



# KOLPING BULLETIN

A Monthly Report from Catholic Kolping Society New York • www.kolpingny.org • DECEMBER 2010 • No. 72

## note the date

### december

- 5 Mass & Christmas Party/  
St. Nikolaus Day**  
Kolping 88th Street
- 8 The Feast of the  
Immaculate Conception**  
This holy day of obligation celebrates the saving work of God in preserving the Blessed Virgin Mary from the stain of original sin.
- 22 January Bulletin**  
Last day to submit material
- 25 Christmas**  
The most famous of all German language Christmas songs, "Stille Nacht! Heilige Nacht!" was first heard during Christmas 1818 at the small church of St. Nicholas in Oberndorf (Austria).

### january

- 1 The Solemnity of Mary,  
the Mother of God**  
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**  
Commonly known as Three Kings' Day in the United States, this feast day celebrates the three wise men's visit to baby Jesus and also remembers his baptism.

# December

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

Sunday, December 5, 2010

Please join us for our final event in 2010. Our annual family Christmas/St. Nikolaus Day party will be held on Sunday, December 5th at the Kolping House on 88th. St.

The day will begin with a 10:30 am Mass, celebrated by Fr. Richard Bretone at the Kolping House. A delicious dinner will follow at noon—pork roast with all the good trimmings, dessert, coffee—prepared by our member Wolfgang Hahn. The cost is \$16 per adult and \$8 per child under 12.

At 1:00 we will honor our 25 year members—Betty Boecklen, Dave and Peggy Dougall, Nancy Jackson, Robert Jaki, and Marie Kehoe—for their loyal service to Kolping. Last, but not least, Santa will make his annual visit at 1:30.

We look forward to seeing you on December 5th!



## Merry Christmas and a Very Happy and Healthy New Year to All!

from Ingrid Restmaier, Muriel Fullam,  
Ann Horan and the Kolping Bulletin  
staff and contributors.



**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 call Ann Horan (914-737-2026) when you know of a member who is ill, in the hospital, or has passed away. We want to be sure to remember them.*

Please keep **Fritz Scheuermann** in your prayers.

Good thoughts and wishes to **Ines Gross** on her continuing recuperation from hip surgery. The good news is that she gets to recoup in sunny Florida.

Our best wishes to **Muriel Fullam** (our new secretary) for a speedy recovery from her knee replacement surgery.

Congrats to **Anita Buchholz** who braved the dentist chair and had some dental work done. She was right back on the job...pain can't keep her down.

Pretty soon all our members will have all new parts and can start enjoying life all over again!



### HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO THOSE BORN IN DECEMBER:

Judith Breining, Stacy Connolly, Michael Cunningham, Daniel Dengler, Justin Dengler, Ernst Endrich, Lisa Farsang, Kathleen Fuchek, Sophie Gallagher, Walter Gross, Lily Gruno, Sal Hierspiel, Norine Keating, Patricia Kummer, Irene Leili, Michael Macaluso, Stefan Manz, Amanda Mersits, Peter Mersits, James Minarik, Edward Monks, Thomas O'Gorman, Sabrina Ostroff, Jenny Rea, Andrew Reitter, Charles Roberts, Wilfriede Roessler, John Rung, Erik Severin, Charles Smith, Hertha Stang, Kenneth Tunkel, Niklas Umland, Christopher Vanzo, Alfred E. Vogl, Jr., Debra Weigand, and Michael Weinborg.

### SPECIAL DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS:

Special birthday wishes to **Thomas O'Gorman!**

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 Ann Horan at annth@optonline.net.

### CONGRATULATIONS

Great big Congratulations to Karl and Rita Fister who will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary in January! We wish them many more happy and healthy years together.

### THANK YOU!

Thanks to Ron and Jane Seelbach, Ernst and Wilma Endrich, the Hendrick Hudson Education, Wolfgang Hahn, Eric and Ruth Hebden, and Arthur and Jan Kessler for their donations in memory of Gen Hemsing.

The biggest thanks goes out to Donna, Alexis, Stephen, and Jenna Richardson who have taken over as Santa and his helpers this year. It was a family affair for the Richardsons with the kids doing the shopping and wrapping of the toys that will be passed out at our Christmas party on December 5th. Now I am certain that Santa will be extra good to that family!

### OUR HOLY FATHER'S DECEMBER 2010 INTENTIONS

Each month, the Holy Father gives us one general intention and an intention for world missions.

**The Experience of Personal Suffering as a Help to Others who Suffer.** That our personal experience of suffering may be an occasion for better understanding the situation of unease and pain which is the lot of many people who are alone, sick or aged, and stir us all to give them generous help.

**Opening Our Doors to Christ.** That the peoples of the earth may open their doors to Christ and to His Gospel of peace, brotherhood and justice.

## 2010 DUES

Last chance to send in your  
2010 membership dues:

Family: \$105

Individual: \$90

Student: \$45

Please take an extra minute and also supply us with email addresses, change in address, phone number, birthdays, and other information to update our membership files.

Please make check payable to:  
*The Catholic Kolping Society.*

Mail to: The Catholic Kolping Society,  
Attention: Ann Horan, 165 East 88th  
St., New York, NY 10128 and mark  
"Dues" in the left-hand corner.



**KOLPING IS ON FACEBOOK**  
Members can use this as another  
way to get the latest updates.

## News & Notes

### A MESSAGE FROM ANN HORAN

As we close out 2010, I want to tell you that I am retiring from my job as Kolping secretary. I have really enjoyed my tenure after taking over for, but never replacing, Rosemary Lambot. Of course my favorite part was meeting and greeting our members—old and new. I have come to know so many of you personally and I hope we don't lose that connection.

I wrote in the July Bulletin that I became the happiest of grandmothers to triplets! My daughter and son-in-law have trusted me to help care for the babies and that has become a pretty full time job, but a job that brings me such joy and happiness and also brings me a good amount of tiredness!

I thank Anita, Wilma, Ernst, Ken, the Kolping staff, Wolfgang, Heidi, Jorge, Jennifer, Bernie, Katrina, Pat Farkas and Bob for their continued help and support every step of the way. My hug goes to Ingrid, whom I have come to be so fond of and who never fails to be a helpful, cheerful colleague. All the rest of you who I should thank, know that I do in my heart, it's my mind that forgets!

It is my pleasure to tell you that the Board of Directors has accepted Muriel Fullam (yes the one with the new knee) as our new secretary. Muriel is the kind of member who joined and right away got into the action and helps wherever she can. She will be such a welcome addition and you will all enjoy getting to know her. I wish her all the best!

—Ann

### Note from Ingrid:

I think we all agree that the words "thank you" are just not enough to express our gratitude for all that Ann has contributed to Kolping and all of us during her tenure as Secretary. The good news is that she will still be around to enjoy spending many more good times with her Kolping friends!

October 28, 2010

Dear Ann,

Please convey our thanks for the privilege of representing the *New York Family* at the Convention this past September.

We not only learned so much *about our National Families* but also many facts about our International Families. You sometimes just think of your own little corner of the earth but we are all members of such a diverse *worldwide family*.

It is just a shame that more members of the New York Family do not make the effort to attend. *The host family* goes thru so much effort to make it a pleasant and rewarding experience. From the moment we arrived until the plane took off for our trip home we felt right at home. They *could not have been better hosts*.

Thank you again for the privilege.

Sincerely,



Hilda and Bob Doyle

# *Blessing of the Kolping National Office*

*Submitted by John Reitter. Photos submitted by John Reitter and Donna Richardson*

Saturday, November 20 began with a meeting of the National Kolping Board of directors, with Msgr Axel Werner, our International Praeses in attendance. The occasion was to gather for a blessing of the new National office which the Archbishop of New York, Timothy Dolan, had graciously agreed to perform. About 50 people came together in the hall on the second floor after the National Board meeting to participate in the celebration of Holy Mass led by Msgr. Axel Werner. After Mass, everyone went downstairs to look at the beautiful new office on which Gerhard Schmitt worked so long and hard for the past two years.

Promptly at 6pm the Archbishop arrived and was immediately engrossed in studying everything from the stained glass windows in the hallway to the paintings on the walls in the dining room. He was shown into the new room, and admired the pictures depicting many NY Kolping celebrations and gatherings. He was quite engaging and charming and very outgoing. He shook hands with every single person and was quite willing to pose for a photograph with everyone. Msgr. Axel gave the Archbishop a DVD about the Kolping Society and a book outlining the works Kolping does around the world.

It was a day to be remembered!





# *Kolping on Concourse Communion Brunch* submitted by Ann Horan

Once again we were treated to a great day at Kolping on Concourse. Our Mass was held at St. Philip Neri Church and their pastor, Msgr. O'Brien welcomed us and read the list of our deceased members from the altar. Our manager, Jorge Paris had a delicious dinner ready. Thank you Jorge for always making that day so nice for us. Jorge introduced us to his new assistant manager, Antonio Aguiluz. Jorge tells us that Tony is learning the ropes at KOC and is becoming a huge help.



# Stories of Interest

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## Nuns in the Media submitted by Martin A. Kelly



Two theatrical presentations opened in October; both were about Catholic nuns. One was a movie, the other, a play.

The film, which was titled "A Nun's Story," is the biography of the 12th century Benedictine nun Hildegard von Bingen (1098 - 1179). Sickly from birth, Hildegard strove ardently to serve the Lord. She was blessed with the gifts of prophecy, eloquence, healing, and composing music.

In her hectic life, which was complicated by the male dominated hierarchy, she converted and reformed sinners; she cured the ill and wrote two volumes on

herbology (the study of herbs). In addition, she composed the profound Gregorian Chants; the melodious chant of many of the church's most cherished hymns. The film, which was produced in Germany, has English subtitles.

The play titled, "The Devine Sister" is anything but complimentary to nuns. The usually unflappable Bishop Timothy Dolan castigated The New York Times for giving the satirical trash a positive review. The play has the late Cardinal O'Connor depicted in the foulest manner. In actuality, Cardinal O'Connor opened two units in New York Hospital for A.I.D.'s patients and served as a nurses' aide in them.

Oh well! I guess the way to look at it: The thing worse than being talked about is not being talked about.

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## HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS: A CHRISTIAN CHRISTMAS

submitted by Jack McGee

Isn't it the truth? Most of us seldom realize God's gifts to us—until a little time and distance lend perspective. Then, we understand.

"It was a gift from God," we'll recall. And we may well be talking about that last time we went home for Christmas. That wonderful celebration when Christmas was really Christmas.

We treasure the memory of welcoming hugs, the thanksgiving prayers for our safe arrival, the inviting aromas of baked goods and Christmas Eve dinner in progress.

Then, there was the Christmas tree, each ornament speaking to a Christmas past and forever.

Later the children set up the Crèche under the Christmas tree, carefully unfolding figures of the "characters"—Mary and Joseph, a donkey, cow and lambs, and shepherds. And by themselves, far off (in the dining room), the Magi and camels set out on their long journey. ETA—Epiphany!

Add the joy experienced by the whole family going off to Christmas Eve Mass, soon to be singing hymns and carols with the glorious organ and choir. And together, receiving Holy Eucharist, the whole family, with Grandma and Grandpa.

After Mass, there would be time to pray, together, in awe before the parish crèche, and time to gaze at the recently arrived Baby Jesus.

In the bright light of Christmas Day, there would be visits with brothers and sisters, gleeful cousins, aunts, uncles... and grace prayed at the two tables needed to seat everyone for Christmas dinner!



Cameras and camcorders immortalized special moments when children would gather round their grandparents, listening to tales of "when you were little..." Or fond memories of the days when Mommy and Daddy were children. Inevitably, memories take us back to our own lives today: the first Christmas with each child—as well as the last Christmas with family members now living in eternity,

Life snapshots, cast as imperishable memories—all are truly gifts from God, our Loving Lord who gives us all we desire, all that we need. And somehow, always more.

Even to giving us Jesus, God's own Son, and His promise to be with us always, until the end of time.

We give thanks for God's gift of tender care, as we live our lives to the fullest, on the way to our eternal home.

Pray that each of us may be a happy memory of this year, an imperishable gift to those who share life with us.

## Hollywood Films for the Holiday Season

All Good Things. The sudden disappearance of a real estate tycoon rocks the family  
Applause. From Denmark – Alcoholic mother's fight to regain custody of her children  
Barney's Version. From the novel – Barney Panofsky through 40 years and 3 wives  
Black Swan. Rivalry, to replace a retiring ballerina  
Blue Valentine. One night to save their marriage  
The Chronicles of Narnia. The Voyage of the Dawn Treader. From C.S. Lewis fantasy novel  
Come Undone. From Italy – Woman throws away everything. A new man enters her life  
The Company Men. Executives recently laid off, and struggling  
The Fighter. From adversity to championship boxer  
Gulliver's Travels. The Classic  
Hemingway's Garden of Eden. An American running around Europe, in the 1920's  
How Do You Know. Romantic comedy. An athlete fall for businessman with law problems  
I Love Phillip Morris. Jim Carrey falls in love with his cellmate  
The Illusionist. From France – A magician and his adventures  
Little Fockers. Ben Stiller and Robert DeNiro are back again  
Mekada A murder investigation brings out a lot of secrets  
Queen of the Lot. A rising film star with a drinking problem  
Rabbit Hole. A depressing love story  
The Tempest. From Shakespeare.  
The Tourist. Johnny Depp falls for Angelina Jolie, in Venice...but...  
Tron. Man delves into digital universe. Science fiction  
True Grit. A remake of the John Wayne movie  
Yogi Bear. An update of the cartoon character from the 1960's

Many of the above films will be coming out in 3D, which means an increase in the price of the ticket at the box office. Check the movie ad before you go.

## The Sounds of Silence

Many people understand that silence can nurture their spiritual journey, yet they are afraid of being alone with themselves and what they may discover. But often it's in solitude that God speaks to us.

When we are still, we can hear God. In addition to vocal prayer, there are two other forms: meditation and contemplation.

Thought, imagination, feelings and desire are all part of meditation. Various methods can guide our reflection on our faith and our life in relationship with God. Both a gift and a grace, contemplation is a silent communion with God.

"Why is it so important that you are with God alone?" asked Rev. Henri Nouwen. "It's the place you can listen to the voice of the One who calls you 'My beloved child'. To pray is to let that voice speak to the center of your being, to your guts, and let that voice resound in your whole being."

Many people associate silence and solitude with loneliness, missing out on life, or being disconnected. But Father Ron Rolbetser, theologian and author, writes, "Silence is a special language that is not in opposition to words. Silence and words need each other. There are things we can only know through silence, just as there are things we can only know through conversation."

Be still, and know that I am God! [Psalm 46:10]

## Words Worth Noting

Life is God's novel, let Him write it.  
—Isaac Bashevis Singer

Faith is a curious thing, it must be renewed; it has its own spring.  
—Gladys Taber

The great difference between voyages rest not in ships but in the people you meet on them.  
—Amelia Burr

Loneliness and the feeling of being unwanted is the most terrible poverty.  
—Mother Theresa

My definition of a free society is a society where it is safe to be unpopular.  
—Adlai Stevenson

The know-nothings are, unfortunately, seldom the do-nothings.  
—Mignon McLaughlin

To the timid and hesitating everything is impossible because it seems so.  
—Sir Walter Scott

There are some things you learn best in calm, some in storm.  
—Willa Cather

The man who moves a mountain begins by carrying away small stones.  
—Chinese proverbs

There are two kinds of people, those who say to God, "Thy will be done," and those whom God says, "All right, have it your way."  
—C. S. Lewis

**Motorists!** The New York City Parking Rules (a.k.a. alternate side of the street parking) are suspended on the following upcoming dates:

**Wednesday, December 8** (Feast of the Immaculate Conception)  
**Friday, December 24** (Christmas Eve)  
**Saturday, December 25** (Christmas Day)  
**Friday, December 31** (New Year's Eve)  
**Saturday, January 1** (New Year's Day)



# What's Happening in New York This Month

By Jack McGee (718-478-0573)



## The Metropolitan Opera — December Schedule

La Bohème	1, 4 (matinee), 8, 11 (8:30 pm)
Così fan tutte	2
Don Carlo	3 (7:30 pm), 7 (7 pm), 11 (matinee), 15 (7:00 pm), 18 (matinee)
Carmen	4 (8:30 pm), 9
La Fanciulla del West	6, 10, 14, 18 (8:30 pm), 22, 27, 30
Pelléas et Mélisande	17, 20, 23, 29
The Magic Flute	21, 28, 29 and 30 (all at 11 am), and 24 (6:30 pm)
La Traviata	31 (7 pm)

Performances commence in the evenings at 8 pm, and matinees at 12:30 pm, unless otherwise noted.

## WQXR Radio (105.9 FM)

Saturday afternoon from the Metropolitan Opera House.

Dec. 18 at 12:30 pm – Don Carlo

Dec. 25 at 1:00 pm – The Bartered Bride

## Opera/Ballet on Film

Experience opera/ballet on film at Symphony Space, at 95th street and Broadway. **Transportation:** bus to 96th Street and Broadway. **Subway:** #1 and lines "B" and "C" to 96th Street and Central Park West. Tickets about \$25, depending on opera.

**Götterdämmerung.** December 12 at 4 pm.

**The Nutcracker.** December 26 at 3 pm.

**Romeo and Juliette.** December 26 at 7 pm.

**The Nutcracker.** We announce this Christmas Ballet each year, but it may be something new to new members or residents of the house. Tickets are now on sale starting at \$20. It will be presented from November 26th thru January 2nd at Lincoln Center. For complete list of performances call 1-212-870-5570, or on line [nycballet.com/nuttickets](http://nycballet.com/nuttickets).

## EVENTS AT ZION ST. MARK'S, 339 EAST 84TH ST, NY GERMAN CHRISTKINDLMARKT

Saturday, December 4 from 11 am – 4 pm

Lebkuchen, cookies, Christstollen, ornaments and more. Enjoy Gluehwein, coffee, Christstollen, & Christmas spirit!

## ADVENT and CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

Sunday, December 12 from 1 pm till 3 pm

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'll play Christmas music and sing familiar German and American Christmas songs. Contribution \$10.

[www.zionmarks.org](http://www.zionmarks.org) / 212-288-0600 / 212-479-7808

## NEWS FROM THE BRANCHES

### CINCINNATI (written by Ted Tegenkamp)

We will celebrate Blessed Adolph Kolping Memorial Day on Dec. 5. Adolph Kolping was born on Dec. 8, 1813 and was called to his eternal reward on Dec. 4, 1865. When the Holy Father Pope John Paul II declared Fr. Kolping Blessed on Oct. 27, 1991, he also declared Dec. 6 as the Blessed Adolph Kolping feast day. The membership decided that they also wanted to celebrate the annual Christmas Party on this Sunday. Members are asked to donate some non-perishable food for the poor. It would be wonderful to see members who have recently joined the Society at this event to continue this established tradition. Our founder is a saint, and we need to take pride in this fact and show our appreciation for what he began and stood for.

### PHILADELPHIA (written by Father Michel)

The International Kolping office picks a different National Kolping Society each year to put together a prayer service and attach a short history of the country and its Kolping Families. For 2010 the country chosen was Uruguay, one of the smallest countries in South America. It is located south of Brazil with its eastern boundary formed by the Atlantic Ocean and its western boundary shared with Argentina. Its language is Spanish and its status as an independent nation goes back to August 25, 1825. For its income, Uruguay depends mainly on farming, livestock and dairy products. It does some petroleum refining and is noted for its information technology sector, making it the most important software exporter in South America. 88% of the Uruguayan population is of European descent. The country gives absolute religious freedom. 47% call themselves Catholic; 11% are members of Protestant Christian churches; and 40% claim to believe in God but do not belong to a religious group. Culturally the Tango characterizes its music, and its foods are more tied with Spain and Italy because of the early settlers. The Kolping Society was founded in Uruguay in 1985 when Msgr. Festing, the International Praeses, paid a visit to Uruguay. Currently it has about 1,250 members nationwide as part of 35 active Kolping Families.

## CHURCH OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

135 West 31st Street, New York, NY 10001

ADVENT DAY OF PRAYER – Saturday, December 11, 2010

Advent, as a season of waiting for Christ, challenges us to step back from our busily paced lifestyle. What does it mean for us to wait for Christ and His Kingdom? **SCHEDULE:** 9:30 am: Registration in San Damiano Hall, followed by gathering and coffee. 10:15 am: Morning Prayer. 10:45 am: Reflection. 12 noon: Lunch (provided).

## 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 9:45 am. Confessions in German before Mass. For information call Julia Winter (347-852-3184). For information regarding counseling and sacraments in German, please contact Rev. James Boniface Ramsey, Pastor (212-289-6030).

## A Visit from Saint Nicholas submitted by Jack McGee

Clement Clark Moore was born in New York City in 1779 and, long before his death 84 years later, established a reputation as a scholar.

Stern, even rigid, Moore concentrated in the study of languages (a Hebrew lexicon he compiled was long considered a standard) and was a noted lecturer and writer. A religious man, and one of means, he generously supported theological education—even endowing a seminary.

For all of this, however, Moore's life would merit little more than a footnote in New York's history—except for one thing. He was a poet. Most of his work, to be sure, was thought dull, even plodding. But not the one poem for which he is remembered. Written for his children in 1822, the poem was first published (anonymously) in the Troy, N.Y., *Sentinel* the following year. It was an instant hit—though Moore didn't claim credit for it until years later. The poem was, of course, "A Visit From St. Nicholas" ("The Night Before Christmas"). It remains a seasonal classic.

Was the night before Christmas, when all through the house  
Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse.  
The stockings were hung by the chimney with care,  
In hopes that St Nicholas soon would be there.

The children were nestled all snug in their beds,  
While visions of sugar-plums danced in their heads.  
And mamma in her 'kerchief, and I in my cap,  
Had just settled our brains for a long winter's nap.

When out on the lawn there arose such a clatter,  
I sprang from the bed to see what was the matter.  
Away to the window I flew like a flash,  
Tore open the shutters and threw up the sash.

The moon on the breast of the new-fallen snow  
Gave the lustre of mid-day to objects below.  
When, what to my wondering eyes should appear,  
But a miniature sleigh, and eight tinny reindeer.

With a little old driver, so lively and quick,  
I knew in a moment it must be St Nick.  
More rapid than eagles his coursers they came,  
And he whistled, and shouted, and called them by name!

"Now Dasher! now, Dancer! now, Prancer and Vixen!  
On, Comet! On, Cupid! on, on Donner and Blitzen!  
To the top of the porch! to the top of the wall!  
Now dash away! Dash away! Dash away all!"

As dry leaves that before the wild hurricane fly,  
When they meet with an obstacle, mount to the sky.  
So up to the house-top the coursers they flew,  
With the sleigh full of Toys, and St Nicholas too.

And then, in a twinkling, I heard on the roof  
The prancing and pawing of each little hoof.  
As I drew in my head, and was turning around,  
Down the chimney St Nicholas came with a bound.

He was dressed all in fur, from his head to his foot,  
And his clothes were all tarnished with ashes and soot.  
A bundle of Toys he had flung on his back,  
And he looked like a peddler, just opening his pack.

His eyes-how they twinkled! his dimples how merry!  
His cheeks were like roses, his nose like a cherry!  
His droll little mouth was drawn up like a bow,  
And the beard of his chin was as white as the snow.

The stump of a pipe he held tight in his teeth,  
And the smoke it encircled his head like a wreath.  
He had a broad face and a little round belly,  
That shook when he laughed, like a bowlful of jelly!

He was chubby and plump, a right jolly old elf,  
And I laughed when I saw him, in spite of myself!  
A wink of his eye and a twist of his head,  
Soon gave me to know I had nothing to dread.

He spoke not a word, but went straight to his work,  
And filled all the stockings, then turned with a jerk.  
And laying his finger aside of his nose,  
And giving a nod, up the chimney he rose!

He sprang to his sleigh, to his team gave a whistle,  
And away they all flew like the down of a thistle.  
But I heard him exclaim, 'ere he drove out of sight,  
"Happy Christmas to all, and to all a good-night!"