



Kolping Banner

Official Publication of the Catholic Kolping Society of America | Vol. 101 - No. 1 | January, February, March 2025

Kolping Kenya Lenten Project

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As we approach another Lenten Season and the 2025 Kolping USA Lenten project for the benefit of our Kolping Brother's and Sister's in Kenya I wanted to highlight the results of our Lenten project this past year with Kolping Kenya. For 2024 Kolping USA raised \$21,700 for the Lenten project. As I mentioned in last year's report, Kenya continues to suffer from drought conditions and according to the United Nations, have been suffering through the worst water crisis in the last 40 years with millions of people not having access to a stable and safe water source.

For those who did not make it to the Convention this past September I wanted to highlight some of our results over the years:

As a result of your generosity our Lenten Project has had the following successes:

- Improved food security – vegetables are grown in all seasons
- Better access to clean water – for drinking, irrigation, kitchen use, gardens and animals.
- Opportunities for additional revenue sources.
- Enhanced interest in program enrollment and interest in Kolping
- Development of Self -Sufficient communities

Project	Number of Kolping Family Recipients	Number of Individual Family Recipients
Dairy Goats	24	540
Muli-Story Gardens	30	600
Water Tanks	6	45

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Kolping Banner

The Kolping Banner, published monthly, is the official newsletter of the Catholic Kolping Society of America.

Subscription Rates are \$13.00 per year, \$1.35 per issue, and \$1.00 for bulk orders over 100 plus postage. Back issues are available; by mail, all back issues \$2.50 including first class postage.

Send subscription requests with check, materials for publication, and address changes by the 10th of the preceding month to the Catholic Kolping Society of America c/o Lisa Brinkmann, 311 Greene Street, Mill Valley, CA. 94941 e-mail: kolpingus@gmail.com.

Typesetting, Layout and Printing by Peerless Printing Company, 2250 Gilbert Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45206, 513-721-4657. Mailing by Performance Mailing, 2250 Gilbert Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45206, 513-241-5055. Postage paid at Cincinnati, Ohio, Permit No. 1474.

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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.

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Brooklyn Kolping Family,

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773-792-2190

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10235 Mill Rd., Cincinnati, OH, 45231-1924,
513-851-7951

Detroit Kolping Family,

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Los Angeles, CA, 90015-2021,
213-388-9438

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165 E. 88th St., New York, NY 10128-2241,
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Philadelphia Kolping Family,

9130 Academy Road, Philadelphia, PA, 19114,
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Saint Louis, Missouri,

5410 Oakville Manor Dr., Saint Louis, MO, 63129-3012,
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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 c/o Lisa Brinkmann, 311 Greene Street, Mill Valley, CA. 94941 e-mail: kolpingus@gmail.com.

Please visit the Catholic Kolping Society
of America internet website at:
<http://www.kolping.org>.



From the President's Desk ...

If you had 10 minutes to evacuate your home, what would you take? Disasters have a way of putting everything into perspective—our priorities, values, and even our ability to persevere. As I watch wildfires devastate Los Angeles and read about South Carolinians still recovering from torrential flooding—now compounded by snow—I can't help but ask myself: *What would I do if I lost everything tomorrow?*

Here in Northern California, the past month has brought earthquake warnings, tsunami alerts, and concerns about high tides and flooding. While the promise of recent rains may offer some reassurance against wildfires, a quick walk through the hills reveals a stark reality—dead brush everywhere, just waiting to ignite.

Yet in every disaster, we witness extraordinary human traits that shine through: compassion, resilience, optimism, faith, and hope for the future. Today, we keep our Kolping brothers and sisters in Los Angeles in our prayers, hoping they remain safe, with homes and communities intact.

I hope I never have to face such a disaster firsthand. But as I look around my home, thinking about what I'd grab in those critical 10 minutes, I realize the most important "things" aren't things at all. Family, pets, cherished photographs, and maybe a little cash to get by—what would you take?

What's Coming Up from National Kolping?

In the coming months, National Kolping will be promoting its 2025 Scholarship Program. This initiative, available to all members and their immediate families, reflects Father Kolping's enduring commitment to education and self-betterment.

We are also continuing our support of Kolping Kenya through this year's Lenten Project. Thanks to your generosity, Kolping Kenya has expanded its small animal initiative to include vertical gardens and water tanks, offering families a holistic package for sustainable success.

Finally, Anna Stukenborg, our new Executive Director, and I have been working to streamline the processes and programs of the National Office. Together with web developers, we're creating tools to make your experience more efficient and accessible. These include online forms for ads and scholarship applications, a digital library of key documents for officers and families, and platforms for online donations and payments.

As always, we appreciate your support and patience as we work to improve the experience with the National Kolping. Please stay safe and take care.

Lisa Brinkmann

*"The best things in life are not things."
— Winnie the Pooh*

Chicago Kolping January 2025 Winter BBQ!



New York Kolping Christmas Party

NY Kolping enjoyed a cheerful celebration to kick off December and St. Nick even showed up with gifts for good children.

We're getting together next for our annual ski trip. This year we are going to Killington Mountain on March 7-9. Please join us! Email kolpingny@gmail.com for more info.



San Francisco Kolping Christmas Party



Kolping Kenya Lenten Project

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The continued drought has provided additional challenges in the region and for our Lenten Project – these include:

- The drought necessitates “packaging” the goat program with a water tank program
- Drought conditions and the lack of water requires additional out of pocket expense for feed for the animals
- Manure production may be reduced due to feed and water shortages and garden impacts as a result of the drought.
- Large families are challenged to subsist with a standard vertical garden.

The cost of a 5,000 liter (1,320 gallons) water tank is approximately \$335. The cost of a multi-story container garden which are made from waste plastic is estimated at \$20.50 per set. Please know that the Kolping USA Lenten Project for Kenya makes a profound difference in the lives of the recipients. Please continue your generous support of this project for the 2024 Lenten Season.

Sincerely,

Theodore F. Wilke, Treasurer Kolping USA



2025 Kolping Scholarship

Information on the 2025 Kolping Scholarship program will be posted on our website in February.



**CATHOLIC KOLPING SOCIETY
OF AMERICA**
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Kolping USA Executive Director

Dearest Kolping USA Family,

The first few months of the year many of us take stock and evaluate the past year. What was good? What wasn't so good? Then we envision expectations for the year to come. We hope for good health, to lose a few pounds, maybe to take a nice vacation, and to celebrate special occasions with family and friends. In our mind's eye 2025 is looking fabulous! The fact is that none of us really know what is next...remember 2020?

No matter what the 12 months that make up 2025 have in store for us, the one thing that brings it all together is our faith. Lenten season is soon approaching and is a time set aside for us to be more mindful of our blessings, our prayers, and sharing with others both in our communities and in other countries. For many years Kolping USA has supported the Kolping families in Kenya, Africa and as you can see from Ted Wilke's article, they are having great success.

This year you can give to Kenya and skip the stamp and envelope. Just go to www.Kolping.org and click on the "Donate" button. We are using a new giving platform that allows ALL of the funds collected to support Kolping Kenya's programs (No fees to you or Kolping!).

Thank you so much for your past support and continued giving!

Anna P. Stukenborg

