

# Kolping Banner

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## Christmas Greetings 2019



Dear Kolping Sisters and Kolping Brothers in the Kolping Society of the United States,

We are sending you our warmest greetings for the upcoming 2019 Christmas celebrations

The angel who first talks about the Holy Night in the Gospel says to the shepherds: ***“Do not be afraid; for see-I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord.”*** What he said is the **single most important** news for humanity and echoes through the millennia to us into the 21st century.

But the message that God became man out of love for us human beings and inextricably bound to the world and to human beings only takes on meaning when it has an impact on our lives. Confessions, sermons, and church services alone can hardly provide evidence for the truth of the Christian message since lots of incense may also hide lies. The truth of the message is best evidenced when we as Christians live an authentic Christian life. Thanks to God, history knows countless examples of living such a Christian life, like our Blessed Adolph Kolping, but also many unknown women and men all over the world.

*Continued on page 5.*



Msgr. Ottmar Dillenburg



Dr. Markus Demele

### In the Banner this Month:

From the President's Desk ... page 2  
A Praeses Proclaims ..... page 3  
National Endowment Fund ... page 3  
43rd National Convention .... page 4  
Brooklyn's New Praeses..... page 5  
National Administrator ..... page 6

## 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 Breton  
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 ...

Merry Christmas and happy holidays!

Somehow the holidays always represent an opportunity for family and friends to reunite, reconnect and recreate together. While during the year many of us are busy pursuing our individual interests, careers and obligations, during this festive and holy season, we pivot away from the demands of the daily life and make plans to visit family, unite with friends and make memories that can linger a lifetime.

We slow down a bit and thoughtfully consider what might make someone else in our lives happy and bring them joy. We diligently review menus for Thanksgiving, holiday parties and Christmas festivities. We click through websites and catalogues, looking for special purchases to gift. We stop thinking about "what do I want", rather begin contemplating what might bring a smile to someone else.

I can only imagine the peace those young journeymen must have felt belonging to the Kolping Society, far away from home and family, in a distant city or town, otherwise alone during the holidays. It must have been comforting to know, that though unable to share Christmas with their immediate family members, they had a "family" of friends and co-workers there for them, to help support them as they realized their dreams, met their daily obligations and worked to build a future for themselves.

It seems that Father Kolping kept the holiday focus throughout the year – searching for means to make the lives of others happier and less stressful. He dedicated his life to providing venues to strengthen the bonds of family, encourage the values of hard work and, of course, the importance of focusing on basic Christian beliefs of "doing unto others."

I wish you all a very joyful and happy Christmas and may we carry the holiday spirit with us throughout the New Year!

Lisa Brinkmann

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

**BROOKLYN**

*Irene Baunach*

**CINCINNATI**

*Gerhard Diekmann*

**DETROIT**

*Christine Kreuter*

*Helmut Linden*

*Felipe Valverde*

**LOS ANGELES**

*Joseph Gillooly*

*Joseph Meyer*



# A Praeses Proclaims...

## THE GOODNESS OF GOD AND THE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT

By Fr. Richard Bretone

National Praeses and Praeses of the New York Kolping Society

This time of year is so beautiful. Christmas decorations adorn homes and shops. Songs that herald our salvation are ubiquitously played on the radio and in the stores. It is a time when we recall all that the Lord has given us in our lives. It is a naturally grateful time.

For me, I am especially thankful for what I have been given back, when, just last year, my situation was very different. Last October I collapsed while giving a retreat at "Heaven's Embrace," a retreat setting in upstate New York that I have been building and planning for many years. I shattered my ankle and needed surgery requiring nine screws and a steel plate to stabilize it. Prior to surgery I asked the doctor if I would walk again. He reassured me that I would, but what a challenging time.

I was in a wheelchair just past Thanksgiving. I finally stood up with the help of my rehabilitation therapist, and I began the process of learning how to walk again. After achieving forty steps with a walker, I was released back to my church to really begin the process of climbing back into my life. What a joy it was to celebrate Midnight Mass on Christmas Eve with the good people of St. Patrick's parish in Brooklyn

I still have some residual weakness in the "good" leg that I used while my broken ankle was healing, but, all in all, I am blessed. What I learned is that whatever life deals us, if we face it with the Lord, indeed if we face it with The Holy Family (with Jesus who heals us, Mother Mary who teaches patience and St. Joseph,

perseverance), we can overcome all adversity.

When we turn to God in our sufferings, He can bless us with a sense of irony and humor. We can laugh at the dependent situations in which we find ourselves, and when we laugh at ourselves we will discover others will laugh with us! Somehow, with God's grace, we get through it, and we are wiser and more grateful than ever.

This New Year's Eve, when we look back on 2019, let us thank The Holy Family for their help and blessings in our lives. Then, as we look forward to 2020, let us face the future with courage knowing that we can face all difficulties and challenges with our God. He cares so much for us that "he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish, but may have eternal life (Jn 3:16)." As Jesus said to his disciples in Mathew's Gospel, he says to us: "...Look, I am with you always; yes, to the end of time (Mt 28:20)." What comfort there is in scripture! May we always remember this uplifting fact: "We can do all things through Christ who strengthens us (Phil 4:13)."

What a blessing for us to know that we are never alone!

Have a Merry Christmas, and a blessed New Year!

Treu Kolping!

## National Endowment Fund

The National Endowment Fund received the following contributions for the months of September 15, 2019 to November 15, 2019

Brooklyn Kolping Society - \$1,500

Cincinnati Kolping Schutzen Club - \$345

*In memory of Irene Baunach, deceased member of the Brooklyn Kolping Society*

Brooklyn Kolping Society

*In memory of Joseph Gillooly, deceased member of the Los Angeles Kolping Society*

Los Angeles Kolping Society

*In memory of Joseph Meyer, deceased member of the Los Angeles Kolping Society*

Los Angeles Kolping Society

*In memory of Helmut Linden, deceased member of the Detroit Kolping Society*

Detroit Kolping Society

*In memory of Felipe Valverde, deceased member of the Detroit Kolping Society*

Detroit Kolping Society

*In memory of Christine Kreuter, deceased member of the Detroit Kolping Society*

Detroit Kolping Society

**Kolping Society  
National Endowment Fund**

c/o Lisa Brinkmann  
311 Greene Street | Mill Valley, CA  
94941-4132



# 43rd National Convention Catholic Kolping Society of America

Hosted by the Cincinnati, Ohio Kolping Family

It seems like a long way off, but it will be here before you know it, and the Cincinnati Kolping Family is working on preparations for the 43rd National Kolping Convention, which will take place in Cincinnati the weekend of September 11 – 13, 2020. Mark your calendars!

We have lots of things in store for you, and our city has gone through a bit of a Renaissance since our last convention here in 2010. Our old, German immigrant-settled neighborhood called “Over-the-Rhine” has gone through major renovations, and it is now a destination district, with unique shops, restaurants, bars, and housing developments. In fact, the old Kolping Haus, originally bought by Cincinnati Kolping in 1930 in the Over-the-Rhine district, is now the home of four condos and a small business. This area is easily accessible by the Cincinnati streetcar.

The hotel everyone will be staying at is



the Embassy Suites at the Cincinnati River Center in Covington, Kentucky, which overlooks the Ohio River and has a great view of the Cincinnati skyline. A shuttle runs every 15 minutes, going from Covington to

Newport to Downtown Cincinnati.

There are lots of things to do for the family in the Greater Cincinnati area, including the Newport Aquarium, Cincinnati Zoological Gardens, Kings Island Amusement Park, numerous parks, the Museum Center, the Cincinnati Reds baseball team, the Cincinnati Bengals football team, the FC Cincinnati soccer team, and many other venues. For those so inclined, the Jack Cincinnati Casino (soon to be Hard Rock Casino) is also in Downtown Cincinnati, and the Cincinnati Art Museum and Cincinnati Contemporary Arts Center are great places to visit. So build your vacation around the Kolping National Convention!

More details will be coming soon in the *Kolping Banner*!

Nancy Pelzel



*Continued from page 1.*

People want to be convinced again and again of the truth of faith, not only by looking back and not by speeches or theoretical essays, but they prefer the testimony of their contemporaries, i.e. people who have the same questions they do, are facing very similar challenges, and who share the same joys and sorrows with them.

Many Christians all over the world rise to this challenge, celebrating Christmas every year and reminding themselves and others about the great gift that God who became man in Jesus Christ in Bethlehem gave to us. In so doing, God shows us how close he is to us and how much he truly identifies with us.

In this spirit, we wish you personally and for the Kolping Society of the United States a Merry Christmas 2019 and God's blessings for the year 2020.

Best regards,

*Msgr. Ottmar Dillenburg*

Msgr. Ottmar Dillenburg  
General Praeses

*Dr. Markus Demele*

Dr. Markus Demele  
General Secretary

*Karin Wollgarten*

Karin Wollgarten  
Managing Director

## BROOKLYN KOLPING WELCOMES THEIR NEW PRAESES

Fr. Christopher Heanue has recently agreed to become the new Praeses of the Brooklyn Kolping Society.

Raised in Blessed Virgin Mary Help of Christians parish, Woodside, NY. He attended Cathedral Prep Seminary in Elmhurst, NY. He is currently the Parish Administrator for Holy Child Jesus Parish in Richmond Hill, NY. He has been saying Mass at Brooklyn Kolping since 2016.

Welcome Fr. Heanue!



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# The National Administrator Writes

2019 is now at an end and we look forward to 2020. December is a time of celebration. We celebrate the Birth of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

Our annual raffle was concluded on December 1. The winners will be listed in our February Banner. The next raffle will be most likely held in the Fall of 2020. I thank everyone who participated in the 2019 raffle. Your support is greatly appreciated for the running of the National Office.

The 43rd National Convention will be hosted by the Cincinnati Kolping Family the weekend of September 11, 12 and 13. Please mark your calendar and come join us at the convention. The meetings are informative as well as meeting new friends and old friends, catching up with each other.

In February we will again be starting our Lenten Project, and continuing with the Kolping Kenya project. We have had success with supporting Kenya and the goats. We have been getting periodic updates from Kenya regarding this project and they are continually grateful to the United State Kolping for their assistance.

Finally I would like to thank the following branch reports and members for sending articles for the Banner during the year. I encourage all branches to appoint a member who can periodically send me articles on the events of your society.

Lisa Brinkmann  
Katrina Dengler  
Alfonse Preisser  
Ted Wilke

William Conte  
Nancy Pelzel  
Bernie Preisser

On behalf of myself and my family, I wish each of you a blessed and joyous Christmas and a Healthy and Happy New Year,

Patricia Farkas



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*Holiday Greetings*  
*from the Kolping Family*  
*in*  
*Rochester N.Y.*





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*Merry Christmas & Best Wishes  
for the Coming Year!*



*From  
The Los Angeles Kolping Society*

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*Merry Christmas*



**FROM THE  
KOLPING KICKS  
SOCCER CLUB  
OF  
ST. LOUIS MO**



*from the*  
**St. Louis**  
**Kolping**  
**Family**

*May you have the gift of Faith,  
the blessing of Hope,  
and the peace of His Love  
at Christmas and always*

*Best wishes for a  
Merry Christmas  
and Happy New Year*



**CATHOLIC KOLPING SOCIETY OF NEW YORK**

PRAESES: REV. RICHARD J. BREONE | PRESIDENT: KATRINA DENGLE | VICE PRESIDENT: GERHARD SCHMITT

**KOLPING HOUSE—88TH STREET • KOLPING-ON-HUDSON • KOLPING-ON-CONCOURSE**





*May Baby Jesus bless  
Our Kolping Brothers and Sisters  
on His Birthday  
and all through the New Year*

*The Chicago  
Kolping Family*



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*May your Days Be  
Merry & Bright*



*The San Francisco Kolping Society*

# *The Brooklyn Kolping Family*

*Sends warmest regards to  
our Kolping Sisters & Brothers  
for a blessed Christmas,  
and best wishes for a healthy  
and happy 2020.*



**And she shall bring forth a son,  
and thou shalt call his name Jesus:  
for he shall save his people  
from their sins.**

**Matthew 1:21**

*May the peace of  
Christ Jesus  
fill your hearts this  
Christmas  
and bring happiness  
to you in 2020*

*from the  
Cincinnati Kolping Family*



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# BEST WISHES FOR A JOYFUL CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!

*Catholic Kolping Society of Philadelphia*  
*9130 Academy Road, Philadelphia, PA 19114*

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To All Our  
**KOLPING BROTHER AND SISTERS**  
**A MERRY CHRISTMAS**  
and a  
**HAPPY NEW YEAR**  
from the  
**DETROIT KOLPING FAMILY**







**CATHOLIC KOLPING SOCIETY  
OF AMERICA**

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*"The true Light  
was coming into the world."*

*May you and those you love  
be blessed at Christmas  
and always.*

*The Editor and Staff  
of the Kolping Banner*