



Newsletter

**Catholic Kolping Society of Brooklyn 65-04 Myrtle Avenue
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February 2023

Belated good wishes to all our readers for a great 2023. The last few years have been full of challenges, let's hope this is the year we see that trend turn around. While there is still a possibility we will get some snow this winter, it seems less likely with each passing day. Yes, it is nice to have a snowfall that makes everything look pretty once or twice a winter, but no one misses the inconvenience and dangerous conditions that a major snow brings to our area!

By the time you get this letter we will be in the Lenten Season. This is a good time to ask everyone to use the envelope tucked inside the February issue of our national publication, the **Kolping Banner**, and send in a donation to the **2023 Kolping National Lenten Project**. We are again supporting Kolping Kenya, where there has been a lack of rain. This year we are raising funds to purchase water collection tanks to collect and store rainwater, and multi tiered gardening containers, which produce more crops using less water. Our national Kolping leaders have made it clear that the goal is for as many people as possible to participate. The amount of your donation is less important than being a part of this project.

Please note our **99th Annual Meeting** is coming up on **Saturday, March 25** at 5PM. Your dues are payable at the meeting, and members will find their dues invoice accompanying this letter. A complimentary supper will be served, we will hold the meeting, then finish with dessert and coffee. We are scheduling this meeting on a Saturday night, hoping it will be easier to get parking when the nearby mega church is not in session. There is usually parking on Myrtle Avenue, but remember that the parking meters remain in effect until 7PM.

For some time, our Board of Directors has been working on a legal reorganization which will better insure our future. To this end we have established a new corporation, **The Catholic Kolping Society of Brooklyn & Queens, Inc.** We applied for and were granted 501c3 not-for-profit status in November. This means that donations to our Society under this new name are now tax deductible. It will take many months for the entire transition to be complete. Rest assured, we are and will continue to be the same Kolping Family and there will be no changes to your membership.

Finally, a print version of this **Newsletter (and your dues notice)** went out to all Kolping members on our mailing list. Starting with the next edition we will only send a print copy to those we don't have an email address for. If we don't have your email address, please share it with us. Just email and let us know: kolpingbrooklyn@gmail.com

-Bill Conte

Kolping Calendar:

Annual General Meeting; Saturday, March 25 at 5PM in the *Kolping Center*. Supper will be served. We hope everyone who can possibly attend will come out and support the Society, participate and share your thoughts, and have some social time with your fellow Kolping Members.

Spring Mass & Communion Supper; Saturday, April 15 at 5PM in the *Kolping Center*. **Father Johny Chengalan Thomas** has graciously consented to join us once again to celebrate Mass at the Center. We are very grateful to Father Johny for sharing his time.

Ridgewood Memorial Day Parade; Monday, May 29. We are planning to participate in the annual march along Myrtle Avenue, bringing the Kolping Society out into our community.

Fall Mass & Communion Supper; Saturday September 23 (date tentative).

Autumn Potluck & Halloween Party; Saturday October 28.

Kolping Family Christmas Party; Saturday, December 9.

This is our calendar so far. We expect to add additional dates (such as pot luck socials) closer in.



Father Johny Chengalan Thomas.

Kolping News:

Christmas Party. We welcomed 57 people (49 adults and 8 children) to our **Kolping Family Christmas Party** back on December 10. The Center was nicely decorated and gave off a festive feel as people arrived. We began our evening with a roast pork



dinner which was served, in turn by table, from our buffet area. Our appetites satisfied and the dishes cleared, we moved to our Christmas program of poems and readings. Participating were kids from the Josten, Stahl and Wiederhold families. The program concluded with a Christmas sing-along concluded just in time for our friend from the North Pole, Santa Claus, to join us! Santa brought gifts and spoke to every child, and some of the adults, too. Santa had a lot of territory to cover that night and could not stay too long, but he promised to do his best to visit us again next year! After Santa departed we brought out the stollen and home baked cookie platters, plus everyone was served a slice of cheese-



cake. While all this was going on we were also selling raffles, a 50/50 plus two table raffles with plenty of prizes. After the winning numbers were drawn, our evening concluded with guests hugging and exchanging warm wishes for a wonderful Christmas and holiday season! Thanks to everyone who helped in any way, but special mention to **Pat & Chris Gerage, Jessica Meyer, and Val & Gary Meyer** for setting up and organizing things.

Congratulations! Board of Directors Member Evelyn Infante was married to Jonathan Rodriguez on February 3. We also received a membership application from Jon and he will soon be an official member of our Kolping Family too! We send our very best wishes to them both for a long and happy marriage.

New At The Center. The Board decided it was best to replace the worn carpet in the new buffet area with commercial grade vinyl flooring. This should make for easy clean up from the inevitable spills and splashes that will occur. The work was done on Wednesday, February 1.

Donations for Ukranian Refugees. Please continue to keep the Ukranian people in your prayers as they deal with the trauma of being invaded. Remember, the International Kolping Society has a fund set up to aid Ukranian refugees in countries where Kolping is present. We are fortunate to be part of an organization which works for the good of humanity and we encourage you to donate to this fund. For more information go to the **Catholic Kolping Society of the United States** homepage, and use this link for donations: www.kolping.net/ukraine



New flooring in our buffet area!

Birthdays. Best wishes to those who celebrate birthdays. Have a blast!

February: Evelyn Infante Rodriguez, Chris Meyer & Alfred Wittreich. **March:** Allison Hart, Monica Meyer, Laura Murphy, Karl Werkmann & Steven Wiederhold. **April:** Fred Augstein, Fred Haller, John Murphy, Anne Novotny, Scott Stahl & Albert Tscherne. **May:** Ann Conte, Gordon Heiser, Sonia Juran Kulesza, Jayden Stahl, Giovanni Stahl & Theresa Wiederhold. Finally, the **June** birthdays will ease us into summer: Michelle Blatz, Pat Gerage, John Jellen, Margarete Knapp, Herbert Roethel, Reinhard Schmuck & Ivette Stahl.

Remember our Sick and Homebound members in your prayers...especially: Ernie Lauth, Anne Novotny, Hubert Ruhs and Herbert Roethel.

In loving memory of our departed members and friends: **March:** Edward Blatz (1980), John Braumgeither (1976), Olga Freund (2008), Eleanor Gartner (2021), Richard Greimer (1986), Reinhardt Greismer (1986), Monsignor Joseph Konrad (2006), William Markaut (1950) & Pauline Vogt (1999). **April:** Evelyn Heller Blatz (2020), Rita Briskelli (2010), Elizabeth Bugert (1956), John Bittel (1986), Winfried Blatz (2005), Maria Theresa (Terry) Brandel (2003), William Conte Sr. (2007), Frieda Diener (2010), Eleanor Gartner (2021), Anna Hertling (1957), Paula Hartmann (1986), Arlene Heller (2020), Frank House (1940), Franz Kokasch (2021), Irene Lauth (2021), August Mueller (1980), Gus Mueller (1986), Elizabeth Oettinger (1952), Frank Pfizter (1975), Katherine Pfizter (1996), Joe Sellerberg (1985), Thea Schick (1991) & Arthur Vogt (2005). **May:** Ed Farkas (2004), Frank Heller Jr (2019), Peter Hertling (1962), John Huxis (1943), Wilhelmina Krauskaupf (1953), Otto Roessler (1998), Janet Blatz Schields (1987), John Schober (1958), Jean Seidl (2018), Joseph Seufert (1956), Fanny Vogel (2005), John Weindler (2007) and Marie Werkmann (2021). Finally, in **June:** Eddie Blatz (2011), Eugene Blatz (1973), Arthur Blenkle (2014), Evelyn Bove (2005), Wilma Buchte (1975), Otto Burger (1991), John Burk (1963), Alfred Cerne (2013), Felix Christ (1976), Franz Huber (1995), Vincent Lieber (1975), Martha Olbrich (1971), Elizabeth Reilly (2000), August Ruhs (1974) & Leo Trabold (1993). **May God grant them all eternal peace.**

