



# Kolping Banner

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## News from the World of Kolping

### Romania: Euro orphans and a vital community

Thousands of Romanians are leaving their country every year, trying their luck in another European country. There is almost no chance to find a job and in many sectors wages are too low to feed a family and to make a living. Thousands of children are left behind to live with their grandparents, aunts and uncles or neighbours. In a documentary, German television reported on the great work Kolping Romania is doing for the so-called Euro orphans.



Every day about 45 children in Oituz in South-Western Romania get a warm meal after school plus lots of love and comfort. For, most of those children see their mom and dad only once a year and only for a short time.

Dr. Markus Demele, General Secretary of KOLPING INTERNATIONAL, visited Kolping Families in Romania in May this year and met some vital communities. "It is amazing to see all those dedicated people who work for Kolping Romania on a voluntary or full-time basis and who create such a dynamic atmosphere. Everyone is getting involved to make projects such as the Children's Center in Oituz or the training hotel in Braşov a reality", Mr. Demele said.

There are also some small-scale local initiatives where Kolping Families make things happen. "The Kolping Family Gheorgheni, for instance, organizes a regular charity bazaar and festivities to raise funds for the large number of people in need in their town. Every week the Kolping Family meets in a room of the parish house in Gheorgheni to plan new activities such as a soup kitchen, childcare programs or special classes for people who want to start a business. The enthusiasm of all those people was really contagious", Markus Demele noticed during his visit to Transylvania.

### Mexico: Benefiting from education and training

The Kolping Vocational Training Center in Mexico City has become an established institution in the area. Kolping Mexico offers young people (and adults) an opportunity to receive a qualified training in gastronomy, or to become bakers, pastry chefs or nurses.

In addition, so-called soft skills are taught, which help young people to develop their potentials and their personalities further. If possible, parents are also included. The Training Center is located in a neighborhood that is increasingly marked by drug trafficking and crime. That is another reason why we try to strengthen the families of those young people by running special information evenings for parents. Some 925 people finished their training at the Kolping Center last year, improving their future prospects.



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## 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

#### National Officers:

Praeses, Fr. Richard Bretone  
Associate Praeses  
President, Lisa Brinkmann  
Vice President, Walter Amrein  
Secretary, Helene Schrand  
Treasurer, Ted Wilke  
Trustees Lucille Colletti  
Henry Faulk  
Jonathan Groll  
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 ...

What will you be doing the weekend of September 11 – 13, 2020? For those planners in the group, you're calendars are already booked. For the rest, you're probably shaking your head, saying "huh?"

Well, mark those calendars! That's the weekend I hope to see many of you in Cincinnati for our next convention.

I recently had the opportunity of making a detour to the Cincinnati Kolping while visiting friends in Kentucky. It was a bit of a decision, I must admit – visit a bourbon distillery or drive 2+ hours to have dinner with my Kolping Board counterparts. But then, I'm from California, so what's a couple hour drive anyway?

Using the WAZE app on my phone, I was directed on an alternative route to avoid an accident on the freeway, and found myself weaving through the backcountry (or it seemed that way to me). I passed through parts of Kentucky, Indiana and finally Ohio and still held true to my ingrained German punctuality, arriving at dinner exactly on time – schoen!

Already seated were Ted Wilke, Walt Amrein, Helene Schrand, Marilee Uhlhorn and Henry Faulk. We discussed details about the Endowment fund, updates on the raffle and ideas about our scholarship. We were proud to see how much we were able to collect for the Kenyan small animal Lenten project and I was given a brief update on the 2020 convention. It was well worth the drive! The next morning I met up with Helene and Marilee and was given an impromptu tour of the Cincinnati Kolping. I forgot just how vast the grounds are and even more impressive was the Tuesday Morning workgroup. The place was buzzing with Kolping members on tractors, framing windows and working through details on their new sports pavilion.



Kolping painting in the banquet room

I was told a few times how grateful the Kolping is for the knowledge, wisdom and elbow grease of their older members. Just as it was in days gone by, today you could observe how the expert tradesmen were sharing their skills to maintain and build upon the foundation started by fellow Kolping brothers and sisters. No one said it was easy, but with more hands helping, the camaraderie was contagious. They even had their own Tuesday Worker t-shirts!

As I made my way back through the hills of Kentucky to meet back up with my friend, I reflected on just how lucky we are – to still have an organization, built on relationships, shared values and the opportunity to use your special skills to give back!

See you in 2020!  
Lisa Brinkmann



# A Praeses Proclaims...

## JOINING HANDS, WE PRAY

By Fr. Mike Scherschel  
Praeses of the Chicago Kolping Society

One of the things I find meaningful during our Chicago Kolping gatherings is when it comes time to sing The Kolping Song. One of our trusted leaders begins the first few notes and then leads us in the song that everyone sings with great pride.

What's particularly meaningful is the point in the song when we sing: "Joining hands, our brothers pray; and joining hands our sisters pray, Father Kolping God bless you!" That's when we cross our arms in front of us and then grab the hand of our brother and sister.

Joining hands, of course, is a great gesture that instantly communicates unity and peace—one of the things, incidentally, we pray for during every Mass right before we extend a sign of peace to one another, typically with a handshake. We do that in anticipation of receiving the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ.

So joining hands is a profound gesture that leads to communion. It's an outward sign of an interior disposition. Jesus urges us to love God with all our being and to love our neighbor as ourselves. And so the simplicity of a handshake, like a smile, communicates a deeper reality—there's a connection between people, a bond that comes from our connection with God.

In creating the Kolping Societies, Father Kolping desired to instill a feeling of belonging and friendship between people that is instilled to

us through our faith. He wanted to find a way for strangers to become friends. He valued hospitality and welcoming others, because he also recognized that every individual has a need to contribute and participate in society and within families. Not only that, we all have a fundamental desire to express it, and one of the places we express it is in our family homes, because a home is a place we belong.

*“Joining hands,  
our brothers pray;  
and joining hands  
our sisters pray,  
Father Kolping  
God bless you!”*

Above all, the home is the place we learn how to love. So, when we reach out a hand, it's a sign of peace and welcome. It's also a gesture that says we are open to pulling people toward us, instead of using those same hands to push them away.

It's no wonder then that Kolping Societies are called families. The family is the place where joining hands can accomplish great things. Mother Teresa once said, "What I can do, you cannot. What you can do, I cannot. But together we can do something beautiful for God."

Kolping Families do something beautiful for God because we join our

hand to the hand of our brother and sister. It's something Father Kolping encouraged and blessed, because it comes from the heart of Jesus Christ, the one we follow—and we follow Him not alone, but together.

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

**BROOKLYN**  
Frank Heller

**CHICAGO**  
Anton Wendling

**CINCINNATI**  
Andrew DeSantis  
Heinz Kuhl  
Frank Lahrman  
Erich Schulte

**NEW YORK**  
Therese Boeschl  
Sam Giordano  
John McGreevy



# ORDINATION

On May 19, 2018, I was proud to witness the Holy Spirit descend on the former Daniel Dengler in his ordination to priesthood, as Fr. Pier Giorgio Dengler!

In the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, in Washington D.C., Timothy Cardinal Dolan layed his hands upon Br. Pier Giorgio, along with 8 of his fellow ordinandi, and by the power of the Holy Spirit ordained them to the Sacred Order of Priest. It was a wonderful service (and we had front row seats!), to see the completion of the process, procedure and traditions of the ceremony, from the ordinandi prostrate on the floor of the Basilica, the promises of obedience, the laying of the hands, not only of the Cardinal, but of also the Dominican priests, to the investiture with Stole and Chasuble and the Anointing of the Hands.

After the ceremony, the newly ordained priests imparted their first priestly blessings on family and friends.

Although the weather did not co-operate as one traditionally hopes (it rained throughout the day), the Dominican House of Studies hosted a tent covered reception on their back lawn after the Mass.

As it had rained throughout the week, the ground was soaked and the lawn squishy with water, but that did not dampen Fr. PG's ten nieces and nephews from running around with their pants rolled up, finding worms and pine cones! The Hillbilly Thomists (all Dominican priests and brothers!) performed blue grass music on (name instruments?) to the delight of Fr PG's brother-in-law Sixto, who recorded the event (album available at <https://www.dominicanajournal.org/music/the-hillbilly-thomists/>).

Fr. Pier Giorgio is a former board member of Kolping, and a lifelong Kolping

member. Please pray for him and his fellow newly ordained, that the Holy Spirit may always stay close to them and give them strength to do not as they want, but God's will.

*"The world looks to the priest, because it looks to Jesus! No one can see Christ, but everyone sees the priest, and through him, they wish to catch a glimpse of the Lord! Immense is the grandeur and dignity of the priest!"*  
~ St. John Paul II

Katrina Dengler



## Announcement of an election

### Regarding the by-election of a member of the International Executive Board of KOLPING INTERNATIONAL

Last year Thomas Dörflinger retired from his office as the National President of Kolping Germany. As a consequence, his mandate as a member of the International Executive Board will expire at the 2019 meeting of the International Board of Directors.

Article 45 of the International Constitution states: *"If one of these five additional members of the International Executive Board loses the national office which determined his/her membership on the International Board of Directors, a by-election shall be held at the next meeting of the International Board of Directors. If a member of the International Executive Board resigns during his/her term of office, a by-election for the remainder of the term shall be held."* In the same article it says: *"Those five additional members shall include one member each from Africa, Asia, Europe, America and from the National Association with the highest number of members."* The national association with the highest number of members is Kolping Germany.

Kolping Germany suggests Kolping brother and deputy National President of Kolping Germany, Mr. **Manuel Hörmeyer**, as a candidate.

Since the representation of regions on the International Executive Board is an optional provision there may also be other candidacies. According to the Election Rules, candidacies must be announced and submitted by national associations to the General Secretariat by July 12, 2019 at [info@kolping.net](mailto:info@kolping.net)

On behalf of the International  
Executive Committee

Dr. Markus Demele  
General Secretary

## Announcement of an election

### Regarding the by-election of a member of the International Finance Committee of KOLPING INTERNATIONAL

Manuel Hörmeyer will resign from the International Finance Committee, in case he is elected member of the International Executive Board.

Article 56 of the International Constitution states: *"If a committee member resigns during his/her term, a by-election for the remainder of the term shall be held at the next meeting of the International Board of Directors."*

We ask you to submit nominations for this position. According to the Election Rules, nominations must be announced and submitted by national associations to the General Secretariat by July 12, 2019 at [info@kolping.net](mailto:info@kolping.net)

On behalf of the International  
Executive Committee

Dr. Markus Demele  
General Secretary



## **Save-the-date: Important dates in the calendar of the International Association in the year 2019**

Dear Kolping Sisters and Kolping Brothers around the world,

Already today I would like to draw your attention to two important dates in the calendar of the international Association in the year 2019.

Firstly, the International Board of Directors' Meeting will be held in Bensberg near Cologne from October 10 to 13, 2019. Invitations will be sent out on time to all Kolping Associations with more than 1,000 members, which have regularly paid their membership dues to the General Secretariat in the last years.

During the meeting of the International Board of Directors we will also celebrate the festivities on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of professional development cooperation at KOLPING INTERNATIONAL. The Association SEK e.V. was founded in 1969 and since then it has been supporting and coordinating solidary partnership cooperation among Kolping associations on all continents – with continuously increasing success. Since last year it has been operating under the name KOLPING INTERNATIONAL Cooperation e.V.

We will also celebrate this event in Bensberg with a Festive Ceremony on Friday, October 11. We are pleased that for the German Government Dr. Gerd Müller, the Minister for Economic cooperation and development, has confirmed his participation in the Ceremony. In cooperation with Thomas-Morus Academy, this opening festivity will be planned as an open workshop. Anyone interested in questions concerning development cooperation is invited.

We are already looking forward to meeting you during the celebrations in the autumn next year. Kindly save the dates in your calendars.

I send you cordial greetings in the name of the International Executive Committee.

TREU KOLPING!

Markus Demele

## **National Endowment Fund**

The National Endowment Fund received the following contributions for the months of May 15, 2019 to July 15, 2019

*Donation San Francisco Kolping Society - \$1,000*

*In memory of Frank Roy Heller, deceased member of the Brooklyn Kolping Society*

*Bill Conte, Brooklyn Kolping Society*

*Brooklyn Kolping Society*

**Kolping Society National Endowment Fund**

c/o Lisa Brinkmann

311 Greene Street | Mill Valley, CA 94941-4132

***Please return until July 21, 2019 to:***

**KOLPING INTERNATIONAL**  
**General Secretary Dr. Markus Demele**  
**Kolpingplatz 5-11**  
**50667 Köln**  
**Germany**

**E-mail: [info@kolping.net](mailto:info@kolping.net)**  
**Fax: 0049 (0)221-7788010**

## **REGISTRATION FORM**

**I will attend the International Board of Directors' meeting of KOLPING INTERNATIONAL in BENSBERG from October 11 to 13, 2019**

**Full name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Kolping Association:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mobile phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

### **ARRIVAL**

**My arrival is on October \_\_\_\_ at the airport**  
➤ **Please arrange flight booking under [info@kolping.net](mailto:info@kolping.net)**

**Arrival on October \_\_\_\_ at the main train station Cologne**  
➤ **Hour, train no.: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Arrival in Bensberg on October \_\_\_\_ by car**  
➤ **Hour: \_\_\_\_\_**

***Please tick:***

***Please pick me up at the airport / main station Cologne***

**( ) *yes***

**( ) *no***

### **DEPARTURE**

**My departure is on October \_\_\_\_ from the airport**  
➤ **Please arrange flight booking under [info@kolping.net](mailto:info@kolping.net)**

**Departure from main train station on October \_\_\_\_**  
➤ **Hour, train no.: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Departure by car from Bensberg on October \_\_\_\_**  
➤ **Hour: \_\_\_\_\_**

### **VISA**

***I need an invitation letter in order to apply for a visa for Germany. I have e-mailed a copy of my passport to [info@kolping.net](mailto:info@kolping.net)***

**( ) *yes***

**( ) *no***





**CATHOLIC KOLPING SOCIETY  
OF AMERICA**

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### **Peace Walk and Continental Convention**

Europe elected a new parliament in May and Kolping Europe also had some major events such as the 52nd International Kolping Peace Walk in Vianden, Luxembourg. Many hikers became painfully aware of the importance of peace in Europe and that we cannot take it for granted. In view of the threatening election success of right-wing populists who wish to reduce political cooperation on the continent to a minimum, many participants were encouraged to show their colours for a peaceful Europe. The participants went on a hike together with the General Praeses of KOLPING INTERNATIONAL, Msgr. Ottmar Dillenburg and prayed for an alert Europe.

At the Continental Convention in Rome, delegates were also encouraged to be on the alert. In an educational part on Saturday morning, Prof. Riccardo Pozzi, OSCE (Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe) Special Representative of and advisor to the Chairperson-in-Office gave a presentation on the signing of the "Roman Treaties" in Rome in 1957.



Professor Pozzi welcomed Kolping Europe's Declaration entitled "We need Europe to be effective and strong!" It underlines that there is a need for people with values and ambition, hope and a political will. The principles of Catholic social teaching – human dignity, subsidiarity and solidarity – give an orientation for a sustainable European policy committed to the common good. The convention ended on Sunday with a joint visit of delegates to St. Peter's Square for the Angelus prayer with Pope Francis greeting the delegates of the Continental Convention warmly.