

**We Made the Local News!**  
Thanks to Liam Reidy for submitting this nice article to the Irish Herald.

THE IRISH HERALD / THE NEW IRISH GAEL

November 2025/Samhain 2025

• UNITED IRISH CULTURAL CENTER •

**Kolping Society Of San Francisco Celebrates 100 Years At The UICC**

THE KOLPING SOCIETY OF San Francisco marked its 100th anniversary with a special celebration at the United Irish Cultural Center on October 18th. The milestone event brought together generations of members, many of whom are also active supporters of the UICC, reflecting the shared spirit of faith, family, and community that unites both organizations.

Founded on the principles of Blessed Adolph Kolping, the Kolping Society's mission is to promote the moral, social, and spiritual development of its members while encouraging service to the wider community. True to the guiding words of its founder—"The needs of the times will tell you what to do"—the Society continues to adapt and serve in meaningful ways.



Lisa Brinkmann, Kolping President with UICC President Liam Reidy, and Cathy Vennemeyer. Right: Cathy Mibach and Jack O'Keeffe.

In addition to fostering fellowship and faith-based initiatives, the Kolping Society actively supports local Catholic schools and contributes each year to the UICC's Leo Walsh Scholarship Fund, helping local students pursue their educational goals. As the Society celebrates its centennial, it continues to embody the enduring values of service, compassion, and community that have guided it for the past century.

**THANK YOU ALL**  
*From the Industrial Revolution to the age of AI (Artificial Intelligence) the teachings of Father Kolping continue to resonate today. His simple concept of creating a safe environment for young people to practice their faith, enhance their skills and develop lifelong relationships has grown from a few boarding houses in 1800 Germany to an international organization with over 400,000 members.*

*The concept “the needs of the time will tell you what to do” inspired a group of young tradesmen in 1925 to take action on the idea of (re) starting a Kolping Society in San Francisco. For many, the Kolping House has symbolized a “home away from home.” A place where newcomers and long-time residents could get together, bring their families to celebrate the holidays and support one another, through good times and challenging ones.*

*We continue to honor Father Kolping’s legacy through our social gathering, cultural traditions and philanthropic efforts – celebrating faith, friendship and the enduring spirit of community that has guided us for 100 years.*

**Wanted:**  
Recording Secretary - Monika Weiss, our former Board and Officer secretary, recently resigned from her post following a car accident, which has left her with a long road to recovery. While she always sends her best greeting, she no longer is able to fulfill the role of Recording Secretary. This position is responsible for taking minutes at our Board and general meetings, once a quarter. If you are interested, we would love someone to volunteer to assist with this duty.

*Board Members – have you been a Kolping member for a few years and would like to get more involved? We are always welcoming new Board members to help in our decision-making efforts, as well as assume some of the “Hands On” responsibilities around the hall. Please let us know if you are interested!*



# Happy Birthday!

- OCTOBER**  
Raymond Brinkmann  
Peggy Cooney  
Mary DeMartini  
Barbara Eckart  
Francine Ferris  
Milly Gaehwiler
- Lenore Lamey  
Diane Larrecou  
Frances Murphy  
Scotty Thomas

- NOVEMBER**  
Shirley Costanzo  
Gerhard Holder  
Astrid Holder  
Donna McDonagh  
Inge Stottmeister  
Erna Stucky  
Sana Wolden  
Ursula Younger

- DECEMBER**  
Rosemarie Azinheira  
Silvia Hildebardt  
Christine McLoughlin



# S.F. KOLPING Newsletter

NOVEMBER 2025

**100th Anniversary**  
We're ready for the next 100 years!  
The crew arrived early to set tables, hang decorations, test the slide show and position the cake. It was a true demonstration of volunteerism at its best. Thanks to all who helped make this special occasion a fun-filled success!



**Upcoming Events**  
**NOVEMBER**  
**Monday, November 3, 2025 – 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Board and General Meeting** – All members and guests are welcome to our Board and general meetings. If you would like to come earlier, at 5:00 p.m. feel free to join us for a light supper.

**Wednesday, November 12, 2025 – 11:00 - 1:30 KlubHaus is open!** Drop on in and spend time with fellow Kolping members. Finish a stitching or craft project, play a game of Mexican dominoes or just hang out.

**Saturday, November 15, 2025 – 12:30 - 4:00 Day of Thanks Lunch and Bingo** – Join us for a meal and fun. Members \$10/person for lunch, guests \$15/person. If you decide to skip the lunch, come on by anyway for bingo. Please pay at the door!

**DECEMBER**  
**Sunday, December 7, 2025 – 11:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.**

## Christmas Mass and Brunch

Celebrate the Christmas spirit with your Kolping friends starting with an Advent Mass, followed by brunch. All are welcome. **RSVPs are required.** Brunch will be \$10/ member, \$15/guest.

## National Raffle!

Don't forget to buy your tickets for the National Kolping Raffle. If you can't find the ones in the mail, go to the website and purchase them online at [kolping.org](http://kolping.org).



OUR BINGOS!

We cannot tell you how happy it makes us to see members inviting friends and family to our monthly bingos. Thank you.

100th Anniversary

What a wonderful event! Apres Vous served a delicious buffet; Mary Brinkmann made her signature cake; Muffy, Kevin and the Friel gang decorated; Lisa presented and guests enjoyed each others' company. Thank you everyone for supporting this milestone event!



Oktoberfest Bingo

Umm pa pa!!! Games, fun and a few unexpected bingos filled the hall for our Oktoberfest. Inge Stottmeister won the "who knows Germany best" trivia contest and the German icon bingo was disputed – a beer stein or? Thanks to Muffy for all the pictures! And special thanks to our set up crew – Muffy Friel, Arlene Bushner, Karen Cilia-Santi, Cathy Vennemeyer and Lisa B.




100th Anniversary (...more!)

Lisa presented an interesting overview of the Kolping Society today, both in San Francisco and around the world. Did you know that the second largest Kolping family is in India? Thanks to a few of our annual grantee recipients for providing an overview of how our contributions are helping them achieve their goals. We are very grateful for Deacon Bill and Father Paul, who helped welcome everyone and said Grace before our lunch.




Rest in Peace

We have lost two long-time members in the past months: Louise Tschudi and Al Devila.



Louise Tschudi had been a member of the Kolping since 2008. She and her husband, Rolf, ran the Lucerne restaurant on Noriega Street for many years. Louise was introduced to Kolping through the Swiss Singers. Louise enjoyed the casino trips, evening bingo games and walks around the neighborhood.



Al Davila passed away unexpectedly on October 19th after experiencing a major stroke. A member since 2012, Al and his deceased wife, Margaret, were initially recruited by Bill Luque. Al was a regular at our bingo games and holiday celebration and enjoyed his travels with partner-in-crime, Charlene. Please keep him in your prayers.

Thanks to Kathy Biesty for the wonderful Anniversary poster!



## "The needs of the time will teach you what to do."

— Adolph Kolping

**SPIRITUALITY**

- Annual Easter and Christmas Masses
- Day of Prayer
- Day of Remembrance



**EDUCATION**

- Grants to local low-income S.F. Catholic Elementary Schools – supporting scholarships, programs, projects
- National Kolping scholarship, YouthSF Programs



**HOUSING**

- Early Kolping House on Fillmore,
- Kolping Hall/apartment on Taraval
- Contributions to the Gracenter



**SOCIALIZING & FAMILY**

- Monthly bingos, KlubHaus, casino trips, Sip n Paint, COVID bags, birthday cards, Installation luncheons, raffles, picnics, brunches, visits from Santa, COVID packets and outreach



SELF SUFFICIENT ♦ SELF FUNDING ♦ VOLUNTEER-LEAD ♦ VOLUNTEER OPERATED