



November, 2021

Dear Kolping Members and Friends,

Where We Stand: When the last print letter went out in June, I honestly thought our old, normal life would soon resume. I did not foresee the Delta Covid Variant would affect so many, and that New York City would mandate additional conditions for indoor gatherings.

So here is where we are. We resumed in-person Board of Directors meetings in May. The Board decided in September that no outside parties take place until further notice. The NYC rules would make Kolping (*not the host of the party*) responsible that all guests are fully vaccinated. This is a lot to put on our volunteer members who work the parties, and the fines are quite substantial. We will, however, entertain requests for member parties, provided the member takes responsibility for all guests who attend.

We are taking the first steps to re-institute the Kolping Center as our 'clubhouse' with social gatherings centered around the bar (which now has barstools) for members, their families and friends to spend social time together. The next one is set for Friday, November 26. Kolping will provide soft drinks, but this is a BYOB so plan to bring your alcoholic beverage of choice. Some munchies will be provided, and we welcome any light snacks or desserts you might want to contribute to the buffet. Card and other games are encouraged!

Finally, due to covid and other factors, we decided not to hold our normal Christmas party at the Center. After much discussion and consideration, the Board opted for a more intimate dinner party, which will be held at Gottscheer Hall on Saturday, December 4 at 1PM. We will have a chance to spend quality time together in a quiet setting and start off the Christmas season with our Kolping friends. **See the enclosed flyer for more details.**

Veteran members will remember that this printed *Newsletter* used to come to you about once a month. Now you are getting a mailing from us about four times per year. For those who wonder what's going on, here's an explanation. **First**, our Corresponding Secretary position has remained unfilled since 2014. This officer would normally send communications to members; out of necessity I have been doing this. **Second**, times and technology change. We are using email to send out immediate news and updates. I know some of you don't have email, and we will continue less timely printed letters to keep you up to date. I suspect some members might have email, but have not provided us with an email address. **If you have not done so, please send your email address so you are included.** **Third**, the considerable expense to Kolping of postage, paper and most of all, the cost of making copies at places like Staples, Office Depot or the UPS Store.

The continuing Covid situation is taking a toll on organizations such as ours. Similar organizations are having social and financial strain right now when many people limit their social interaction, including New York Kolping and our friends at Gottscheer Hall. Please keep the survival of our Kolping Family and other deserving groups in your prayers, that we all may flourish once again when this is over and done with.

-Bill Conte, President

Kolping News:

Condolences. We were sorry to learn that our former longtime member and former President, **Paul Hartmann**, passed away this summer. Paul was born into the Society, and he met his wife Anita at the Kolping House. We send our sympathy to his family on their loss. We were also sad to hear of the passing of **Deacon John Sands** of St. Matthias parish. Deacon John came to speak at our meetings several times and introduced us to the parish social ministry program. His work touched many over the decades, and St. Matthias was filled for his funeral Mass. Our best wishes are sent to Mrs. Gail Sands and the whole Sands family. Finally, we send our condolences to our Kolping brother **Albert Tscherne** on the passing of his sister, Florianne Tscherne, on October 27.

Mail - sharing a few notes we received. *Your kind expression of sympathy is deeply appreciated and gratefully acknowledged by the family of Marie Werkmann. Thank you for the Mass Card for Marie. I hope to see everyone soon. Karl Werkmann. To the Kolping society, Thank you sincerely for your thoughtful kindness at a time when it was deeply appreciated by the family of Paul J. Hartmann. Thank you for the beautiful Mass Card. My parents met at Kolping when they were ten and eleven years old. They had summers together with their families at Lake Ronkonkoma and enjoyed all the German food, music and friends at the Kolping House and later the Center. God Bless you all! Mary Parisi, Anita Hartmann and the Hartmann Family. Dear Kolping Members, thank you sincerely for your thoughtful remembrance of Deacon John Sands. May you continue to remember him in your prayers. Thank you again for Kolping's support to St. Matthias through the years. Sincerely, Gail Sands*

Social Evening At Kolping, Friday, November 26, Doors Open at 5PM. Barstools were added to the bar at the Kolping Center over the summer. One of our Board members suggested we "break them in". A small group gathered and had a nice time in early September, and we are planning to do it again, the day after Thanksgiving! Friday nights at the Center is an old Brooklyn

Kolping tradition that fell by the wayside, we are bringing it back! Kolping will provide soft drinks and some munchies, but this is a BYOB, so bring your favorite alcoholic beverage. We also invite you to bring along a light snack or dessert to enjoy.



Kolping Family Christmas Party, Saturday, December 4th at 1PM at Gottscheer Hall. Due to Covid and a few house issues of our own, we are doing something different this year. Our gathering will be a dinner party at the Gottscheer Clubhouse, 657 Fairview Avenue, Ridgewood. We did not feel comfortable to hold our normally large party again this year. The Board wanted to provide an intimate get-together for members (& their guests) to socialize and share Christmas cheer. This will be a sit-down dinner in a private room, choice of chicken schnitzel or beef goulash entrée for adults. The donation is \$55 for adults and \$20 for children under 13, proof of vaccination required by law. We hope you will support this party, our first paid event since Christmas 2019. **Call Bill Conte at 917-862-0637 or send an email to kolpingbrooklyn@aol.com and let us know you would like to attend. RSVP by November 28. (see enclosed flyer)**

Brunch With Santa. Our friends at the Gottscheer KUV invite you to a Brunch With Santa on **Sunday, December 12th at 11:30AM at Gottscheer Hall.** They promise a festive afternoon filled with Christmas games and a delicious brunch. Santa will be there and give out goody bags to the kids, plus you can get a photo with Santa! \$25 Adults, \$15 for children under 12. **For information and reservations call Gillian at 917-710-3924.**

Father Chris' Installation Mass, Sunday 9/12: It seems like ages ago since our visit to Prospect Heights to support Father Chris when he was installed as Pastor at his new parish. All of us who went were happy we participated, great weather, a beautiful church and being welcomed by hospitable parishioners. The Mass was celebrated by Bishop DiMarzio but Father Chris got a chance address us as well. The mass was followed by a buffet brunch in the church undercroft. Kolping presented Father Chris him with a gift of Cuban style cigars and a bottle of his preferred brand of scotch. Since not everyone could attend, we put out an email inviting people to participate by donating to the gift, and your donations covered the cost. **Thank you to those who donated:** *Barbara Augstein, Michelle & Jeff Blatz, Bill Conte, Pat & Chris Gerage, Rosemarie Gnam, Gillian Guile, Inge & John Jellen, Sonia Juran Kulesza, Jessica Meyer, Valerie & Gary Meyer, Louise Gruber Mimicopoulos, Anne Novotny, Rosemarie Rom, Albert Tscherne.* **Remember,** the diocesan live stream mass comes from Fr. Chris' parish, accessible from this website: <https://stjosephs-brooklyn.org/>

Social Night at Kolping. After having to reschedule due to Hurricane Ida, a few of us got together around the bar on Tuesday, September 14th. Jeff Blatz, Bill Conte, Anne Novotny, Rose Rom and her friend Trudy, Alice Kokasch, Inge & John Jellen, Sonia Juran Kulesza, Pat & Chris Gerage, and Jessica Meyer came out. Then veteran member Margarete Knapp, visiting from Florida, and daughter Linda joined us for about 90 minutes for a nice reunion. We enjoyed beverages, snacks and conversation. It looks like those bar stools will change the social dynamics at the Kolping Center. **Next gathering is set for Friday, November 26.**

Autumn Birthday Wishes! Birthday wishes to those who celebrate in the fall! We missed member *Markus Gruber's* birthday in **October.** We have three **November** birthdays: *Bill Conte, Father Christopher Heanue, and Louise Gruber Mimicopoulos.* Congratulations in **December** to *Barbara Augstein, Agnes Hopeck, Gary Meyer, Jessica Meyer, Rosemarie Rom, Robert Wittreich and Erika Zinser.* Finally, looking ahead to January, we wish a happy birthday to *Jeffrey Blatz, Christopher Gerage, Gillian Guile, Larisa Heiser, Ernest Lauth, and Arnold Ruf.*

Good and Welfare: Please remember everyone who is sick or homebound, or just needs a prayer, in your intentions. Ernie Lauth had a fall at home and suffered a fractured hip, he is currently post-op and recovering in rehab. Also remember *Rosemarie Elgass and Anton Hoefflerle.*

In Memoriam: Reflect a moment and remember our deceased Kolping Family members. **Passed in October:** *Rosemarie Bayer (2016), Gus Gnam (2005), Luzie Gruber (1994), Emile Klein (1984), Josefina Kolb (1996), Anna Mueller (1995), Hilde Rueb (2013), Ernst Rom (1988), Kunigunde Schneider (1980), Joe Vertatschitsch (2004), Marie Wilhelm (1994).* **November:** *Leopold Blatz (1964), Eva Maria Freund (2020), Henry Hartmann, Sr (1960), Josef Koch (1971), Wilfried Kolsch (1972), Anton (Toni) Ostermann (2005), Hermann Rueb (2013), Lucy Sperber (1970), Rose Wachter (2015), Rosemarie (Vogt) Wenzler (2013), 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), Fr. Joachim Von Kerssenbrock (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).*



Don't forget...Brooklyn Kolping is on Social Media! There has not been much activity to report these past months, but bookmark these Kolping locations. **Webpage:** <http://www.kolping.org/brooklyn/>. **Facebook and Instagram:** Search under [Catholic Kolping Society of Brooklyn](#). Check it out!

