

KOLPING *BULLETIN*

A Monthly Report from Catholic Kolping Society New York • www.kolpingny.org • DECEMBER 2016 • No. 144

note the date

december

**4 Mass & Christmas Party/
St. Nikolaus Day**
Kolping-88th Street

**8 The Feast of the
Immaculate Conception**
The feast focuses on the
concept that the Virgin Mary
was conceived without sin.

21 January Bulletin
Last day to submit material

25 Christmas
Commemorates the birth of
Jesus Christ.

january

1 The Solemnity of Mary
On this holy day of obligation,
we are reminded of the role
that the Blessed Virgin played
in the plan of our salvation.

6 The Feast of the Epiphany
The Epiphany celebrates the
visit of the three wise men to
the Christ Child.

DECEMBER

Kolping 88th Street Annual Christmas Party & St. Nikolaus Day Celebration

Sunday, December 4, 2016

The day will begin with Fr. Richard Bretone celebrating mass at 10:30 and immediately after our new members ceremony will take place.

During the course of the day we will also be honoring all those that have reached their NY Catholic Kolping Society membership milestones:

50 year membership: Jim Minarik and Alphonse Preisser

25 year membership: Marion Povilonis, John Reitter, Jr., Matthew Funnell, Deborah Funnell, Jackie Maas, and Anne Hemsing.

We are so pleased to know that Wolfgang Hahn and Giovanni will be cooking our holiday feast. They are planning a delicious menu of chicken with mushrooms, roasted pork, mashed potatoes, sauerkraut, lots of vegetables, and the wurst salad that everyone looks forward to. There will be holiday cookies and cake for dessert, along with coffee and tea. The cost is \$16 per adult and \$8.00 per child under 12.

Plan a great holiday family event at the Kolping House and visit with your old friends, make new friends and enjoy lots of Christmas carols. St. Nick will be there with toys for children under 10. Traditional German holiday specialties including stollen, cookies and brandy beans will be available for purchase.

**Please call or email your reservation to Jan Kessler at
914.462.7649 or jkessny@aol.com.**

Be sure to let us know how many children age 10 and under will be attending. Please include full names, ages and gender so St. Nick can be sure to have a special gift for all the children.

*Wishing everyone
a Merry Christmas
and a happy &
healthy New Year!*

— The Kolping Bulletin staff



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.

KOLPING BULLETIN

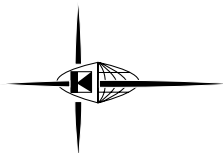
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Milestones & Passages



Everyone could use the power of prayer now and again. If you or anyone you know is in need of prayer, please let us know and we will be happy to include them within the "in our prayers" list. Please contact Jan Kessler (914-462-7649) or email jkessny@aol.com when you know of a member who is ill, in the hospital, or has passed away. We want to be sure to remember them.

It is with great sadness that we inform you of the passing of **Father Michel**. Father Michel served as our National Praeses and Praeses of the Philadelphia Kolping Society. He will be sorely missed.

Please continue to pray for **Violet Nelida Kelly** who is still in rehab.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO THOSE BORN IN DECEMBER:

Daniel Allen, Richard Bennet, Laura Beyrer, Dina Breitschwerd, Stacy Connolly, Michelle Crisci, Sean Crowley, Michael Cunningham, Daniel Dengler, Justin Dengler, Christine Duffy, Ernst Endrich, Michael Flannery, Kathleen Fuchek, Sophie Gallagher, Greta Grossmann, Lily Gruno, Bridget Horan, Jennifer Horan, Michael Horan, Matthew Imbimbo, Matt Keller, Anita Kelley, Katelyn Krupa, Kelly Krupa, Patricia Kummer, David Lauth, Jim Leech, Irene Leili, Stefan Manz, Stephen McGuire, Gabrielle Melamed, Amanda Mersits, Peter Mersits, James Minarik, Ingrid Mohapp, Jack Mongiello, Edward Monks, Sabrina Ostroff, Brian Rafford, Andrew Reitter, Charles Roberts, Wilfriede Roessler, Erik Severin, Charles Smith, Hertha Stang, Patrick Tandy, Niklas Umland, John Unger, Alfred E. Vogl, Jr., Adam Ward, Debra Weigand, and Michael Weinborg.

SPECIAL DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS:

Special birthday wishes to **Irene Leili** and **James Minarik**.

If you know someone celebrating a milestone birthday or anniversary, please let us know so we can include it in the Bulletin. Please email either me at editor@kolpingny.org or Jan Kessler at jkessny@aol.com.



KOLPING ADVENT PROJECT

St. Christopher and St. Patrick Roman Catholic Church is the new name of the merged two churches in Buchanan and Verplanck. Cardinal Dolan will be coming on Dec. 10 to dedicate the new parish. Both locations were in need of repairs and upgrades. The poles lights at the St. Christopher location were over 50 years old and not operable. Six poles were replaced and Kolping volunteered to make one of them our Advent Project. We hope that our members will support this project. Please send all checks to Catholic Kolping Society, 165 East 88th Street, New York, NY 10128

PS: The new merged parish is Kolping on Hudson's church and many Kolping members in the area are parishioners.

THANK YOU

Thank you to all the following members for their donations to the Advent Project: **Al & Linda Ferony, Jan & Art Kessler**, and **Bob & Ann Hemsing**. Thank you to **June & John Noonan** for their donation to the Catholic Kolping Scholarship Fund.

A THANK YOU FROM EAVAN, PRESIDENT OF ST. IGNATIUS SCHOOL

On behalf of St. Ignatius School, thank you to the Catholic Kolping Society for its generous scholarship support. Please enjoy a special message from a few members of our Graduate Support Program who benefit from your gifts...visit <https://vimeo.com/189627349> to see the video.

This year, 80 middle school students and 84 alumni in high school are benefiting from our programs. There is lots of activity at SIS: eighth graders will take their high school entrance exams (TACHS) on Friday; the library is festively decorated for Halloween; and today student council gave its final presentation on the importance of a "positive attitude", our school-wide theme for the month of October. SAT prep classes are in full swing for our graduates in high school, along with study halls and pizza socials. Our mission to empower students in the South Bronx to become their best selves by creating a safe and nurturing community that fosters intellectual, spiritual, and social growth is thriving because you believe in us.

We are incredibly grateful for the Catholic Kolping Society's support of our students. You should know that it has a significant impact on our students.

2016 DUES

A friendly reminder to all those that have not yet paid their dues. Please forward your check made out to **Catholic Kolping Society** and mail it to Kolping on Hudson, 95 Montrose Point Road, Montrose, NY 10548

Att: Jan Kessler, Secretary

Family: \$105

Individual: \$90

Student: \$45

50-year members: paid up forever!

Please fill in the bottom of the letter **with your current email address**, any change in address, phone number, birthdays, and other information. Mail it back with your dues to our secretary, Jan Kessler. She will be updating the files and will include your email address on her email account. She will be sending out notices of new events to you via email.

OUR HOLY FATHER'S DECEMBER 2016 INTENTIONS

UNIVERSAL: END TO CHILD-SOLDIERS—

That the scandal of child-soldiers may be eliminated the world over.

EVANGELIZATION: EUROPE—

That the peoples of Europe may rediscover the beauty, goodness, and truth of the Gospel which gives joy and hope to life.

TO ALL KOLPING SOCIETY NEW YORK MEMBERS

May God Bless each of you at Christmas-time & throughout the coming year!

We wish you and your family a very Blessed & Merry Christmas.

Have a Blessed and Happy New Year.

TREU KOLPING,

Lou Colletti, Chairman

Katrina Dengler, President

Gerhard Schmitt, Vice President

& the Board of Directors

News & Notes

STAINED GLASS WINDOW FOR PURCHASE AT KOH

One stained glass window remains at Kolping-on-Hudson available for purchase at \$1,500. The window is already framed and a name could be etched. Some members may want a name in memory of a loved one or just have your family name. The window is available to be seen at KOH. If interested, please contact Heidi Umland or Rich Povolonis (914-736-0117).

ZION-ST. MARK'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

339 East 84 St. (between 2nd and 1st Aves.), Manhattan

www.zionstmarks.org • 212-288-0600/212-479-7808

German Language Film: Schneewittchen (Grimms Maerchen) special version will be shown on December 3rd starting at 2 pm (doors open at 1:30 pm). Contribution \$12, includes Christmas cake, refreshments, singing.

Advent and Christmas Celebration: December 11th from 1 p.m. till 3 p.m.

Enjoy our beautifully decorated parish hall, colorful Christmas Platters with the traditional Stollen, fruit, nuts and other Christmas goodies, coffee/tea. A fun raffle awaits the lucky winners. We will play Christmas music and sing familiar German and American Christmas songs. Contribution \$10.

If you would like to be on the mailing list please send an e-mail with your name and address to: church@zionstmarks.org

RECEIVE YOUR BULLETIN VIA EMAIL!

Call or email Jan Kessler (914.462.7649) or jkessny@aol.com if you would like to receive your copy by email. You can also visit our website **www.kolpingny.org** and find copies of the monthly bulletins, list of upcoming events and so much other information that you may find helpful.

GERMAN MASS St. Joseph's in Yorkville, 404 E. 87th St.

Every first Sunday of the month, the Holy sacrifice of the Mass is celebrated in German at 10am. Confessions in German before Mass. For information please call Julia Winter (347-852-3184). For information regarding counseling and sacraments in German, please contact Rev. James Boniface Ramsey, Pastor (212-289-6030).

KOH Poem submitted by Lou Coletti

The following poem was written for Richie Povolonis from KOH Resident Patricia Miner Gill. Richie wants to "Thank" Pat, and also let her know it is nice to be thought of in a kind manner.

11/2/2016, 4:00pm

As I sit in the late afternoon sun on the Clubhouse deck at Kolping, I am fully aware that the air is as warm on the skin as the Autumn color in the trees is to the eye. Only one patio table set with a few plastic lawn chairs have been left out for others like myself who take any and all opportunities to hang onto the lingering of Summer.

My purpose in writing this is to share with you one of the ways in which I spend the gift of "Grace and Gravy" bestowed upon me as I endeavor to embrace the waiting Winter.

May you hold fast to the knowledge that YOU ARE LOVED. May that fact brace you as you go forward, looking for solid ice to safely skate upon and fluffy snow people to join you as you deliberately choose joy for your spirit and laughter as your music.

Love and Prayers, Patricia Miner Gill

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

As you are aware, the board has voted to install solar panels at KOH. As this is a large investment, this decision was not made lightly, and the project has been reviewed for over a year by a committee chaired by Bob Hemsing.

While this is a large investment, it is a financially sound investment. The panels are expected to pay for themselves in 10 to 12 years. That is an 8-10% return on our investment—much better than the stock market over the past several years! They are expected to produce at high rates for 25 years, so after the 10-12 years, we would continue to receive free electricity even after the investment has been recovered!

The hard financial facts are that the property at Kolping on Hudson does not generate enough revenue to cover the cost of its upkeep. If Kolping was just KOH, Kolping at Montrose could not exist as it is now. I hope all of our members who enjoy KOH over the summer realize and appreciate that what they are receiving is more than what KOH financially generates. By investing in the Solar Panels, the society is investing in the financial wellbeing of KOH.

Beyond the financial benefits, which are substantial, there are the obvious environmental benefits of: reducing pollution and having cleaner air for humans and animals to breathe as well as protecting our water supply and reducing our dependence on nuclear power plants.

Plus, there is the Vatican call to address the environmental and social ills facing humanity. According to the *Laudato Si* (Be Praised): On Care for Our Common Home encyclical, “There is an urgent need to develop policies so that, in the next few years, the emission of carbon dioxide and other highly polluting gases can be drastically reduced, for example, substituting for fossil fuels and developing sources of renewable energy.”

The panels will be located in a corner of the upper field. They will not be mounted on the roofs of our buildings, as is typical of home installs, as our buildings are over 100 years old. This decision to mount on the ground will relieve future maintenance costs of our roofs and buildings due to the additional weight of the panels. The visual impact of the panels will be low—most people who drive down to the lower parking lot may not even notice the panels. There will be a fence erected for protection of the panels. There will be plans for bushes around the fence to enhance the look. Flowering bushes could also be a benefit to the Kolping bees!

The vote to go ahead with the Solar panels was not an easy decision for many on the board. There were and are many concerns. I respect each board member’s thought and feelings. These members asked pertinent questions and had only the good of the society in mind. As we were told by a representative of Cardinal Dolan, the time for solar has come—many parishes, including St. Christopher’s, have embraced this financial and ecological benefit. Now Kolping will be part of it.

Treu Kolping,
Katrina Dengler, President

FROM ST. PHILIP NERI CHURCH BULLETIN *submitted by Katherine Weigand*

SUNDAY REFLECTION: “Faith in Action”

If you drive past a health or fitness club early most mornings, you’ll usually see a fair number of cars parked outside. Most likely you’ll see more cars parked there than outside the parish church for morning Mass or morning prayer. When the apostle Paul speaks today of the word of the Lord “speed[ing] forward” (2 Thessalonians 3:1) he is making a racing/athletic allusion. This sort of reference is one of the most frequent in his letters. In his world, influenced by Greek culture, the city’s gymnasium was a place for athletics, but also for poetry, philosophy, and religious and political discourse. It was a place for the body, mind, and spirit. All aspects of our life must be guided by the word of the Lord. We can exercise at the health club for bodily fitness, but ultimately it will be the Lord who will strengthen us. In the same way, it will be the Lord’s own strength we must use for our vocation as disciples: to speed the word of the Lord forward, so that Christ may be known and God glorified through our witness. Paul sums up by telling us what the heart of the disciple will be: directed at all times toward the love of God, and possessing the endurance of Christ.

PARACHUTE PACKERS

Charles Plumb, a Navy Pilot in Vietnam, flew seventy-five combat missions before his plane was shot down. Plumb parachuted to safety. After his return home, a man came up to Plumb exclaiming, “You’re the pilot in Vietnam. You were shot down!” “How did you know that?” Asked Plumb. “I packed your parachute,” the man replied, “I guess it worked!” “It sure did,” Plumb assured him gratefully, thinking, “How many times did I just pass him by, because I was a fighter pilot and he was only a sailor?”

Plumb considered the countless hours the many had spent carefully folding each parachute, holding in his hands the fate of every pilot.

So, who’s packing your parachute? Like Charles Plumb, everyone has someone who provides what they need to make it through the day: a physical parachute, mental parachute, emotional parachute, or spiritual parachute. Let us remember to say hello, please or thank you, to congratulate someone on something wonderful that has happened to them, give a compliment, or just do something good in return.

KOC Communion Brunch submitted by Katrina Dengler; photos by Ann Hemsing

Remarks from Katrina Dengler at the All Soul's Day Communion Brunch at Kolping on the Concourse:

Today we gather for All Souls Day to remember our deceased Kolping members, especially those who passed away this year:

Michael Bongiovanni
Daniel McLane
Marion Ulrich

Some have died at a young age, others had a full life. Either way, we miss them not being in our lives.

But as Catholics, we have faith that life on earth is not the end - that there is something wonderful waiting for us in the presence of God. On earth, it is difficult to comprehend what the wonderfulness is like - we only know what this world is like.

In this 100th anniversary of Our Lady appearing at Fatima, we can take strength from Jacinta and Francisco, how after Our Mother Mary showed them the vision of heaven, they eagerly awaited their time for them to be called to heaven and into God's embrace. They were still sad at leaving their family, but they knew that being with God was more wonderful than anything else on earth.

So we have faith that our beloved Kolping family members will be in God's loving embrace and we pray:

Eternal rest, grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.

May the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.

Amen



Stories of Interest

KOH after the Convention Clean Up

submitted by Lou Colletti

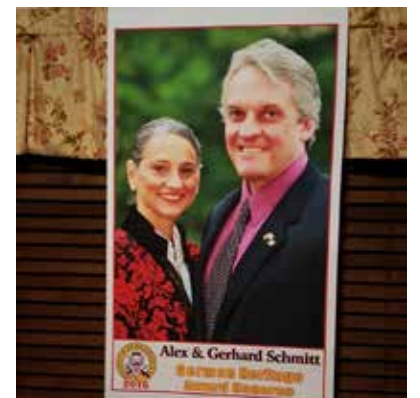


Thomas (on left) & Kevin (on right) Bruegger working hard & smiling.

This is one of the two Dragons that was found two years ago. We are very grateful to Peter Bruegger for preserving and framing this piece of Kolping on Hudson history.



Congratulations to Gerhard & Alex Schmitt, recipients of the German American Heritage Award



On October 25th at Hempstead Town Hall on Long Island, Supervisor Santino and Councilman D'Esposito presented a German American Heritage Award to Alex & Gerhard Schmitt, "a married couple from Roosevelt that embody the American dream with their furniture building business".

Stories of Interest

K88 Stained Glass submitted by Bob Hemsing



To the right is a photo of the restored and backlighted stained glass window at Kolping House 88th Street.

Everybody who saw it at the convention brunch marveled how wonderful it is, looks and stands out.

Artist: Albert Brink
Circa: 1914
Main Theme From German:
"GOD BLESS THE
HONORABLE MANUAL
TRADESMEN"

The restoration was made possible by the efforts of Gerhard Schmitt and Bob Hemsing.

Translations by
Richard Brunhuber and
Anita Bucholz.

Marlene Dietrich (1901-1992) "A Woman at War" submitted by Martin A. Kelly



While considered an entertainer, Marlene Dietrich is remembered by many as an anti-war activist. Born into a strict East German family, her father and foster father died in the Kaiser's service during World War I.

After the war, Germany along with America and the other participants, experienced a period of introspection of social, political, and economic values. A counter culture arose and it was called, in America at least, The Roaring Twenties. The new art form "talkie motion pictures" became perfected and was used to translate this mood into action in life like situations. Out of this matrix emerged the beautiful actress Marlene Dietrich. After some resounding success in Germany, she was hired to America by a talent scout for Paramount Films who was looking for their own answer to MGM's Greta Garbo. Dietrich accepted the contract and her fame began to rise.

Meanwhile, back in Germany, the laws of the Nazis made the Jewish and liberal artists uncomfortable and they fled to more democratic settings, mainly America. Joseph Goebbels, head of the bureau of propaganda for the Third Reich, sought to reverse the "talent drain" from Germany by winning back actors and actresses from foreign lands. Dietrich was approached and offered lead roles; but she declined.

It was 1939, and Dietrich declared herself as an American citizen even before World War I began. The greatest test as an American was her support for the war effort, entertaining in the U.S.O. for the morale of American fighting men and making propaganda broadcasts to weaken enemy's will to fight.

After the war, Dietrich resumed her acting career. Her strongest roles in the post-war years were *Judgment at Nuremberg* and *Witness for the Prosecution*.

Dietrich was a resident of both New York and California and she befriended many celebrities while living at Tudor City Place. One in particular was popular songstress Rosemary Clooney ("Come On-A My House"), who had a German grandmother.

Once, while Clooney helped her prepare a meal, Dietrich commented on Clooney's talent in preparing food. "You know, you're not a bad cook" and I know that's because your grandmother was German.

KOLPING SKI TRIP

Friday-Sunday, March 10-12, 2017

Mountaineer Inn at Mount Snow, Vermont

LODGING

	Triple	Double	Single
Early Bird	\$399	\$300	\$205
After 12/31	\$424	\$325	\$230

Children 12 and under are \$55 in room with adult. They do not count towards the adult count, so the child under 12 and one adult is the single price plus child. **Children 13 or older must pay adult rates.**

SKIING

	Adult	Jr/Sr (6-18 or 65+)
1 day Sat	\$67	\$56
1 day Sun	\$57	\$53
2 day	\$117	\$91
3 day	\$169	\$121
4 day	\$213	\$154

Group discounts are available on rentals and lessons. Contact Joan Dengler at joanandted@gmail.com for specific configurations.

Your reservation at the Mountaineer will include two hearty country breakfasts, wine, cider and cheese reception, Saturday evening gourmet dinner, tax and gratuity.

