



# Newsletter

**Catholic Kolping Society of Brooklyn 65-04 Myrtle Avenue  
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**November 2022**

While we all enjoy the warmer weather, the temperatures have finally dropped and it really feels like autumn! This is a perfect time to wish everyone reading this a very **Happy Thanksgiving!** More and more it feels like the Thanksgiving holiday is getting lost between expanding Halloween and Christmas celebrations. Let's welcome the chance to slow down for a few days, bond with family and friends and take stock of all our blessings in life and give thanks.



**Do we have your email address?** Ever wonder why you don't hear from Brooklyn Kolping more often in print? While we are aware some older folks do not have email or any electronic way of keeping in touch, we are trying to reduce our postage and duplicating costs by using email. This allows us to take advantage of the immediacy of email and Facebook updates—a way to easily send out information and photos quickly. And more photos than we can fit in this printed *Newsletter*. One more factor—we have not been blessed with a corresponding secretary for the past few years, so these duties have become another 'side job' we are trying to keep up with. While this print version will probably never fully go away, the direction we are moving in is fewer printer letters. If you have an email address, but notice you do not get updates about Kolping events, please send your information to [kolpingbrooklyn@gmail.com](mailto:kolpingbrooklyn@gmail.com) and we will update our records and include you.

## **Kolping Calendar:**

**Christmas Party.** The big event coming up in a few weeks is our **Kolping Family Christmas Party** on **Saturday, December 10** at the Kolping Center (*flyer enclosed*). We are returning to our Kolping Center to celebrate Christmas for the first time since 2019! Doors will open at 5:30PM, and we expect to serve a full dinner around 6:15PM. **What to expect:** a short program featuring our children, a sing-along, table raffle and 50/50. We will serve gluhwein to those who enjoy it, coffee & tea, Stollen and Christmas cookies. Oh, yes...we have sent an invitation to Santa in the North Pole and we just know he will make time to come to visit us, maybe even with a special something for all good girls and boys! Donation is **\$35** for adult members, **\$40** for adult non-members, **\$20** for adolescents 14-18, **\$10** for children 13 and under.

**The party is meant for members, and their family and friends...so be sure to invite and bring along those special people in your life.** RSVP by email: [kolpingbrooklyn@gmail.com](mailto:kolpingbrooklyn@gmail.com), text or leave a detailed phone message for Bill at 917-862-0637.

## **Kolping News:**

**Kolping Mass & Communion Supper.** Our first big event at the Kolping Center in over two years, we welcomed 39 adults and 6 children to our **Kolping Mass** on Saturday, September 24. **Father Johny Changalan Thomas** joined us for the first time as celebrant. He made our Mass a special event.

Following Mass we moved to the meeting room. The first event there was to present our 2022 Distinguished Service award to **Albert Tscherne**. Albert joined the Society in 1953, and over the years has served in various roles including Corresponding Secretary and Board of Directors member. He is still on our board, and Kolping benefits from the knowledge and wisdom he brings.

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We then remembered and honored past presidents, **Evelyn Heller Blatz** and **Steve Wenzler**. Both passed in 2020 and this gave the members a chance to reflect on the loss. Bill Conte gave his remembrances first, then invited Diane Wenzler, and then Jeffrey Blatz to reflect on their late parents and what Kolping meant to each of them. We then dedicated our meeting room to their memory, with Father Johny blessing the room and plaque, ending with a prayer. Afterwards we enjoyed a nice bratwurst, braised sauerkraut and potato salad dinner, prepared and served by our resident chef and member, **Chris Gerage**. Thanks to everyone who came out, and especially to those who helped...in and out of the kitchen.

**Autumn/Halloween Pot Luck Social.** There were many ups and downs leading to our Autumn & Halloween Pot Luck Social on October 22. To start out, we knew from the beginning that some of our regulars (*including a few of the kids*) had conflicts and could not attend. Then Chris Gerage, who manages the kitchen and food came down with covid and was down for the count. Then his wife Pat, who was the main force behind the Halloween aspect of this event, was also diagnosed with covid and could not attend. So with others stepping in as best they could, we welcomed 25 adults and children to the Kolping Center. We set up the room with a kid's Halloween activity area, and seating for the adults.

The potluck dinners are one of the events we are trying to get our Kolping Family and friends together for a fun night out. We asked \$5 at the door from each adult, plus a potluck dish. We also had a cash option for those who don't cook to pay an additional \$10, using the cash to provide additional dishes. In the end we had a tasty variety of foods, including deviled eggs and other appetizers, entrees like sauerbraten, pulled pork, meat loaf, stuffed cabbage and more. Then side dishes like baked macaroni and cheese, red cabbage and a delicious German potato salad. Right up to apple pie a la mode, brownies, cupcakes and fruit for dessert.



Costumes were optional, and we had more than a few. We had activities for the children, who started off by decorating pumpkins. There was a ring toss game, cornhole was set up on the dance floor, and a bean bag toss. What brought the generations together was a Halloween version of Bingo played for fun, of course. Everyone was given a ballot and voted for 'best costumes' in several categories. Token prizes were awarded.

This event was conceived by Pat Gerage, and she and Jessica Meyer worked closely to make it happen. Others who helped along were Paula & Sean Josten, Gary & Valerie Meyer, Laura & John Murphy and Bill Conte. Everyone who attended seemed to have a very nice time. We seem to have found an activity that works with these pot luck socials, hope you can join us for the next one.

**Brooklyn Kolping Participates In the Queens Veterans Day Parade.** On November 13 our Brooklyn Kolping Family participated in the Queens Veteran's Day Parade! We joined the march along Metropolitan Avenue in Middle Village. A great activity, getting our Kolping name into the community while saluting those who served.

Organized on short notice, the event came off beautifully. Sonia Juran Kulesza suggested the idea, and she did the research and got us signed up. We put out feelers on who was interested in participating, and ordered a banner. In the end 18 Kolping family members joined the fun, including Gary Meyer who is a Vietnam Vet. Thanks again to Sonia and the members (and almost-members) who supported it: Paula, Sean, Zoey, Phoenix & Anakin Josten, Scott, Gio & Jaden Stahl, Evelyn Infante & Jonathan Rodriguez, Jessica & her dad Gary Meyer, Sonia Juran Kulesza, Michelle Blatz, Pat & Chris Gerage, Alice Kokasch, and Gillian Guile.



**Donations for Ukrainian Refugees.** Please keep the Ukrainian refugees and war victims in your prayers. The International Kolping Society has a fund to aid refugees who fled to nearby countries with a Kolping presence. They are also housing people with Kolping members, and in hostels and Kolping facilities. We encourage you to make a donation, for more information go to the **Catholic Kolping Society of the United States** homepage, and use this link for donations: [www.kolping.net/ukraine](http://www.kolping.net/ukraine)

**Birthdays.** Best wishes to our autumn birthdays! **November:** Father Christopher Heanue, Louise Mimicopoulos & Bill Conte. **December:** Barbara Augstein, Agnes Hopeck, Gary Meyer, Jessica Meyer, Rose Rom, Robert Wittreich, & Erika Zinser. Looking ahead to winter...**January:** Jeffrey Blatz, Chris Gerage, Gillian Guile, Larisa Heiser, Ernie Lauth, & Arnold Ruf. **February:** Evelyn Infante, Chris Meyer & Alfred Wittreich.

**Remember The Sick and Homebound in your prayers, especially:** Ernie Lauth, Hubert Ruhs and Herbert Roethel. +

**Passages.** Remember our departed members and friends. **November:** Leopold Blatz (1964), Eva Maria Freund (2020), Henry Hartmann, Sr. (1960), Josef Koch (1971), Wilfried Kolsch (1972), Anton Ostermann (2005), Hermann Rueb (2013), Lucy Sperber (1970), Rose Wachter (2015), Rosemarie Wenzler (2013) and Barbara Wohlfart (1940). **December:** Rev. Eugene Erny (1970), Gertrude Bittel (2000), Rose Ehrbacher (2003), Adele Hartmann (2008), Albert Heurich (2019), Rev. Joseph Heitz (1970), Frank Heller Sr (1987), Marie Lohrer (1991), Leonard Melscheid (1970), Louise Rapp (1970), Ida Sommer (2007), John Sommer (1989), Frank Schottenhammel (1970), Willy Sellerberg (2007), Lorraine Tuzzo (1999), Ida Vogel (1951), Frank Wachter (1989) & Josephine Zoeller (1999). **January:** Hedwig Alt (1988), Fanny Bange (2002), Emma Blatz (1986), Fred Haller Sr (2008), Anton Hoefflerle (2022), Fr. Joachim Von Kerksenbrock (2015), Ernst Knapp (2020), Rose Linsmaier (2006), Frieda Muller (2006), Lucy Pecnik (2002), Max Rapp (2004), Alfred Rein (1980), Josef Vogt (1983), & Rose Zernis (1967). Finally, **February Passings:** Max Buchte (1970), Anna Fleisch (1969), Hildegard Gartner (1978), Edward Hopeck (2011), Mary Kuhn (2005), Josef Loeschinger (2012), Anton Oettinger (1989), Lena Tiedeken (1986), & Bernhard Tiedeken (1989). **Lord, grant them eternal peace.**

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