

**Solemn Mass  
on Kolping Memorial Day with introduction of  
General Praeses Msgr. Christoph Huber  
on 4th December 2021**



*Padre Adolfo Kolping*  
1813 - 1865

Greeting

Entrance

Entrancesong:

## Wir sind Kolping

Text & Musik: Projoe

1. Es gibt vie- le Fra- gen in die- ser Zeit. Sag', wie soll ich le- ben?  
2. Da sein, um zu hel- fen, Nö- te zu sch'n, und mich nicht ver- schlie- ßen,  
Aus- weg- lo- sig- keit. Vie- le An- ge- bo- te, we- nig, das auch trägt  
vor- wärts zu geh'n. Auf- ein- an- der ach- ten, ler- nen zu ver- steh'n  
und sich in ein Herz ein- prägt. 3. Ei- ne Welt- fa- mi- lie, le-  
und ge- mein- sam We- ge geh'n.  
ben- dig und stark, Zu- fluchts- ort für je- den, der kom- men mag.  
Zu- ein- an- der- fin- den, ler- nen zu ver- steh'n und ge- mein- sam We- ge  
geh'n. Ref.: Wir sind Kol- ping - Men- schen die- ser Welt - und wir  
Kol- ping - Men- schen die- ser Zeit - und wir  
se- hen das, was wirk- lich zählt. Got- tes Lie- be wei- ter tra- gen  
han- deln aus Ver- bun- den- heit. Got- tes Lie- be wei- ter ge- ben,  
in die Welt hin- ein, zu- sam- men le- ben, nicht al- - lein. Wir sind  
off- ne Tür zu sein, zu-

**Welcome and reading of the**

sam- men le- ben, nicht al- lein. 4. Wenn wir al- les ge- ben  
und Zu- kunft bau'n, le- ben aus dem Glau- ben, weil wir ver- trau'n,  
dann wird un- ser Wir- ken mor- gen noch be- steh'n,  
um ge- mein- sam We- ge zu geh'n. Ref.: Wir sind

**certificate of appointment**

**Kyrie**

**Gloria:** „Lord I lift your name on high“

**Opening Prayer**

Let us pray! God, our Father, You called Blessed Adolph Kolping, a craftsman, to the priesthood, and You worked in him to help youths find a way to solve their religious and social conflicts. Grant that his prayers and his example help us to understand the conflicts of our times and give us the strength to overcome them. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your son, who lives and reins with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen!

**Reading:** Jam 2,14-17

A reading from the letter of St. James

Take the case, my brothers, of someone who has never done a single good act but claims that he has faith. Will that faith save him? If one of the brothers or one of the sisters is in need of clothes and has not enough food to live on, and one of you says to them, “I wish you well; keep yourself warm and eat plenty”, without giving them these bare necessities of life, then what good is that? Faith is like that: if good works do not go with it, it is quite dead.

The word of the Lord!

A: Thanks to the Lord!

**Responsorial song:** „You make my day“

**Gospel acclamation:** Halleluja

**Gospel:** (Mt 5, 13-16)

P: The Lord be with you!

A: And also with you!

P: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

A: Glory to you, Lord!

Jesus said to his disciples: You are the salt of the earth. But if salt becomes tasteless, what can make it salty again? It is good for nothing, and can only be thrown out to be trampled underfoot by men. – You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill-top cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp to put it under a tub; they put it on the lampstand where it shines for everyone in the house. In the same way your light must shine in the sight of men, so that, seeing your good works, they may give the praise to your Father in heaven.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

A: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

## **Homily**

Dear Kolping Sisters and Brothers, dear fellow worshippers,  
How can someone who lived and worked in the 19th century be a guiding hand when we need to take action in the world of today?

One way or another, this critical question kept coming up since I took office, especially from people who have no close bonds with our Kolping Society. Individual aspects were brought up, such as industrialization, journeymen, dealing with the teachings of communism and a lot more, and many people consider this to be a thing of the past.

They are quite right, the situation today is completely different! Or, let me think - maybe it is not that different after all?

First of all, I am proud to say that around 400,000 people around the world demonstrate their commitment to Kolping and his internationally operating Society by becoming Kolping members. And that is enough for me to come to my first conclusion: He, our father of the journeymen, is our guiding hand now and in the future.

For me this is always beautifully illustrated in those pictures in which the portrait of Adolph Kolping is put together from individual faces. It emphasizes that his life, his work becomes evident in our faces and deeds today.

But how does this come about? Well, to my mind, there are three major indications to prove this:

1. His approach of taking care of the individual first, of making sure that the individual person can make a living, still holds true. There are countless people who examine and theorize about all kinds of things, where there is often a “maybe we should” at the end or who come up with beautiful but often ineffective or even dangerous theories. The recognition of the human dignity that God has given us and the resulting willingness to give concrete help are our priorities. Everyone who thinks, feels and acts like this is most welcome to join us.
2. His life was marked by his dedicated work until the end of his days, in spite of illness and the strong resistance he had to face in society and in the Church. There are people who keep saying that this doesn't make sense and that everything is going down the drain anyway, who sit back and twiddle their thumbs in resignation and lament the situation.

We have a different approach: we keep going, no matter whether we are successful or must face challenges. Every effort counts, no matter how big or small it is, every individual is important and a part of us. The goat that helps people in Africa to generate an income matters just as much as the General Praeses in Cologne on the Rhine.

3. He was not alone: he gathered the journeymen around him, cultivated connections with the big and small ones, was a father for some and a conversation partner for others. There are people who remain isolated in their bourgeois life where everything is neat and tidy because they are afraid that someone will mess up something.

For us, the things we have in common take priority over individual interests, and this is how we create a home for ourselves and for others.

It is our duty to protect this legacy, to carry it on and to put it into practice again and again. Those who are rubbing their eyes in astonishment because we are guided by a person who lived and worked in the 19th century, should look at what we do and practice today. And we are far from claiming or believing that we are perfect. I also ask everyone if they have a better approach. And since I haven't heard about such a better option yet, I am confident that we are on the right path to holiness.

As Rector of the Church and the new General Praeses, I am happy to make my contribution and I appeal to you to make your active contribution.

True Kolping

**The Profession of Faith: Still**

**General Intercessions**

Through the intercession of Blessed Adolph Kolping, we call to Jesus Christ, who brings us together as his Church:

1. For all those who need help to cope with their everyday life.  
Jesus Christ, our brother: hear our prayer.
2. For all those who are deprived of what is necessary for life, who suffer blows of fate and who are destitute.  
Jesus Christ our brother: .....
3. For all those who are marginalized, disoriented or have to leave their home.  
Jesus Christ.....
4. For all those who bring before God their concerns here at the grave or in their hearts in community with Adolph Kolping, who gather in this church and who care for it.  
Jesus Christ.....
5. For our dead, for those we carry in our hearts and for those who are not remembered.  
Jesus Christ.....

We know we are connected in the community of the International Kolping Society and the Church: here in this church, connected through the media, beyond this world to the community of heaven. For this we thank and put our trust in Christ, the Son of God and our brother and Lord. Amen.

**Song for the offertory:** „For all you’ve done“

### **Prayer over the gifts**

Let us pray! Father of mercy, we have these gifts to offer in honour of Blessed Adolph Kolping who bore witness to Your mighty power. May the power of the eucharist bring us Your salvation. We ask this through Christ our Lord.  
Amen!

### **Eucharist Prayer**

#### **Preface of Pastors**

**Priest:** The Lord be with You!

**All:** And also with you!

**Priest:** Lift up your hearts!

**All:** We lift them up to the Lord!

**Priest:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God!

**All:** It is right to give him thanks and praise!

Father, all-powerful and ever-living God, we do well always and everywhere to give you thanks. You give the church this feast in honor of Blessed Adolph Kolping; You inspire us by his holy life, instruct us by his preaching, and give us your protection in

answer to his prayers. We join the angels and the saints as they sing their unending hymn of praise:

**Sanctus:** „Eres santo“

Lord, you are holy indeed, the fountain of all holiness. Let your Spirit come upon these gifts to make them holy, so that they may become for us the body + and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Before he was given up to death, a death he freely accepted, he took bread and gave you thanks. He broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said:

TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND EAT IT: THIS IS MY BODY WHICH WILL BE GIVEN UP FOR YOU.

When supper was ended, he took the cup. Again he gave you thanks and praise, gave the cup to his disciples, and said:

TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND DRINK FROM IT; THIS IS THE CUP OF MY BLOOD, THE BLOOD OF THE NEW AND EVERLASTING COVENANT. IT WILL BE SHED FOR YOU AND FOR ALL, SO THAT SINS MAY BE FORGIVEN. DO THIS IN MEMORY OF ME.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

In memory of his death and resurrection, we offer you, Father, this life-giving bread, this saving cup. We thank you for counting us worthy to stand in your presence and serve you.

May all of us who share in the body and blood of Christ be brought together in unity by the Holy Spirit.

Lord, remember your Church throughout the world; make us grow in love, together with N. our Pope, N. our bishop, and all the clergy.

Remember our brothers and sisters who have gone to their rest in the hope of rising again; bring them and all the departed into the light of your presence.

Have mercy on us all: make us worthy to share eternal life, with Mary, the virgin mother of God, with the apostles, and with all the saints who have done your will throughout the ages. May we praise you in union with them, and give you glory through your Son, Jesus Christ. Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honour is yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever.  
Amen

**P:** Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honour is yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever.

**A:** Amen

Let us pray with confidence to the Father in the words our Saviour gave us:

### **Lords Prayer**

**P:** Deliver us, Lord, from every evil, and grant us peace in our day.  
In your mercy keep us free from sin and protect us from all anxiety as we wait in joyful hope for the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

**A:** For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever.

### **Greeting of peace**

### **Agnus Dei**

**P:** Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world

**A:** have mercy on us.

**P:** Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world

**A:** have mercy on us.

**P:** Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world

**A:** grant us peace

### **Communion Antiphon**

Whatever you do, in word or in deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. (Col 3,17)

### **Communion**

**Singing during communion:** „Deep river of love”

### **Procession to the Kolping Tomb**

### Hymn at the grave of Adolph Kolping (1-3)



1. Ein Got-tes-haus steht zu Köln am Rhein. Die  
wan-der-n-den Bur-schen, sie tre-ten dort ein, zu  
Fü-Ben des Al-tars am stei-ner-nen Grab, da  
kni-en sie nie-der mit Bün-del und Stab, da  
kni-en sie nie-der mit Bün-del und Stab.

2. Ihr wandernden Burschen, O saget mir an:  
was hat der im Grabe euch Gutes getan:  
läg' Vater und Mutter dort unter dem Stein,  
I: ihr könntet nicht stiller und dankbarer sein.:I
3. Einst war's um uns Burschen gar trostlos bestellt,  
wir waren verstoßen und fremd in derWelt.  
Da tat er sein Haus auf und rief unshinein,  
I: wollt mehr noch als Vater und Mutter uns sein. :I

### Prayer for the Canonization of Blessed Adolph Kolping

Dear God!

You gave us Blessed Adolph Kolping as an intercessor and a role model. His life found fulfilment in caring for young people in religious and social difficulties.

His concern was to understand work, family and society in the light of our faith. He considered helping one another within the community to be the expression of the Christian love for one's neighbour.

We beseech you: Help us work together in the International Kolping Society to overcome poverty, injustice and hopelessness. Help us to defend human life and protect marriage and family to be the salt of the earth and a light for the world. Fulfil our hope of being able to honour Adolph Kolping as a Saint throughout the whole Church in all languages and nations. Let us, through faith, hope and love, work towards bringing to perfection Your kingdom in this world.

For this we pray through Christ, our Lord. Amen

## Hymn at the grave of Adolph Kolping (4-6)

4. Vordem war er selbst mit dem Stab in der Hand,  
gezogen als Schustergeselle durchs Land.  
Der Schustergeselle von Köln am Rhein,  
I: ward Priester und schuf den Gesellenverein. :I
5. Man hat ihn begraben hier unter dem Stein,  
doch schließet der Stein seine Liebe nicht ein.  
Wir wandern durch Deutschland und weiter hinaus,  
I: und grüßen die Brüder und sind wie zu Haus. :I
6. Und ob wir auch wandern und kommen und gehn,  
die Liebe, die Treue, sie bleiben bestehn:  
woher auch des Wegs und wohin wir auch ziehn,  
I: wir danken hier Kolping und beten zu ihm! :I

## Final Prayer

Let us Pray! Lord, may we who are renewed by these mysteries follow the example of Blessed Adolph Kolping who worshipped You with love and served your people with generosity. Trough Christ our Lord. Amen!

## Blessing

## Concluding rite

## Final Song

## Kolping Song

1. There lived a sterling journey-man. Whom  
all of us re-vere. His name re-sounds so far and clear.  
Fa-ther Kol-ping we love you! Fa-ther Kol-ping we love you!

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and common time (C). It consists of three staves. The first staff has a G chord above the first measure and a D chord above the second measure. The second staff has C, A, D, G, G, C, D, G, and D chords above its measures. The third staff has G, G, C, G, C, D, and G chords above its measures. The lyrics are placed below the notes, with some words split across lines.

2. A cobbler, going through the world,  
with heart sincere and true.  
/: He made new shoes repaired them too. :/  
/: Father Kolping, we love you! :/
3. The priesthood was his heart's desire.  
God granted him this grace.  
/: See, what great work he set apace. :/  
/: Father Kolping, we love you! :/
4. A father to his journeymen,  
he wished so much to be.  
/: He took them for his family. :/  
/: Father Kolping, we love you! :/
5. Father Kolping, zealous priest of God,  
Be with your friends today.  
And joining hands, we brothers pray,  
And joining hands, we sisters pray:  
/: Father Kolping, we love you! :/

*We thank the "Unlimited Voice Company" (conductor: Gerald Meier), gospel choir of the Ev. Hoffnungsgemeinde in the north of Cologne, for the musical arrangement.*

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