



Newsletter March, 2024

**Catholic Kolping Society of Brooklyn
Catholic Kolping Society of Brooklyn & Queens
65-04 Myrtle Avenue Glendale NY 11385 718-456-7728**

Happy Spring Everyone! While it was another mild winter, I am sure everyone is very happy to see the bright daffodil and forsythia blooms announcing the start of spring!

We are all ready to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the founding of our Kolping Family!

On Sunday, January 20, 1924 a meeting was held at the old Brooklyn Labor Lyceum to determine if there was interest in establishing a Kolping Society in the Diocese of Brooklyn. A few hours later the Brooklyn Kolping Family had been established, and the National Praeses, Father Schmidt, was named interim Praeses. Several weeks later Father George Metzger, pastor of Most Holy Trinity parish in Brooklyn, became our first official Praeses. We were based out of that parish until our Kolping House in Ridgewood was acquired with financial help and moral support of the New York Kolping Society. That Kolping House truly became 'a home away from home' and social center; first for the immigrant men who resided there, and eventually for their families as well.

Our Board of Directors, plus a few local members, got together at the Kolping Center on Saturday, January 20 to toast this landmark and enjoy lunch together prior to our January Board Meeting.

The big celebration is coming up on Saturday, April 27...you should have already found an invitation in your mailbox! Our special day will begin at 1:30PM with a **100th Anniversary Mass** at **St. Matthias Church** in Ridgewood. A reception follows at 3PM nearby at **Gottscheer Hall**. We will be serving a roast pork dinner (adults) and music is by The Adlers. Donation is \$75 for adults and \$25 for children.

We are counting on everyone to spread the word! Many people who have fond memories and family ties to our Brooklyn Kolping Family and live in our general area—**please share our invitation with them**. We already know our Kolping National President, Lisa Brinkmann, is travelling from California to join us and officially represent the National Office. We would love to welcome additional National Officers and members from nearby branches to make this a truly memorable event! **Please RSVP to Gillian Guile at 917-710-3924 and let her know you will attend!**

You may wonder why these printed newsletters only arrive occasionally. Like the rest of the world, we are relying more and more on email and social media to get information out in a more timely manner, plus we can add more photos than we can possibly fit

here. If you received this newsletter via US Mail, but you have an email address—*it means we don't have it on file*. **Please contact us and we'll add you to our email records:** kolpingbrooklyn@gmail.com. We also have a **Facebook Page** - search for *Catholic Kolping Society of Brooklyn* and check that out. Don't forget, there is also a website for National Kolping, with national and international news, plus a tab for each U.S. Kolping Family. Search *Kolping Society of the United States*,

<http://www.kolping.org/>

Wishing everyone a Happy Easter, and looking forward to greeting you in person at our 100th Anniversary Celebration!

-Bill Conte, President

Kolping Calendar:

100th Anniversary Mass & Celebration, Saturday, April 27. This special day begins with **1:30PM Mass** at St. Matthias in Ridgewood, with a reception following at 3PM at **Gottscheer Hall**. Music will be provided by The Adlers, and we will be serving a delicious roast pork dinner. Donation: Adults \$75, Children \$25. **RSVP to Gillian Guile at 917-710-3924 (flyer enclosed)**. Plan to come and celebrate with the Brooklyn Kolping Family!

Board of Directors Meeting; Wednesday May 8 at 6:30PM in the *Kolping Center*.

Memorial Day Parade; Monday, May 27. The Brooklyn Kolping Family will once again participate in the Ridgewood Memorial Day Parade. We will tentatively be meeting at **11AM** at the intersection of Cooper and Myrtle Avenues, Glendale. Watch your email for reminders and updates !



Kolping Calendar: (continued)

Fall Mass & Communion Supper; Saturday, October 19 at 6PM in the **Kolping Center**. Father Johny is set to join us to celebrate Mass at the Kolping Center this fall. Please add this date to your calendar and plan to join us!

Queens Veterans Day Parade; Sunday, November 10. We plan to once again march behind our Kolping Banner! We will gather starting at 11AM at Metropolitan Avenue & 80th Street, Middle Village. The parade route concludes at Christ the King High School.

Kolping Family Christmas Party; Saturday, December 14 at 5PM in the **Kolping Center**. Put this event on your holiday season calendar now, and plan to join the fun!

Kolping News:

In Memorium. The Brooklyn Kolping family lost three friends of our Society recently. A former member, **Rosemarie (Wenzler) Elgass** passed away on December 3 at the age of 87. Rose was the younger sister of our late member Steve Wenzler, and resided in King's Park, NY for many decades. **Father Jim Reynolds**, who celebrated Mass at the Kolping Center for many years and was a good friend to us, passed away on January 12. Father Jim had health issues that caused him to retire from parish duties, but he continued to devote time to us until 2015 despite his hardships. Finally, our Kolping National Administrator, **Pat Farkas**, passed away suddenly on January 17. Pat and her late husband Ed were instrumental in establishing a now disbanded Kolping Family in Passaic NJ, and both filled the Administrator position and kept the National Society running smoothly. **May they rest in peace.**

Christmas Party. Our final gathering in 2023, our Kolping Family Christmas Party was on December 9. We had a total of 55 adults and children on hand. We enjoyed a nice dinner together, then we settled down for our Christmas program. We are so proud of our adolescents and children who shared their amazing musical and acting talents with us! We received a visit by Father Johny Chengalan Thomas, who stopped by for a while. He encouraged our young performers, then gave an impromptu musical performance himself. After our traditional sing-along, Santa appeared to reward good children of all ages with a gift! Many thanks to everyone who attended, and of course to all who helped.



Our **Annual General Meeting** was on Saturday, February 17. Snow was predicted, but happily things were just a little sloppy outdoors and the meeting went on! We enjoyed a light supper: homemade vegetable soup and a cold buffet. After supper we held our meeting, reporting on the state of the Society and reviewed our Kolping events of 2023.

Birthday Greetings. Sending some belated, and some current birthday greetings! **February:** Evelyn Rodriguez, Chris Meyer & Alfred Wittreich (97) **March:** Allison Hart, Monica Meyer, Laura Murphy, Karl Werkmann (91) & Steven Wiederhold. **April:** Fred Augstein, Fred Haller, John Murphy, Anne Novotny (92), Scott Stahl & Albert Tscherne (91). **May:** Ann Conte, Gordon Heiser, Sonia J. Kulesza, Gio Stahl, Jayden Stahl & Theresa Wiederhold. **June:** Michelle Blatz, Pat Gerage, John Jellen, Margarete Knapp, Reinhardt Schmuck & Ivette Stahl.



Please Remember Our Departed: **February:** 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). **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), 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 Oetting (1952), Frank Pfitzer (1975), Katherine Pfitzer (1996), Joe Sellaerberg (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) & Marie Werkmann (2021). **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), Herbert Roethel (2023), August Ruhs (1974) & Leo Trabold (1993). **May their souls, and the souls of the faithful departed, rest in peace.**