



February 2026

Volume XI, Number 2



Note from the Editor

Just look at our events for February and March! So much to do and so little time! Unfortunately, the Geistertreffen Bourbon Fest had to be cancelled, but our Fish Fries start on February 20th (see p. 8 for details) and the Soccer Club's Valentine's Dance takes place on February 21st (see p. 9). For March, THE event of the season – the Schützen Royal Ball is on March 21st (see pp. 10-11), and the Kolping Memorial Soccer Tournament takes place March 27-29. For those of you who don't have email, the Kolping member survey is on p. 12. **Happy Valentine's Day!** Treu Kolping! Nancy Pelzel

Important Phone Numbers

President — Trey Seibel, 513-616-4265
 Vice President — Chuck Klosterman, 513-405-7414
 Praeses — Fr. Dan Kroger, OFM, 513-374-0623
 Society CFO — Clem Redder, 513-605-9428
 Business Manager — Rick Loesing, 513-678-0539
 House & Grounds — Walt Gerbus, 513-543-9877
 Membership (New Members) — Wendy Moeller, 513-543-8651
 Membership (Current) — Karen Wienkamp, 513-503-4638
 Sick Committee — Open

Sub Group Presidents:

Bourbon Club — Neil Geoppinger, 513-638-0339
 Genealogy Group — Tom Montgomery, 513-405-
 Sängerschör — Janet Curley, 513-522-7544
 Schützen Club — Don Trautmann, 513-325-7869
 Seniors — Tom Musbach, 513-793-1148
 Soccer Club — Walter Dewar, 513-312-8551
 The Journeymen Group — Lydia Sinclair, 859-221-8839

Kolping Center Kolping Haus/Klubhaus Rentals
 Nick Caserta, 513-713-7318

February Events

February 6, 7:30 P.M.	General Meeting
February 7, 3:00 P.M.	Bourbon Fest 2026
February 11, 11:30 A.M.	Seniors Meeting
February 15, 2:00 P.M.	Genealogy Meeting
February 20, 5:30 P.M.	Fish Fry
February 20, 7:00 P.M.	Schützen Club
February 21, 8:00 P.M.	Valentine's Dance
February 27, 5:30 P.M.	Fish Fry
February 27, 7:00 P.M.	Bourbon Club

March Events

March 6, 5:30 P.M.	Fish Fry
March 6, 7:30 P.M.	General Meeting
March 11, 11:30 A.M.	Seniors Meeting
March 11, 7:00 P.M.	Schützenfest Planning
March 13, 5:30 P.M.	Fish Fry
March 15, 2:00 P.M.	Genealogy Meeting
March 20, 5:30 P.M.	Fish Fry
March 20, 7:00 P.M.	Schützen Club
March 21, 6:00 P.M.	Schützen Royal Ball
March 27, 5:30 P.M.	Fish Fry
March 27, 7:00 P.M.	Bourbon Club
March 27-29	Kolping Memorial Soccer Tournament

New Member Initiation

Kolping will be having its first new member initiation of 2026 on April 20th at 7:00 pm in the Klubhaus. If you know of anyone interested in becoming a member, please reach out to Wendy Moeller: wmoeller@compasspointplanning.com or 513-543-8651 for more information. While the focus of the event is on the initiation of new members, we invite all of our current members to attend and welcome the new members to Kolping!



Congratulations to all our members celebrating birthdays in the month of February!



First Name	Last Name	Birthday
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Barbara	Macke	Feb 1
Robert	Helmle	Feb 2
Amber	Muench	Feb 2
Erika	Muench	Feb 2
Sylvia	Ostendorf Smith	Feb 2
Ron	Dowers	Feb 6
Susan	Drees	Feb 6
Ashley	Thompson	Feb 6
Walter	Dewar	Feb 7
Stephanie	Preston	Feb 7
Doug	Stegman	Feb 7
Janet	Ostendorf Tripathy	Feb 7
Brian	Brunsmann	Feb 8
Maureen	Waldman	Feb 8
Robert	Hobek	Feb 9
Donna	Sunderhaus	Feb 9
William	Boone	Feb 10
Robert	Koeninger	Feb 10
Ellen	Burke-Montgomery	Feb 11
Richard J.	Merz, Jr.	Feb 12
Peter	Hoffman	Feb 13
C. Michael	Brakers	Feb 14
Diane	Menzer	Feb 14

First Name	Last Name	Birthday
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Vincent	Reinhold	Feb 14
Channon	Smith	Feb 14
Barbara	Adelmann	Feb 15
Greg	Freudiger	Feb 15
Robert	Findley	Feb 16
Brian	Sunderman	Feb 16
Catherine	Weissmann	Feb 16
Ann Marie	Burwinkel	Feb 17
Brent	Daniels	Feb 17
Walter P.	Gerbus	Feb 17
Steve	Lawson	Feb 17
Marc	Schnetzler	Feb 17
Robert	Mattingly	Feb 18
Kim	Corbett	Feb 19
Erika	Stark	Feb 19
Daniel	Mueller II	Feb 21
Max	Keck	Feb 22
Christy	Westendorf	Feb 22
Lois	Gutzwiller	Feb 24
Jason	Schlake	Feb 25
Bob	Fehrenbach	Feb 27
Bill	Maly	Feb 27
Sunni	Willmann	Feb 27

Kolping Membership Dues

Thank you to everyone who has paid his or her dues so far! This makes my job easier. You can pay your dues by check, through your bank bill pay, or online at: www.kolpingcincinnati.com. When paying online, please make sure you fill in your first and last name (and spouse if a family membership) so that we can track payments properly. The membership levels for 2026 are as follows:

Family – a married couple - \$75.00

Single – one person - \$55.00

Life – a member who is at least 70 plus & has been a member for 20 yrs. - \$25.00

Active Military - \$25.00

Thank you to everyone who has paid his or her dues.

Karen Schnetzler Wienkamp,
Membership Secretary

A Letter from Our Vice President

Dear Kolping Members,

I hope everyone is enjoying all that comes with a new year.

Last month, a survey was sent to the membership via email in an effort to gather everyone's input on what we, as an organization, can do better to increase participation and the camaraderie that everyone enjoys. This includes asking your kids for their input as well! I must say that I am very encouraged by the number of responses thus far.

I want to let everyone know that **NO NAMES will be shared!** I will take all responses and group them per the question asked. I want everyone to feel comfortable in sharing open, honest and constructive feedback so that we can grow Kolping for **everyone, including the kids.**

The current plan is to collect all responses for the next two months (February/March) to give everyone a chance to respond.

Lastly, I want to stress the importance of getting involved whenever you can so that you can enjoy the great feeling that you get knowing that you belong to a great organization! So, **please** share your thoughts by completing and returning the survey. Consider volunteering when you can and becoming more involved. I said it before and I'll say it again, this is **YOUR** club and it is what you make of it, so let's Rock 2026!!!

Have a great month – I hope to see you at Kolping!

Chuck Klosterman,
Vice President
Cincinnati Kolping

Editor's Note: For those of you who do not have email and those of you who have misplaced the email, you can find a copy of the survey at the end of this issue of the *Cincinnati Kolping Bulletin*. Please feel free to fill out the survey and send it to Cincinnati Kolping to the attention of Chuck Klosterman, or alternatively, via email to Chuck at: klostermanc1@hotmail.com.

Kolping Name Badges

We need to learn names! Members, new and old, you may now order custom name badges to wear at Kolping events. The cost for these is minimal and is coordinated by member Tom Montgomery, representing the Society. He will just need your first and last name, email, phone number, and paid funds. See the order form in the cigar box "office" near the phone on the bar in the Clubhouse.

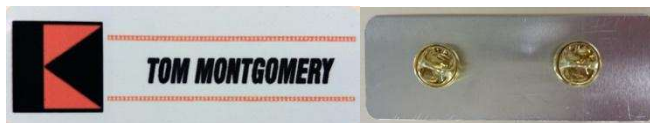
Specify your choice of Magnet or Pins (two on the back). We need to order ten at a time.

Front will be the same for all name badges as follows:

1. *Back-Magnetic* to fit any article of clothing, but beware, it is NOT for those with Pacemakers. \$5.00 each.



2. *Back-Two Pins* can be used to fit to any soft article of clothing. \$4.25 each.



The Name Badges can be picked up after they are made at any general meeting or mailed back to you (at an extra cost). They are \$5.00 (mag) or \$4.25 (pins) each, with cash or a check made payable to Tom Montgomery (not written to the Kolping Society). Just leave your cash or a check in the envelope in the cigar box (there is change, a bunch of quarters, there too for the two-pin badge).

Orders may be turned into Tom at the general meetings, Tuesday Workers, or mailed to him at 515 Vinnedge Ct., Fairfield, OH 45014. Forms and "order sheet" in the cigar box "office" by the bar phone in the Clubhouse. Any questions, please call Tom at: 513-969-5383.

The König and Königin Corner

My goodness, it is cold!!! We have an impressive 10ish inches of snow and a more impressive single digit temperature!!

This past weekend, Neil and I were honored to attend the Germania Royal Shoot event. The outgoing Germania Queen, Debbie Potzner, welcomed the incoming Queen Yvonne Kemp... one of our Royal Court members!!! It was an afternoon filled with fun, great fellowship, lots of food, some dancing... and an impending snowstorm to keep us on our toes. Congratulations to Queen Yvonne and thank you to Debbie for being such a fantastic Queen!!

Earlier in January, the Royal Court gathered for our Champagne Party. We had mimosas and breakfast casseroles, lots of good cheer and a great deal of fun!! Neil and I were super excited that two of our adult children, Megan & Alex, nephew Logan and niece Mae were able to join us. Having family involved in our Royal Year has been such a blessing. Kelly's sister Lisa, her Mom and Stepmom were all in attendance. Neil's parents, Bob and Anna, brother Erich and his amazing wife Robin, cousins Lisa and Micheal... and most special of all... Tante Irene... all joined in the celebration.

As we prepare for the final months of our amazing year, we are so grateful for the love and support of our family and friends.

For all Kolping members, please plan to attend the Royal Ball on March 21st. It is going to be an amazing evening!! Everyone stay warm and safe and pray for all our brothers and sisters in need.

Love you!!!
Neil and Kelly

Fr. David Hiller Fund Report

Dear Kolping Members,

The Father David Hiller Fund received the following donation.

In Memory of Karl Von Den Benken

Mihovk-Rosenacker Funeral Homes

We are grateful for the many donations that have been sent from our subgroups, in celebration of members' events and in memory of our Kolping members and will use them to continue the work of Blessed Fr. Kolping.

Fr. David Hiller Fund Report (cont'd.)

Once again, the Father David Hiller Fund will offer two (2) \$3000 grants for children of active Kolping parents who will be attending Catholic high schools in the Tri-State area. At least one parent must be a member for at least three years. Grants are available for children who will be freshmen at a Catholic high school in the school year 2026 - 2027. These grants will be renewable for each successive school year provided certain conditions are met.

This year, the Father David Hiller Fund invites students to apply for the scholarship by submitting a 500-word essay explaining why they wish to attend a Catholic high school. We encourage you to reflect on how a Catholic education will support your spiritual growth, academic journey and personal development. This is an opportunity to share your thoughts on how faith, community and service will shape your high school experience and prepare you for the future.

Current grant recipients are also required to update their information in order to continue receiving their renewable grants. Applications and program description will be available in the Hiller fund mail slot in the Kolping copier room or at:

www.Kolpingcincinnati.com under the Father David Scholarship link on the left side of the home page. New applications and current scholarship renewal information should be sent to Father David Hiller Fund, 10235 Mill Rd., Cincinnati Ohio 45231.

The FDHF Board will read the essays and determine the two winners. Names will be removed from the essays to ensure impartiality from the judges. Deadline is **February 16, 2026**. A complete description of the program is available on the Kolping website as well. Additional questions should be sent to Paul Ahrnsen at: 513-542-8554 or pahrnsen@fuse.net.

Finally, the FDHF donated \$1,500 to both the LaSalle and Elder Trades Programs. These studies provide students with both classroom and work experiences in various trades, with many students working at a company during the school year. These are very worthwhile programs that can provide students with a wonderful career and are very compatible with the ideals and efforts of Fr. Kolping. We hope that these funds can assist these students in their future endeavors in the trades.

Sincerely,
Paul A. Ahrnsen, FDHF Chairman

Sick & Shut-Ins

Linda Knizner
Harry Voet

Barbara Macke

Please take time out of your busy schedule for these folks and send a card or give them a call.

If you want to be taken off the Sick List or want to add someone on, please contact Nancy Pelzel at: 513-385-3120 or nancypelzel@aol.com.

Tuesday Workers News

We are still in desperate need of one or more cooks for the Tuesday Workers' lunch for the fourth Tuesday of every month. Doris Wilke and Janet Talkers Kuhl retired in November and we have yet to replace them. If you have questions or need more details, please contact Rick Janzen at 513-200-8769. Thank you very much!

On a different note, it seems that many of our Tuesday Workers have the same first name – we have quite a few Toms and Pauls. Rest assured, it is not a requirement in order to join the group! Below are five of our Tuesday Workers with the first name of Paul.



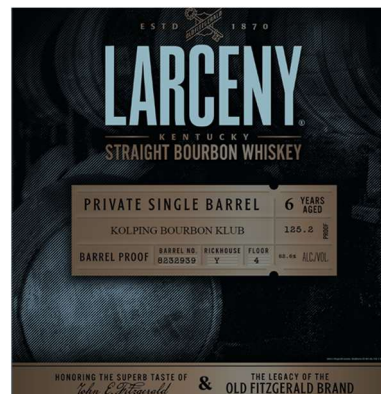
Left to right: Paul Moeller, Paul Ahrnsen, Paul Wienkamp, Paul Anhofer, and Paul Boehm

*"To love abundantly is to live abundantly,
and to love forever is to live forever."*
-- Henry Drummond



Bourbon Club News

The Bourbon Club is continuing to accept orders for our second Private Barrel! We have selected a Barrel Proof Larceny from the Heaven Hill Distillery. Our barrel has been bottled, and we expect them to arrive at our supplier imminently!



Bottles are available to Kolping Members at a price of \$90 per bottle. Please place your order now! Orders can be sent to Kolpingsocietybc@gmail.com.

Don't miss your chance to purchase this one-of-a-kind opportunity!

GEISTERTREFFEN – SATURDAY FEBRUARY 7

We are sad to announce that the Geistertreffen event has been temporarily cancelled for February 7. We are working hard to find a new date that will work for both the Distilleries and the Bourbon Lovers of the Kolping Society – we will update you soon!

Kolping Seniors

Weather permitting, we will meet on Wednesday, February 11, 2026 at 11:30 am in the Klubhaus. In the meantime, stay warm. Brrrrr.....

Tom Musbach

**Deadline for submitting articles
for the March
Cincinnati Kolping Bulletin
is Wednesday, February 25, 2026
at 5:00 P.M.**

**Please submit to Nancy Pelzel
at: nancypelzel@aol.com**



Soccer Club News

We are presently enjoying the *beautiful* weather while we are working on plans for the spring season. The dance is coming up on February 21st – see the flyer on page 9 for more information.

We have teams going to Florida this month, and we also have indoor training going on.

Walt Dewar, President
513-312-8551

Kolping Genealogy

Sunday, February 26: Participant David Lahrman will lead us in a review of the Austrian nonprofit organization known as *Matricul-Online* (*matricula* is Latin for “register”). It is under the umbrella of the International Centre for Archival Research – US (ICARUS) and seeks to digitize church records. It has a major focus on the vital records kept by the Catholic Church.

More than seven million pages of church records are online and growing. The databases include Catholic Church records from the 1500s to the 1900s. He will show us how to navigate Matricula-Online and show some examples of church records. Additionally, he will briefly review other European sources such as Archion and Geneanet.

The event will be held both live at the Kolping Klubhaus and online with Zoom. Here’s the Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84365945511?pwd=gOxYZgtQsP4mqEo6b2aYLCiZfcphGB.1>

Dr. Tom Montgomery, montgota@gmail.com,
513-969-5383



Schützen Club Corner

Next Shooting Date: February 20, 2026

Place: Kolping Clubhouse / 100 Hall
Practice, Make-up and Shoot-ahead
Shooting: 7:00 – 7:30 PM
Competition Shooting: 7:30 PM

IANUARY SHOOTING RESULTS:

High score was a 69 by Paul Vosseberg. Congratulations, Paul!

High team was Team Trautmann with 325.

TEAM ASSIGNMENTS FOR FEBRUARY

Targets: Team Sterwerf

Food: Kolping Lenten Fish Fry

Tickets: Team Fehrenbach

Respectfully,

Don Trautmann, President
Xavieron31@gmail.com
(513) 325-7869



2026 Schützenfest Grand Raffle

June 19-21, 2026 - Father's Day Weekend



Tickets will be sold online & at Kolping hosted events January 31 to June 18, 2026
and available in person at Schützenfest June 19-21, 2026

1st Prize – MEGA Split the Pot!

\$5,000 CASH - minimum!

2nd Prize – Kitchen Appliance Package!



GE French Door Refrigerator - Stainless Steel (25.6 cu. ft.)
GE Over the Range Microwave - Stainless Steel (1.9 cu. ft.)
GE Freestanding Electric Stove - Stainless Steel (30")
GE Built In Dishwasher - Stainless Steel (24")

Thanks for the Generous Sponsorship from Recker & Boerger Appliances
Over \$5,000 retail value
Includes delivery within a 30-mile radius, standard replacement installation, and removal of old appliances.

3rd Prize – Gas for a Year!

\$2,000 Credit

Tickets

**\$10 for each
3 for \$25**

To Buy Tickets

Scan this QR code



For more details visit our website!
Winners will be drawn at Schützenfest on June 21st

Or visit schutzenfestcincinnati.com

The Kolping Fish Fries Are Right Around the Corner!

Dates:

February 20 & 27 • March 6, 13, 20 & 27



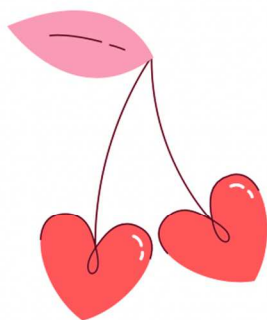
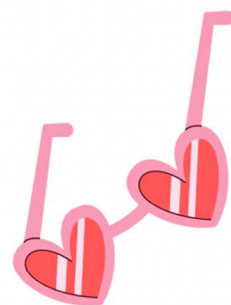
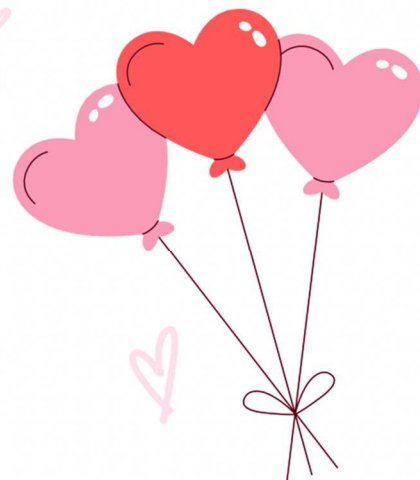
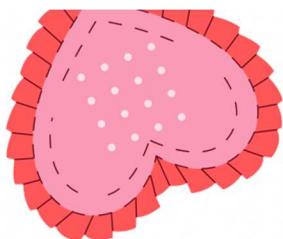
Entrees include: Fried Fish, Baked Fish, Shrimp, and Cheese Pizza
Sides include: Mac and Cheese, Green Beans,
Our Famous Homemade Cole Slaw, and French Fries
Delicious Delectable Desserts baked by our Kolping Soccer Teams

Shrimp Dinner \$15.00 • Baked/Fried Fish Dinner \$15.00
(Dinners include 2 sides)

Fish Sandwich with 1 side \$13.00 • Pizza Slice \$2.00

Variety of Beers, Domestic and German
Split-the-Pot • Mega Split-the-Pot (to be drawn on last Fish Fry)

Doors open at 5:00 P.M.
Dinners served from 5:30 – 7:30 P.M.



February 21

21 & up

7pm-midnight

Food | Music | Raffles

\$40 Per Person

Food & Alcohol included in price of ticket

Contact your Kolping Coach for tickets or email
kolpingdance@gmail.com



The 101st Royal Ball



Location: The Kolping Haus, 10235 Mill Road

Date: Saturday March 21

6:00 Royal Hall Doors Open
6:00-6:30 Happy Hour including Signature Cocktails
7:00 Royal Parade
8:00 The Royal's Dance
9:30 Toast with the Royals
11:00 Event Concludes

***German-American Music provided by the Bergstrasse Boys
Appetizer Menu provided by Hammann's Catering
Formal/Semi-Formal Dress Required***

Adult Admission \$50 – Under 21 Admission \$35

Admission Includes: All-Evening Appetizers, Dessert, and Soft Drinks
Adult admission also includes Signature Cocktails (served 6:00 – 6:30),
2 Drink Coins (for Beer, Wine or Mixed Drinks);
a toast with the Royals (9:30)

Reservations Must be Paid in Advance – *NO EXCEPTIONS*
No Reservations may be taken after March 11th

To Purchase by Credit Card, please email your name and contact information to
KolpingKingsBall@gmail.com
DO NOT email your credit card information

To purchase by Venmo, please Venmo
kolping2025neilkelly@gmail.com

To purchase by Check, please mail Sylvia Ostendorf-Smith per:
**Cincinnati Kolping Society
c/o Royal Ball
10235 Mill Road
Cincinnati, OH 45231**

Please include your seating preferences when you purchase your tickets
Reservations will be confirmed and Drink Coins distributed at the Front Door

2026 Questionnaire/Survey
Catholic Kolping Society of Cincinnati

1. How often do you participate in Society events?

If not many, why not?

2. What events are you interested in?

3. What is important to you?

4. What can the Society do to spike interest in events?

5. Would you be willing to help with new events?

Do you have ideas for new events?

6. How would you rate the Society? (Rating 1-10, with 1 being 'Not satisfied', and 10 being 'Completely satisfied')

If not satisfied, what improvements would you suggest?

7. Do you mention the Society to friends and ask them to join?

8. What can the Society do better to increase interest/participation?

9. Do you have any ideas to increase membership?

10. What can we do to increase interest in current events?

*Send completed survey to Chuck Klosterman at: klostermancl@hotmail.com

2026 Calendar of Events

JANUARY NO GENERAL MEETING IN JANUARY 5 Board Meeting 31 Stube Nacht	JUNE 7 Anniversary Mass 19-21 Schützenfest 24 Groovin' in the Grove 29 Board Meeting (July)
FEBRUARY 2 Board Meeting 6 General Meeting 20 Fish Fry 21 Valentine's Dance 27 Fish Fry	JULY NO GENERAL MEETING IN JULY 12 Appreciation Party 17 Captains' Meeting Schützen Club 22 Groovin' in the Grove
MARCH 2 Board Meeting 6 Fish Fry 6 General Meeting 11 Schützenfest Planning Meeting 13 Fish Fry 20 Fish Fry 21 Schützen Royal Ball 27 Fish Fry 27-29 Kolping Memorial Tournament 30 Board Meeting (April)	AUGUST 3 Board Meeting 7 General Meeting 21 First Schützen Nacht 26 Groovin' in the Grove 31 Board Meeting (September)
APRIL NO GENERAL MEETING IN APRIL 4 Easter Egg Hunt 12 St. Joseph's Day Mass/Awards Bqt. 19 Sängchor Spring Konzert 27 Board Meeting (May)	SEPTEMBER NO GENERAL MEETING IN SEPT. 18-20 1931 Invitational Tournament 18-20 National Kolping Convention 23 Groovin' in the Grove 28 Board Meeting (October)
MAY 1 General Meeting 15 Schützen End Party 20 Schützenfest Planning Meeting 27 Groovin' in the Grove	OCTOBER 2 General Meeting
JUNE 1 Board Meeting 5 General Meeting	NOVEMBER 1 Memorial Mass/Goettafest 2 Board Meeting 6 General Meeting/Elections 14 St. Martin's Day Celebration 29 Sängchor Weihnachts Konzert 30 Board Meeting (December)
MEETINGS: Board of Directors Monday prior to the first Friday of the month – 7:00 pm Women's Klub First Thursday – 6:30 pm General Membership First Friday – 7:30 pm Senior Citizens Second Wednesday – 11:30 am Bier Choir 2 nd & 4 th Thursday – 7:00 pm Schützen Club Third Friday – 7:30 pm Genealogy Group Third Sunday – 2:00 pm Sängchor Every Tuesday – 7:30 pm Soccer Club Fourth Wednesday – 8:00 pm Bourbon Club Fourth Friday – 7:00 pm	KOLPING MISSION STATEMENT <p>We, the members of the Catholic Kolping Society of America, led by the vision of our founder, Blessed Adolph Kolping, promote the development of the individual and the family by fostering a sense of belonging and friendship through our holistic programs of spiritual, educational, charitable, and social activities.</p>