Board Meeting... page 4
Observation..... page 5
Cincinnati Kolping page 6
Goodbye from Fr. Bruno page 7
International News page 8
In Memoriam page 8

Kolping Banner

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Catholic Kolping Society of America

Mission Statement:

We, the members of the Catholic Kolping Society of America, extend the vision of our founder, Blessed Adolph Kolping, by promoting the development of the individual and family; we foster a sense of belonging and friendship through our program of spiritual, educational, charitable and social activities.

Episcopal Moderator:

Bishop John M. Quinn

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Associate Praeses
President, Lisa Brinkmann
Vice President, Walter Amrein
Secretary, Helene Schrand
Treasurer, Ted Wilke
Trustees Lucille Colletti
Frank Fon
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Robert Mayer
Marilee Uhlhorn

Kolping Family Locations:

Brooklyn Kolping Family, 6504 Myrtle Ave.,
Glendale, NY, 11385-6250, 718-456-7727
Buffalo, New York Kolping Family, 1145 Cleveland Drive,
Buffalo, NY 14225-1257, 716-632-7360
Chicago Kolping Family, 5826 N. Elston Ave.,
Chicago, IL 60646-5544, 773-792-2190
Cincinnati Kolping Family, 10235 Mill Rd.,
Cincinnati, OH, 45231-1924, 513-851-7951
Detroit Kolping Family, 1201 Rock Valley Drive,
Rochester, MI 48307
Los Angeles Kolping Family, 1225 S. Union Ave.,
Los Angeles, CA, 90015-2021, 213-388-9438
New York Kolping Family, 165 E. 88th St.,
New York, NY 10128-2241, 212-369-6647
Philadelphia Kolping Family, 9130 Academy Road,
Philadelphia, PA, 19114, 215-606-7020
Rochester, New York Kolping Family, 284 Malden Street,
Rochester, NY 14615-2658,
Saint Louis, Missouri Kolping Family, 4035 Keokuk St.,
Saint Louis, MO, 63116-3513, 314-776-5312
San Francisco Kolping Family, 440 Taraval Street,
San Francisco, CA, 94116-2530, 415-831-3989

For more information about the Catholic Kolping Society of America, becoming a member, or establishing a Kolping family in your parish or community, please contact the Catholic Kolping Society of America, P. O. Box 4907, Clifton, NJ, 07015-4907, Telephone: 1-877-659-7237, e-mail: PATFARKAS@optonline.net.

Please visit the Catholic Kolping Society of America internet website at:
<http://www.kolping.org>



From the President's Desk ...

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas and was able to bring in 2018 with those you love.

It was over a year ago when we bade farewell to the New York Kolping after a successful convention and started our plans to accomplish the goals set forth at those meetings. For those who may not recall, our first objective was to identify a Lenten Project in which all Kolping families throughout the U.S. could participate. As you'll read in Ted Wilke's article, we not only raised over \$15,000 through our efforts, but enabled Kolping Kenya to distribute 60 goats to welcoming families.

When we set out on this project, we agreed that it would be a three-year commitment, to allow us the time and reflection to fairly measure its impact. With that in mind, we will be beginning our Lenten Project for 2018 continuing with the small livestock initiative for families in Kenya as our focus.

Our second objective was to redesign our Kolping website - to refresh the look and feel, update information and provide a presence on the internet for those interested in the Kolping Society. A subcommittee consisting of Monika and Veronika Kessling (Los Angeles), Jim Stukenborg (Cincinnati) and myself held a few conference calls to review criteria and content. I then worked with Kathy Biesty (San Francisco) to design a simple, but informative site that incorporated the work already done by the larger Kolping families while giving the smaller families a "face" on the web.

We launched the new site - www.kolping.org - in December. While this site will forever be evolving, we believe it's a great start. On the site you can find updates on the Lenten Project and soon, information on the upcoming convention in Philadelphia. We encourage everyone to have a look!



And speaking of the convention in Philadelphia, mark your calendars now for September 7 - 10 and plan to join us for a fun, historic time.

Lisa Brinkmann



A Praeses Proclaims...

GETTING READY

By Fr. Michael Scherschel
Praeses of the Chicago Catholic Kolping Society

“Almsgiving,
Prayer and Fasting...
are helpful because they
anchor us to not just
what’s important, but
who’s important.”

This February, we’ll spend half the month in Ordinary Time and half the month in the season of Lent. It’s a two for one. But it’s an interesting time, spiritually, because it’s hard to move from one to the other without a little bit of integration.

Do a little research, and we’ll see there have been different periods in history when as a Church we actually took some time in Ordinary Time to prepare for Lent.

At one time, there were rituals of preparation on the three Sundays before Lent even began. There’s also plenty of traditions for the three days before Ash Wednesday—again as a way to get ready. There was time for reconciliation and penance, and then a day to “let loose”, to rid the pantry of rich foods that tended to be restricted during Lent, like eggs, butter and lard.

Of course, we’ve held onto “Fat Tuesday” or Mardi Gras—a day to celebrate not just with food and but drink, too, before the rigors of Lent kick in. That came to us from the French.

But what these pre-Lenten Ordinary Time customs were meant to do, was to prepare us spiritually to enter into Lent with a heart ready to grow closer

to God. And that does take a little bit of reflection and prayer ahead of time.

So, as we end Ordinary Time, it only seems practical to make some plans for how we’ll enter into Lent. That can make our Fat Tuesdays a little bit more meaningful, because we know what we’re preparing for—where we need to grow as a person and as a pilgrim on our way to heaven.

And maybe it will even make that “day before” a little bit more balanced. When I was headed to college, my mom and dad gave me the “everything in moderation” talk, which ended up to be a good life lesson for me. Enjoy, but know why we are enjoying.

The Lenten practices of Almsgiving, Prayer and Fasting, which we’ll hear about on Ash Wednesday, are helpful because they anchor us to not just what’s important, but who’s important.

We give alms because we want to truly help someone in need. We pray to share our life with God who has done so much to let us know he is eager to share his life with us. And we fast—not just because the Church asks us to—but because it helps us with the self-discipline we need to grow.

As Kolping Families, what strengthens us is that we don’t go the road alone. We journey with one another. So, when we gather in February—whether during Ordinary Time or Lent—we strengthen one another. We’re a family of faith and help each other grow in a life with Christ that’s never meant to end. It’s worth the preparation it takes to get ready.

National Endowment Fund

The National Endowment Fund received the following contributions for the months of December 15, 2017 to January 15, 2018

Donations

Cincinnati Schutzen Club - \$208

Detroit Kolping Society - \$1,500

Kolping Society National Endowment Fund

c/o Lisa Brinkmann

311 Greene Street | Mill Valley, CA
94941-4132

The 2017 Annual Kolping Raffle

The annual raffle drawing was held on Sunday, December 3, 2017 at the New York Kolping’s Christmas Party.

This year’s winners were:

FIRST PRIZE \$1,500

Jakob Stutt
Chicago Kolping Society

SECOND PRIZE \$1,000

Maria Kohne
Los Angeles Kolping Society

THIRD PRIZE \$500

Tom Noonan
New York Kolping Society

The following is a brief accounting of the raffle:

Total amount received.....\$10,380.00
Less expenses:
Prizes.....\$ 3,000.00
Printing & Mailing\$ 1,014.86

Total Amount to Operating
Account.....\$ 6,365.14

International Convention and Board of Directors Meeting – Lima, Peru

This year myself and Andrew Hessler of Cincinnati Kolping participated in the International Board Meeting and International Convention that was hosted by Kolping Peru in Lima, Peru at the end of September 2017. The International Convention has been held every 5 years and is an assembly of Kolping Membership from all over the world. This year there were over 250 participants from National Kolping Organizations worldwide. The meeting itself was held at a retreat center - Casa De Convivencia Juan Pablo II, Santa Rosa, Peru - a suburb approximately 25 miles north of the capital city of Lima.

Kolping Peru was founded May 1, 2003. It has grown to over 3,100 members in 180 Kolping Families located in 6 different regions of the country from the capital city of Lima to the Amazon Region in the north. Kolping Peru is involved in a variety of different projects including Health & First Aid, Carpentry, Handcraft and Youth Activities.

During the course of the Convention we heard reports from the International Secretary - Dr. Markus Demele and the International Praeses - Monsignor Ottmar Dillenbourg. Both discussed their activities and accomplishments over the preceding year. Since the 2012 convention in Bensberg, Germany, three new National Kolping Organizations have been added - Kolping Burundi (2012), Kolping Ukraine (2015) & Kolping Honduras (2017) and as a result, the number of national Organizations has risen to 47 and the number of countries with Kolping Families remains unchanged at 61. Of concern is the fact that while Kolping is growing in Asia and Africa, it has stagnated in Latin America and it is declining in

Europe and North America. To that end a topic of discussion during the Convention was "Pledging Your Heart" - getting people excited about Kolping with presentations by Kolping Rwanda and Kolping Serbia on how they have had success in recruiting new membership.

Monsignor Dillenbourg provided an update with respect to the Canonization of Blessed Adolph Kolping. The Archbishop of Cologne - Cardinal Woelki had instructed a Monsignor Dr. Michael Kahle to enquire about the current state of affairs with respect to the Canonization of Blessed Adolph Kolping. In short, competent officials in the Vatican must acknowledge that another "miracle is attributed to the intercession of Blessed Adolph Kolping" and that its authenticity is attested to by a team of medical or technical specialists. As we have not yet been able to prove such a miracle, the canonization process of Blessed Adolph Kolping has come to a standstill for now. Monsignor Dillenbourg writes *"In various meetings I also asked to verify if there is the possibility of getting a dispensation from such a miracle in view of the fact that Adolph Kolping lived a virtuous model lifestyle which had a "miraculous" impact on the living conditions of many people in the poorest countries in Africa, Latin America, Asia and Europe. The acknowledgment of his life achievement that has and continues to have a lasting impact on people all over the world even now, 150 years after Adolph Kolping's death, is to me and many other people inside and outside of Kolping International an outstanding achievement, which can, to my mind, be justifiably referred to as a "miracle", at least in a figurative sense."* As such, enquiries have been

made with respect to a dispensation by the Holy Father, however in the opinion of Msgr. Dr. Michael Kahle this does not look very promising. As a result, the Archbishop of Cologne, who is in charge of Blessed Father Adolph Kolping since he was born in his diocese, has decided against asking for a dispensation. At this time the Archbishop of Cologne has urged the Kolping Membership to continue our work and prayers to provide a documented miracle to the Vatican to complete the Canonization process for Blessed Adolph Kolping. Please contact Monsignor Dillenbourg immediately in the event that a possible miracle occurs so that the proper steps can be taken. In the interim Monsignor Dillenbourg will continue to address the option of a dispensation in his meetings with the Archbishop of Cologne and with other church dignitaries in the various countries and particularly in the Vatican.

As part of the Convention, each National Kolping Organization was asked to bring a poster to identify the work that each national organization does and included statistics on membership since the last Convention in 2012. The convention participants were given several hours to walk among the various poster presentations and meet and discuss with the representatives of each country the work of Kolping in their respective homes. Convention participants voted on the most interesting posters and those winning National Organizations were asked to give a brief talk about Kolping in their home country.

One of the main objectives of the Convention was to ratify and update the existing constitution of Kolping

International. All of the delegates to the convention were provided with documentation and proposed changes to wording ahead of the convention to allow ample time for review. Throughout the course of most of one day, the Convention reviewed discussed and approved the various changes that had been presented. In many instances wording was changed and updated for further clarification or to clarify positions and mission of Kolping International. A few changes that occurred as a result included changing the International Board of Directors Meeting from an annual meeting to now being held every two years. Another change was that International Convention will be held every 6 years instead of every 5 years as had been done in the past. A revision to the International Finance Committee also occurred, allowing for up to 7 participants who hold their position for 6 years.

A highlight of the convention was the presentation of International Distinguished Service Awards. Those members recognized for this honor included the following – Ullrich Volmer (Germany), Beata Herasimowicz (Poland), Fr. A. Anthony Raj (India), Venanth Mpanju (Tanzania) & Augustin Aishemberg (Uruguay). These individuals were honored for their untiring longtime work in the spirit of Blessed Adolph Kolping.

Elections were held by the International Board of Directors to confirm the new Executive Board. New members elected for a 4 year term include Thomas Dörflinger (Germany), Erich Reischmann (Switzerland), Paul Nguyen Huu Nghia Hiep (Vietnam), Dancille Mujawamariya (Rwanda) and Rufino Rodríguez (Honduras). Automatic members of the Executive Board are the General Praeses Msgr. Ottmar Dillenburg and the General Secretary Dr. Markus Demele. In addition Karin Wollgartin has been

elected as the Managing Director (financial director) of Kolping International for a term of six years. Finally, I was elected as a member of the Finance Committee for Kolping International serving a 6 year term along with 4 other individuals from Kolping Germany - Markus Lange, Manuel Hörmeyer, Thorsten Schulz and Barbara Breher.

As a side bar to the International Convention, I was able to meet with the Executive Director of Kolping Kenya – Patrick Kioko. He was most gracious in his thanks to Kolping USA and our 2017 Lenten Project Funds. Please see additional Banner articles for updates regarding the Goat Project in Kenya.

The convention itself closed with a mass at the Church and Sanctuary of St. Rose of Lima. It was a fitting closing to the convention as it was celebrated by Monsignor Ottmar Dillenburg with all of the priests who participated in the International Convention from all over the world.

I want to reiterate what an exceptional experience it is to be able to participate in these International Conferences and Conventions. I am continually amazed at the good work that Kolping accomplishes throughout the world. It is a privilege to be able to participate and I look forward to future meetings.

National Treasurer
Theodore Wilke

OBSERVATION

The Buzzard

If you put a buzzard in a pen that is 6' x 8' and is entirely open at the top, the bird, in spite of its ability to fly, will be an absolute prisoner. The reason is that a buzzard always begins a flight from the ground with a run of 10 to 12 feet. Without a space to run, as is its habit, it will not even attempt to fly, but will remain a prisoner for life in a small jail with no top.

The Bat

The ordinary bat that flies around at night, a remarkable nimble creature in the air, cannot take off from a level place. If it is placed on the floor or flat ground all it can do is shuffle about helplessly and, no doubt, painfully, until it reaches some slight elevation from which it can throw itself into the air. Then at once it takes off like a flash.

The Bumblebee

A bumblebee, if dropped into an open tumbler will be there until it dies, unless it is taken out. It never sees the means of escape at the top, but persists in trying to find some way out through the sides near the bottom. It will seek a way where none exists, until it completely destroys itself.

People

In many ways, we are like the buzzard, the bat and the bumble. We struggle about with all our problems and frustrations, never realizing that all we have to do is look up! That's the answer, the escape route and the solution to any problem..... Just look up!

Sorrow looks back, Worry looks around,
But faith looks up!
Live simply, Love generously,
Care deeply, Speak kindly, and
Trust in our Creator, who loves us.

Submitted by James Schnieder,
Cincinnati Kolping Society

Cincinnati Honors Father Kolping at a Special Mass

Cincinnati Honors Father Kolping at a Special Mass

On December 3, 2017, Cincinnati Kolping held its annual Mass honoring Father Adolph Kolping, along with its induction of new members, accompanied by a Christmas luncheon. We were honored to have the auxiliary bishop of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati, the Most Reverend Joseph R. Binzer, officiating at the Mass, helping to make this an extra special day for the Kolping members.

The Mass was begun with Werner Wilke carrying the Kolping flag, followed by twelve members of the Knights of Columbus

leading the bishop to the altar. Some of our Kolping Sängerkor members sang the songs during Mass, along with the cantor, Rose Abt, accompanied by the organist, Don Hurd. Lectors were Bill Lunnemann and Sonja Wilson, and Christa Olding read the petitions. Monica Hessler was the server for the Mass and Annamarie Geoppinger, Irene Hasenfratz and Christa Olding were lay distributors.

At the end of Mass, the new Kolping president-elect, Tom Musbach, made a presentation to Father Bruno Kremp,

OFM, our newly retired Praeses. A framed portrait of Father Bruno, created by Kolping member Jim Slouffman, was presented to Father as a token of our appreciation of his twenty-six years of dedication to Cincinnati Kolping. This portrait will hang in our clubhouse. Father Bruno then said a few words of appreciation at the end of Mass, and the Knights of Columbus lead Bishop Binzer down the aisle to conclude the ceremony. Around 230 members attended the Mass, honoring our founder, Blessed Adolph Kolping.

After the Mass, twenty-six new Kolping members were inducted – one of our largest groups in recent years. The new officers were also sworn in, followed by a delicious Christmas luncheon, prepared by Linda and John Knizner and their crew. A food drive was headed up by Barb Hessler, and Kolping members were asked to bring in canned goods and other food items to be donated to the Mt. Healthy Alliance, a food pantry in the community. Kolping members came through, donating 409.5 pounds of canned goods, etc. and \$251 in cash. This was truly a special day for Cincinnati Kolping, and a great way to start off the Christmas season.

Nancy Pelzel



Bishop Binzer, along with the Knights of Columbus, proceeding down the aisle at the beginning of Mass. Monica Hessler is in front of the bishop.



Tom Musbach making the presentation to Father Bruno Kremp.



Bishop Binzer reading the inscription on the back of Father Bruno's portrait.



Bishop Binzer congratulating Father Bruno on his retirement.



Induction of new officers. L to R: Tom Musbach, president-elect, Nancy Pelzel, vice president-elect, and new Board members, Linda Knizner, Tom Montgomery, Mike Callahan, & Bob Geoppinger. Anna Stukenborg was not present for the photo.



Some of the new Kolping members inducted on December 3rd. Front row, L to R: Robert Willmann, Chris Petersman, Rachel Hoffman, Michael & Jeanne Bauer, Daniel Brunsman, Alex Klosterman, Joe Kennedy. Back row, L to R: Harry Voet, Jr., Mark & Julie Faust, David Belle, Theresa Stille, Michael Schnieder (partially hidden behind Jeanne Bauer), Rick Stille, Thomas Scherz, Wade Southwood.

Goodbye from Father Bruno

In some ways I have been around Kolping since 1950 because when my dad joined, we would come on Communion Sundays at St. Joseph on Liberty. After Mass, the adults would be upstairs with the “old folks” and we “young’ns” would have the basement on Republic Street for ourselves. That was the routine until September 1952, when I went to the High School Seminary across the street from present Kolping. It was the effort by Fr. Severin Lamping OFM, the Praeses at the time, who got me there in 1952 after I chose not to go to the diocese. At that time, the present Kolping property was the corn field belonging to the seminary. So I was not surprised that the provincial looked for me when he needed a replacement for Fr. David.

But now my body is saying, “Enough.” I hope the change will be good for Kolping as well as for me ... if you make me a member, I might be able to vote. So be careful.

In my assessment, there are a number of things that I feel I did not accomplish. Perhaps they are meant not to be. I had hoped that we could celebrate the canonization of Fr. Kolping while I was still there. I will keep on praying. I hope you will also. I know I am not the only one getting older, and that will influence what we can take on. But I HOPE AND PRAY that we will never lose the spirit. I also pray that you will find someone who will bring a new inspiration to our family.

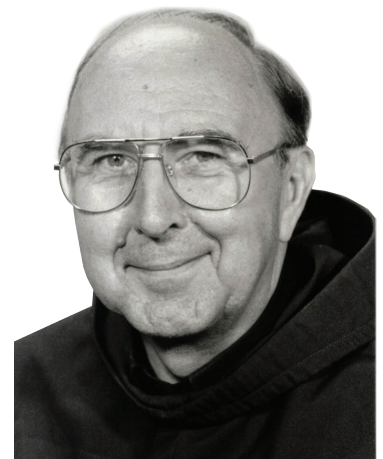
Notice I said we. I may not sit at the head table during meetings or join the Board, but you may see me sitting in the membership (closer to the beer.)

I apologize if I have offended anyone. I thank all those who have supported me. I assure you it was not malicious, but perhaps I was anxious to make something better. And it was not because I didn’t respect our heritage. The purpose was to emphasize that English speakers are not second class citizens. For example - (one more time) can we all sing the hymn in English so that at national gatherings we truly sound as a family.

God bless you.

Fr. Bruno Krenap OFM

(Fr. Bruno was National Praeses from 1996 to 2010. We send our best wishes to him on his retirement. National Officers)





**CATHOLIC KOLPING SOCIETY
OF AMERICA**

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Special Service Award for dedicated members

In the run-up to the International Convention and the meeting of the International Board of Directors, Kolping International conducted a three-day seminar on the basics and the self-concept of the Kolping Society's development approach with all Associations involved in development cooperation. Under the motto "From Beneficiaries towards committed Volunteers" the participants discussed the lectures given by experts from academia and the Association. There was also time and again the opportunity to contribute one's own experiences. The guiding principle of all development projects at Kolping is to help people out of poverty and then to show them ways to become involved in Church and society. Former beneficiaries of projects are becoming progressively active volunteers dedicated to improving the living conditions in their region.

*Please Remember To
Pray For All Our Dear
Departed Members Who
Have Gone To Their
Eternal Rest*

CINCINNATI

*Mary Ann Isfort
Charles Lintz, Jr.
Zettarose Meister*

CHICAGO

Anne Sittig

NEW YORK

*Linda Losonsky
Jean Marie St. Germain*