



S.F. KOLPING Newsletter

DECEMBER 2025

Christmas Mass and Brunch



The hall was decked, the tables set and the ornaments hung with care thanks to our crew of elves: **Karen Cilia-Santi, Kevin Cunnane, Cathy Vennemeyer, Muffy Friel and Lisa**. We did such a fun job, that our hopes of St. Nick showing up came true!

Father Paul and our **Deacon Bill** presided over a joyous Mass, accompanied by the beautiful voices of our members, singing some favorite Christmas carols. **Kevin and Liam Friel** served up eggnogs and brandy and mimosas as our bartenders and **Robert Lazzaretto** assumed the responsibilities of being our photo guy. Santa left special gifts for each member at their place and each table was thrilled with their cookie/stollen plate – word has it that at some tables, the cookies were gone before lunch was served. Our efficient elf crew made sure no one went hungry, serving up brunch, coffee and juices.

While everyone was enjoying the conversation and singing a few more carols, lo and behold, who arrived but our very own **Santa Claus**. (Interestingly enough,



Greg Costanzo could not be found until after Santa said farewell!!) I don't know how he knew, but Santa brought a very special gift for **Makenzie McLoughlin**, who must have been a very good girl all year long.

We are extremely blessed to be able to continue this tradition, especially celebrating a Christmas Mass together in our own hall. Thank you again, Father Paul and Deacon Bill.



Rest in Peace

Our longest tenured members, Heinz Beering, passed away on November 2nd. Heinz joined the Kolping Society when he turned 14 years old as an apprentice in Germany (1945.) He was a skilled cabinetmaker, who

reminisced about how important the Kolping was for him as a young man, learning other skills from fellow tradesmen, finetuning his own skills and meeting some of this lifelong friends.

Dues are due!

It's that time of year again. Our annual membership dues are due. Memberships are \$50/individual and \$100/household per year and are due by February 1, 2026. Please send a check to:

Kolping Society of America
c/o Cathy Vennemeyer,
2733 Trousdale Drive
Burlingame, CA 94010.

Santas Album!



LUNCH AND BINGO!

Day of Thanks

We had a lot to be thankful for at our special **Day of Thanks Luncheon and Bingo**. **Mary Brinkmann** treated us to an "as you like it" turkey sandwich, giving us the choice of 3 different breads, 4 cheeses, cranberry sauce, stuffing, condiments, potato salad and more – in whatever combination best suited the guests. It was like running a deli counter! Many members raved that it was one of the best sandwiches they have had in a long time! Yummy!

Bingo was a lot of fun as usual. The hall was pretty full, so it became a bit boisterous at times. **Karen Cilia-Santi** was the big blackout winner – first time in years! Thanks to everyone who donated prizes for the raffle. Proceeds were sent to the Martin dePorres House of Hospitality on Potrero Ave. We truly have a lot for which to be grateful.







New Year Calendar

The calendar for 2026 is here. As usual, we will keep to the third Saturday for our bingos. Some will be just bingo and snacks, while others will include a lunch, so keep an eye out for the times. We are moving the KlubHaus to the first Wednesday of the month. This activity is meant to provide a place where members can hang out, finish/start a project, play a game, or just socialize. We usually have a light lunch and beverages, so come on by and feel free to invite a guest.

If you would like to suggest an activity that is not on the calendar, please contact Lisa or Muffy. Last year we enjoyed a dinner in Italy with virtual reality readers and pasta and a Sip and Paint dinner.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

JANUARY

January 7 – First Wednesday Klub Haus – 11:00 a.m.

January 12 – Board & General Meeting – 5:30 p.m.
All members welcome.

January 17 – New Year Bingo & Clothes Drive
Please feel free to bring new or gently used clothing to donate to St. Anthony's. We will have a bin available for drop-off.

FEBRUARY

February 4 – First Wednesday Klub Haus – 11:00

February 21 – Year of the Horse Lunch & Bingo – 12:30 p.m. — Celebrate the Lunar New Year together.

MARCH

March 4 – First Wednesday Klub Haus – 11:00

March 14 – St. Patrick's Day Parade – *time TBD*
Join the Kolping group downtown for the parade.

March 29 – Palm Sunday Mass & Brunch – 11:00

Congrats Irene!

Irene Lambly has volunteered to take on the role of Secretary.

We welcome submissions for the newsletters and topics that might be of interest to all.

Warmly, Lisa Brinkmann and Kathy Biesty

The **2026 Kolping Convention** will be hosted by the New York Kolping the weekend of **September 18th – 20th**. It should be a memorable event. We will have the opportunity to march in the Stueben Day parade down 5th Avenue; attend Mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral; and enjoy a BBQ at the Kolping on the Hudson. If you think you'd like to attend, please contact Lisa.



Kolping on the Hudson