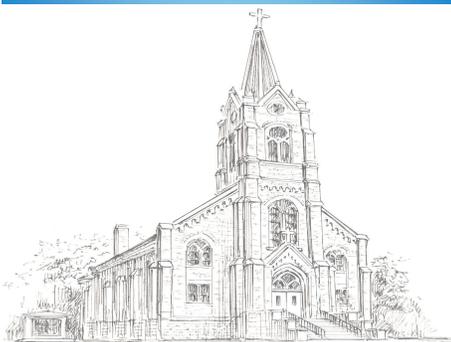


CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION



323 Reform St. North
Norwood Young America, MN 55368

Contact Information

Rectory & Parish Office-952-467-3351
Websitewww.ascensionnya.org

Parish Office Hours: Mon., Tues.,
Wed., & Fri. 10:00 am—2:00pm.

Business Administrator

Sherry Witte.....952-777-0110
E-mail:BusAdmin@ascensionNYA.org

Safe Environment Coordinator

Sarah Smith952-777-0111
Bookkeeper@ascensionnya.org

Trustees

Rita Fahey952-467-6478
John (Jack) Lano952-467-3765

Finance Council Chairperson

John (Jack) Lano.....952-467-3765

Communion for Homebound

Sue Tellers612-247-6881

Prayer Chain

Carol Donnay952-467-2183
Lucy Kostecka952-467-2576
E-mail: Ascensionprays@aol.com

Adoration Coordinator

Tamara Lemmer.....612-790-5720
E-mail:tamaralemmer7@gmail.com

Music Liturgy

Marilee Widmer952-467-3082

Social Hall Bookings

Parish Office952-467-3351

Knights of Columbus-Grand

Knight Kevin Raether... 952-467-2633

Catholic United Financial

Dennis Stoks952-240-5001

ST. BERNARD CHURCH



212 Church St. East
Cologne, MN 55322

Contact Information

Office952-466-2031
Website ... www.st-bernard-cologne.org

Parish Office Hours: Tuesday thru
Friday, 9:00am-2:00pm.

Parish Information E-mail:
parishinfo@st-bernard-cologne.org

Business Administrator

Sherry Witte.....952-856-1051
E-mail:
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Sarah Smith952-856-1052
Bookkeeper@st-bernard-cologne.org

Trustees

Andrew Kleindl.....952-442-9282
Thomas Monsen.....507-514-7654

Finance Council Chairperson

Ralph Laumann 952-466-3331

Communion for Homebound

Barb Knorr.....952-466-2447

Prayer Chain

Patsy Quinn.....952-466-3304
Lori Kaselkasel.lori@gmail.com

Adoration Coordinator

Marcy Wickenhauser.....952-466-2593

Funeral Lunch Contact

Sandy Bengston612-240-4977

Ladies Guild President

Monica Kooiman952-466-5769

Catholic United Financial

Carol Hoen952-466-2456

SACRAMENTS

Baptisms: By appointment.

Marriage Arrangements

The couple should contact the priest as soon as they become engaged. They must meet with the priest twice before setting a marriage date. These two meetings need to be completed 6 months before the proposed date.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Ascension:Tues.5:40-6:05pm.
Sat.4:15-4:45pm.

St. Bernard:Wed.7:30-7:50am.
Sat.7:15-7:45pm.

Additionally by appointment.

Communion for Homebound

Call parish office.

Anointing of the Sick

Call the parish office at any time.

MASS SCHEDULE

Ascension-Weekend-Sat.5pm. Sun. 8am.
Tuesday 6:15 pm. & Friday 7:15 am.

St. Bernard-Weekend-Sat. 8pm. Sun.10am.
Wednesday & Thursday 8:00am.

Pastor

Fr. Abraham George Kochupurackal CMI
Office952-856-1050
frabraham@st-bernard-cologne.org

Joint Mission Team Chairperson

Steve Lemmer952-913-0790

Faith Formation

DRE for Pre-k-5th Grades

Kara Wickenhauser.....952-466-4719

DRE Middle School Grades

Melanie Kleindl.....763-645-7602

DRE Confirmation Class

Julie Kleindl.....952-807-3522

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Joint Bulletin published weekly at:
www.ascensionnya.org &
www.st-bernard-cologne.org

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT – MARCH 8, 2020

“This is My Chosen Son, Listen to Him”

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

The Transfiguration of Jesus is both proof of Jesus’ divinity and a preparation of the apostles for the coming trial of their faith when they would witness the death of Jesus. It is also appropriate to see it as a vivid demonstration of what Lent is supposed to do for us, namely, transform us more and more into Christ, and make us new creatures through our sharing in Christ’s death and resurrection. The combination of this gospel with the faith of Abraham in the Lord, places it into a new light.

Abraham is surely one of the most remarkable and admirable persons who ever lived. God made a covenant with Abraham, his faithful servant. God had promised Abraham that he would be the father of many nations, that his descendants would be as numerous as the stars in the sky or as the sands by the seashore. Later, the same God asked him to offer in sacrifice his beloved son Isaac. From the distance we cannot possibly imagine his agony and anguish when the Lord asked this. But Abraham had listened to God. Even though Abraham does not fully understand, he still is ready to carry out God's command. He does not rebel. This is given as an example of his great faith and total trust in God. God’s promises will be honored even though it is not clear how. Of course, we know that at the moment Abraham raised the knife to kill his son on the altar of sacrifice, God told him to stop. Abraham had proved his faith and confidence in God and Isaac did indeed live to continue on Abraham’s line to countless generations.

Beautiful is this story. But it is not the whole story and meaning for us today. For that we go to the gospel. Jesus took Peter, James and John up to a high mountain. Jesus was transfigured before them, and a voice came from the cloud, saying: “*This is my beloved Son. Listen to him*” These words practically reproduce the prophecy of one of the Servant Songs of the prophet Isaiah, which foretells the passion and death of the Servant of Yahweh who will suffer and die for all mankind. St. Paul sums up it perfectly: “*God did not spare his own Son but handed him over for us all.*” It is good for us to remember that the Transfiguration takes place shortly before Jesus’ passion and death.

There is a clear parallel between Isaac and Jesus. Both are the well-beloved and only sons of their fathers. Both carry the wood on which they are to be slain. Both are innocent. Both are willing to die freely, out of love. What we can only try to imagine is the anguish that rends the hearts of the fathers at the prospect of seeing their sons sacrificed. Parents who lose a child through death have some idea of the feeling of Abraham and the Father almighty.

It is easy to see God’s love in our lives in good times but it is equally important to realize that it is true even in bad times.

(Continued in the column to the right) > > > > > >

SCRIPTURE READINGS—March 8-14, 2020

3/8 Second Sunday in Lent: Gn 12:1-4a*Ps 33:4-5,18-19,20,22*2 Tm 1:8b-10*Mt 17:1-9. **3/9 St. Frances of Rome:** Dn 9:4b-10*Ps 79:8,9,11 & 13*Lk 6:36-38. **3/10:** Is 1:10,16-20*Ps 50:8-9,16bc-17,21&23*Mt 23:1-12. **3/11:** Jer 18:18-20*Ps 31:5-6,14,15-16*Mt 20:17-28. **3/12:** Jer 17:5-10*Ps 1:1-2,3,4&6*Lk 16:19-31. **3/13:**Gn 37:3-4,12-13a,17b-28a*Ps 105:16-17,18-19,20-21*Mt 21:33-43,45-46. **3/14:** Mi 7:14-15,18-20*Ps 103:1-2,3-4,9-10,11-12*Lk 15:1-3,11-32.



CALENDAR FOR ASCENSION AND ST. BERNARDS' PARISHES

Tuesdays — NOON; All copy must be in to the bulletin: e-mail address & e-mail to pquinn55322@hotmail.com
Fridays — NOON; All inserts and announcements must be in to the bulletin e-mail address or a paper copy in the Parish office at St. Bernard.

Tues. Mar. 10th 9-11am: Sew Support Group-Ascension
Tues. Mar. 10th 7pm: JMT Core Group Meeting-Ascension
Fri. Mar. 13th 10:15am: Mass at the Harbor
Fri. Mar. 13th 6pm: Stations of the Cross-St. Bernard
Sun. Mar. 15th 1pm: KC Bingo-Ascension
Tues. Mar. 17th 4pm: Ascension Finance Council
Thurs. Mar. 19th 7pm: JMT Full Group Mtg.-St. Bernard
Fri. Mar. 20th 11am-8pm: St. Bernard Fish Fry
Fri. Mar. 20th 6pm: Stations of the Cross-Ascension

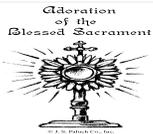
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Even in the very worst of experiences - a terrible and painful sickness, great mental suffering, disappointment, rejection, failure, financial difficulties- God's love is there, just as it was in the awful moments of agony of Jesus on the Cross. Being a Christian means being willing to offer back to God what is nearest and dearest to us- as Abraham did, as God the Father did and as the Blessed Virgin Mary, our Mother, did. What is dearest to us may be a human person, just an old way of life, a profession, or simply our opinions or will, whatever it is that we give back to God. Then God’s messenger will tell us as he told Abraham: “I know now how devoted you are to God...I will bless you abundantly.” Lent reminds us of some kind of sacrifice. There is one thing we need to consider and that is how these Lenten readings are to touch our own lives. The key linking the First Reading and the Gospel is the passage from the Letter to the Philippians in the Second Reading. Paul says in today's reading, that for us, our homeland and our citizenship are in heaven, that is, the goal and destination of our life is to be one with God.

The transfiguration of Jesus that the disciples experienced was not simply something they were to see and experience as happening to him alone. On that day of the Transfiguration, the disciples were asked to listen to Jesus and learn how God’s love was working in and through Jesus, even at that moment when he was left totally without dignity and in the depths of hopelessness. It was a lesson that they would learn in time and they would boldly follow in his footsteps and sacrificed their own lives in the service of the Gospel and the Kingdom. It is for us, too, to listen to Jesus today and to ask for the kind of faith and trust that Abraham had, that everything which happens to us is ultimately for the greater glory of God and our wellbeing and happiness.

Yours in Christ,
Fr. Abraham Kochupurackal CMI

Church of the Ascension Norwood Young America, MN



Every Thursday
Eucharistic Adoration
8:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m.

Sunday 9am: Bible Study at Ascension
Monday 9am: Bible Study at Ascension

The Respect Life Group will be praying the **Rosary at the Harbor** during Lent. We will be meeting on Monday mornings at 10:15am in the 3rd floor Media Center from March 9th – April 6th. Please join us in prayer to Our Lady.

Our combined **Lenten Reconciliation Service** will be held at St. Bernard on Wed., March 18th from 6:30 to 8:00pm. There will be 4 priests available to hear confessions. This is a great time to relieve the burdens weighing down our hearts and souls.

Easter Flower Memorials —If you would like to give a donation for Easter Flowers and would like your donation to be in memory of someone, please designate who it is for on your Easter Flower envelope. Please note if the person is deceased or not. A plain envelope marked with Easter Flowers will also work.

March is Food Shelf month.

All donations are appreciated.

You may leave items in the church entry or drop off directly at SW Carver County Food Shelf in NYA on Tuesdays. Thank you!

St. Patrick's Day Party This event is sponsored by St. Brendan's Catholic Church of Green Isle. When: Sunday, March 15 at 1:30pm. Where: Green Isle School Gym, 190 McGrann St. Admission: \$10 There will be lunch, bingo and a raffle.

Scheduling Coordinator needed. Would you consider helping? We are looking for a volunteer to take over this important ministry of scheduling for the Mass ministries. If you are interested or have questions, please contact Cheryl Coyle or the parish office.

**Lenten Area Reconciliation Services
Ascension, NYA/St. Bernard**

—Location: Cologne

—Date: Wednesday, March 18

—Time: 6:30 pm

Guardian Angels

—Location: Chaska

—Date: Sunday, March 15

—Time: 6:30 pm

St. Hubert

—Location: Chanhassen

—Date: Thursday, March 19

—Time: 6:30 pm

St. Joseph

—Location: Waconia

—Date: Sunday, April 5

—Time: 4:30 pm

Church of St. Bernard

Cologne, MN



1st. Wednesday of the month
Eucharistic Adoration
after the 8a.m. Mass until 8p.m.
All other Wednesday's of the Month
Eucharistic Adoration 3pm until 8pm.
Please sign up for an hour or half hour of
adoration at the Narthex Table.

Lenten Stations of the Cross

Will be held each Friday at **6:00 pm**. March 13th will be at St. Bernard with the last 3 weeks, Mar 20th, 27th, and Apr 3rd at Ascension. This is a wonderful opportunity to send time 'walking with Jesus' on His journey to the Cross.

St. Bernard's Fish Fry will be on Friday, March 20th from 11:00am to 8:00pm (or until the fish runs out). Adults - \$12.00, Kids 5-10-\$6.00, Kids 4 and under-Free. Take out orders available. Cash and Quilt drawings that evening also. **Sign up Today!** Help is still needed at the Fish Fry. We have many opportunities for you to volunteer.

In today's bulletin you will find a sheet of Quilt raffle tickets and a Fish Fry Flyer. Cash raffle tickets are available in envelopes with your name on the envelope in the Narthex. There are extra envelope containing books of tickets. Please take one and record the numbers on the sheet in the box. Money and raffle tickets can be turned in by placing them in the collection basket or church office. Proceeds raised will go towards Parish Community Hall Chairs and Tables.

Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of **Evan Gillett**, nephew of Janice Vos & Brian Vos who passed away recently. His funeral was on Saturday, March 7th. May he rest in peace and may his souls and all the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Please also pray for his parents Bev (Vos) & Kirk Gillett and siblings Michelle and Marissa and all the family.

Retrouvaille Marriage Help: Thinking about Separation or Divorce? Hurting? Angry? Feel helpless? Retrouvaille is a lifeline for troubled marriages. Couples learn the tools to rediscover each other and heal their marriage. 100% confidential. When: April 3-5, 2020

Where: Best Western Hotel; 3450 Washington Dr.;

Eagan, MN 55122

Registration: 800-470-2230; info@tcr-mn.org; <http://www.helpourmarriage.org>

CHRIST RENEWS HIS PARISH

Do you wonder if you could be happier, healthier, more fulfilled and have more passion for your faith?

Take time out of your busy life and join us for a Christ Renew weekend retreat.

Men's Retreat Weekend is March 14 & 15.

Women's Retreat weekend is March 28 & 29th.

Don't wait! Don't hesitate!

Sign-up today online at stjosephwaconia.org!

Word of Life: "We are facing an enormous and dramatic clash between good and evil, death and life, the "culture of death" and the "culture of life". We find ourselves not only "faced with" but necessarily "in the midst of" this conflict: we are all involved and we all share in it, with the inescapable responsibility of choosing to be unconditionally pro-life" (*The Gospel of Life* 28).

**CHURCH OF ST. BERNARD
STEWARDSHIP OF TIME
AND LITURGY SCHEDULE
March 9 through March 15, 2020**

LECTORS:

Saturday 8:00 pm. Greg Wickenhauser
Sunday 10:00 am. Helen Nicklaus

SERVERS:

Saturday 8:00pm Jim Monsen
Sunday 10:00am. Cecilia Jones & Lexy Allison

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER:

Saturday 8:00pm. Irene Drees
Sunday 10:00am. Judy Glander

USHERS

Saturday 8pm Ralph Laumann & Andy Kleindl
Sunday 10:00 am. Vern Elke & Bob Symanitz

GREETERS:

Saturday 8:00pm Roger Storms
Sunday 10:00am. Brian Vos

GIFT BEARERS: Sat. & Sun.—Volunteers

CHURCH CLEAN: Jim & Carol Wickenhauser

NARTHEX CLEANING: John Eiden Family

MASS SCHEDULE

INTENTIONS:

Saturday Mar. 7 8pm. †Wallace Wickenhauser
Sunday Mar. 8 10am. The People of the Parish
Monday Mar. 9 No Mass
Tuesday Mar. 10 6:15pm Mass at Ascension
Wed. Mar. 11 8:00am. †Gilbert Rademacher
Thursday Mar. 12 8am. †Edward Tellers Family
Friday Mar. 13 7:15am Mass at Ascension
Saturday Mar. 14 8pm. †Phyllis Vos
Sunday Mar. 15 10am. †Shirley Brown &
The People of the Parish

Stewardship of Treasure

Budget for Week	3,096.25
Contributions 2-26-20 through 3-03-20	4,145.42
Total Actual Collection YTD	141,237.32
YTD Collection Over (Under) Budget	9,399.92
Forward in Faith	
Envelope Income	60.00
Electronic Donations	190.50
Forward in Faith Total	250.50
Forward in Faith YTD	16,387.74

Did you know you can have your contributions automatically deducted from your checking or savings account? For more information call the parish office 952-466-2031 , or visit www.st-bernard-cologne

**CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION
STEWARSHIP OF TIME
March 9 through March 15**

SERVERS:

Sat. 5:00 pm: Jacob Johnson, Lucas Johnson
Sun. 8:00 am Hailey Buckentin, Lacey Buckentin

READERS:

Sat. 5:00 pm: Ann Schwichtenberg
Sun. 8:00 am: Cheryl Coyle

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

Sat. 5:00 pm: Curt Wilson
Sun. 8:00 am: Steve Coyle

COMMUNION TO THE HOMEBOUND

March 15th 8:00 am

Team A: Michael & Anita Harrison
Team B: Paul & Corrine Prososky

USHERS FOR MARCH:

Sat. 5:00 pm: Jim Mulville, Gary Widmer
Sun. 8:00 am: Tim George, Paul Lano

SACRISTAN:

Sat. 5:00 pm: Sherry Witte
Sun. 8:00 am Joe Weckman

GREETERS:

Sat. 5:00 pm: Darlene Mondor
Sun. 8:00 am: Diane Weckman

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon.	Mar. 9		No Mass
Tues.	Mar. 10	6:15 pm	Merlin Dwire †
Wed.	Mar. 11	8:00 am	Mass at St. Bernard
Thurs.	Mar. 12	8:00 am	Mass at St. Bernard
Fri.	Mar. 13	7:15 am	Fr. Evan Harkins †
Sat.	Mar. 14	5:00 pm	Leo Braunwarth †
Sun.	Mar. 15	8:00 am	All Parishioners

**Weekly Collection Report
Totals for 03/01/2020**

Weekly Operating Budget:	\$3,379.81
Contributions:	\$2,549.00
E-Giving:	\$265.00
Weekly Budget YTD:	\$118,293.35
Actual Collection YTD:	\$111,692.64
Total Collected Over (Under) YTD	(\$6,600.71)
Capital Improvement Offering:	\$270.00
Capital Improvement-E-Giving:	\$45.00
Capital Improvement YTD:	\$10,109.00