

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:tamaralemmert@gmail.com

Music Liturgy

Marilee Widmer952-467-3082

Social Hall Bookings

Parish Office952-467-3351

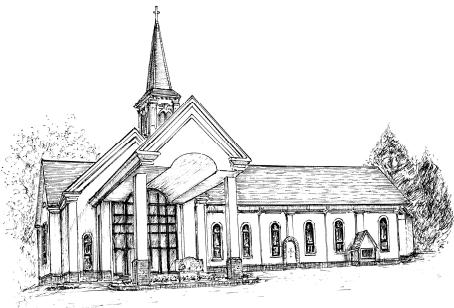
Knights of Columbus-Grand

Knight Kevin Raether... 952-467-2633

Catholic United Financial

Dennis Stoks952-240-5001

ST. BERNARD CHURCH



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

212 Church St. East
Cologne, MN 55322

Contact Information

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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

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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

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER – MAY 17, 2020

"I Will not Leave you Orphans"

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

This season of self-quarantine is abnormal to most of us. This has been causing us a lot of frustration, anger, suffering and loneliness. Closed off to us now are churches, schools, workplaces, restaurants and so forth. We cannot visit retirement homes and nursing homes. These really are unprecedented days, and we don't know how long they are going to go, and we don't know how bad things are going to get or not.

However, the sense of isolation and loneliness are so common even before this corona virus issues. It is good to remember that thousands of our brother and sisters live alone all the time in nursing homes and hospitals who are not able to walk and go outside of their rooms and deal with the issue of aloneness and sometimes frustrations.

Our God gives grace for us to conquer all the difficult situations by sending his Son Jesus. In this Sunday gospel, Jesus assures his disciples an extraordinary promise: "*I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you*". (Jn 14:18). The setting was the Last Supper. He had announced his imminent departure. The apostles were sad. He promised to continue his presence with them through the Advocate, the Holy Spirit.

The Church history over two millennia shows that Jesus did not pull the legs of his disciples. He did not leave them orphans. The first reading of this Sunday (Acts 8: 5-8, 14-17) describes how the Holy Spirit helped the apostle Philip to preach powerfully and convert the Samaritans in large numbers. Throughout the history of the Church, the believers suffered from severe persecutions, cruel death, natural calamities, plague and so on. Jesus was always with them in their sufferings. The last thing Jesus said on earth was, "*Behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age*" (Matt 28: 20). In other words, he sends the Holy Spirit, which is the Spirit of Christ, and he will be with us always. We are not alone. This is absolutely wonderful. The most important Person in the universe is with us personally. He doesn't break his word.

The risen Jesus' continued presence in us and in the Church through the Holy Spirit gives meaning and purpose of our life, and all we do in his name.

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

SCRIPTURE READINGS—May 17 -May 23, 2020

5/17 Sixth Sunday of Easter: Acts 8:5-8,14-17*Ps 66:1-7,16,20*1 Pt 3:15-18*Jn 14:15-21. **5/18 St. John 1:** Acts 16:11-15*Ps 149:1-6,9*Jn 15:26—16:4. **5/19:** Acts 16:22-34*Ps 138:1-3,7-8*Jn 16:5-11. **5/20 St. Bernardine of Siena:** Acts 17:15,22—18:1*Ps 148:1-2,11-14*Jn 16:12-15. **5/21 The Ascension of the Lord:** Acts 1:1-11*Ps 47:2-3,6-9 * Eph 1:17-23* Mt 28:16-20. **5/22 St. Rita of Cascia:** Acts 18:9-18*Ps 47:2-7*Jn 16:20-23. **5/23:** Acts 18:23-28*Ps 47:2-3,8-10*Jn 16:23-28.



CALENDAR FOR ASCENSION AND ST. BERNARD'S 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.

All events cancelled until further notice.

<<<<< (*Continued from the column on the left*)
As the Divine Advocate, the Holy Spirit will instruct us in Jesus' teachings, illumine our minds to receive deeper understanding of our faith and guide us properly in the practice of Christian love.

What the most important thing is to trust in the promise of Jesus and love him by obeying his commandments. Jesus told his disciples: "*If you love me, you will keep my commandments.*" (Jn 14:15). The Father will send, the Holy Spirit to live in those who obey Jesus' commandments, especially the commandment of love. Thus, Jesus will continue to live in his followers with the Father and the Holy Spirit and they will not be left as orphans. Jesus teaches us to observe Commandments in a new way. The Commandments are to be lived as an act of love. If we love someone we do what pleases them. This love moves us to do things we might not want to do, and even things that we might see as being difficult. Jesus calls us to look at the commandments through the prism of love and to live them out of our love for God.

God will not leave the world and its brokenness without grace, special grace for every need that his people have, including the need to end the pandemic. Jesus purchased that grace for us with his own suffering. He knows our sufferings. He has tasted it, worse than we know. And he will not leave us as orphans. He will come to us. Whether the coronavirus isolates us or takes our life, he will not leave us alone. This is a precious and sure promise. Let us open our hearts to love him and to obey his commandments.

Yours in Christ,
Fr. Abraham Kochupurackal CMI



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

In Preparation for Mass Attendance

The Bishops of Minnesota have outlined several steps (see below) in the plan to re-open churches and begin to have Masses. We will follow these guidelines at our parishes. As much as possible, please maintain all the CDC guidelines for staying home when sick, social distancing, and face coverings.

We need to begin now to work with our priests and parish leaders so that we could be ready to begin some limited public Masses on May 18. We are developing a gradual, multi-phase approach to the return to public worship. We are in phase one right now. Phase two will allow us to begin some public Masses, and phase three would allow us to have larger gatherings. These phases will allow for the ability to re-evaluate the process as necessary in order to ensure the health and safety of the community going forward. Our plan presumes that throughout the state the dispensation from the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation will continue until such a time that it is safe for all to return.

All phases of this plan require following strict guidelines for social distancing and sanitization.

Those over age 65 will be strongly encouraged not to attend, and anyone showing any symptoms of sickness, or anyone who has a household member who is sick or showing symptoms of sickness should not come to church.

The church space will be thoroughly sanitized before after each service, including all entryways and doors.

Holy water fonts will be empty and hymnals removed.

Signs will be posted concerning social distancing and sanitation requirements and reminders to follow these requirements will be offered.

Hand sanitizers will be available at all entryways.

All local safety orders specifically relating to proper face coverings will be followed. Please wear masks.

People will be instructed **not** to engage in any physical touch, such as by greeting each other.

Signs and other instructions will encourage normal safe practices necessary to avoid the spread (e.g. cough or sneeze into a shirtsleeve, handkerchief, or tissue; avoid touching the eyes, nose, and mouth).

Ventilation will be increased as much as possible by opening windows and doors, as weather permits. Windows will be opened where possible – please bring a jacket to stay warm.

Ways to Watch/Listen to Mass

During this time that Mass is suspended, the faithful are asked to find a Mass on TV, the radio or online and make a Spiritual Communion. Where that is not an option, it would be appropriate to pray the Liturgy of the Hours or the Rosary. For ways to watch or listen to Mass, visit archspm.org/live.



**All Wednesday's of the Month
Eucharistic Adoration
3pm until 8pm.
Until further notice.**

Thank you to everyone for your support with the cash and quilt raffle tickets for the Fish Fry.

We will have the drawing on Sunday May 17th at 11am with several committee members present or after mass if the mass schedule has resumed.

Please continue to turn in any sold and unsold tickets to the church office (may be placed in mail slot on door).

Help Wanted!! The St. Bernard Cemetery Committee is looking for a volunteer (or group of volunteers) to mow the cemetery during the summer. The lawn mower will be provided. If you are interested or have questions about this ministry, please contact Ralph Laumann or Roger Hoen.

Stewardship Opportunity – THANK YOU to the Jones family for volunteering to take care of the landscaping on the south west side of the Narthex and the St. Bernard sign planter along HWY 284.

We are still in need of someone to help install plants in the area north of the church patio and then nurture them throughout the summer. If interested in learning more, please contact Julie Clemensen at 612-419-0505 or Roger Storms at 612-618-8365. THANK YOU!!

Cemetery Notice for Ascension and St. Bernard: The snow is gone!! In order to aid with spring cleanup, please have all decorations removed from the cemetery by April 30th. Any decorations remaining will be removed and placed by the big tree behind the Faith Formation building at Ascension and behind the church (next to the AC units) at St. Bernard.

Please note: During the grass growing season, except for over Memorial Day, only unbound fresh flowers will be permitted on the cemetery.

For the people in our partnership diocese of Kitui, Kenya, may God protect them during this pandemic and stop the spread of the Coronavirus, *we pray to the Lord*.

May our elected officials always strive to keep the Lord's Commandments and work for the protection of human life, from conception to natural death; *We ray to the Lord*.

Word of Life: “As Americans, as Catholics and as pastors of our people, we write therefore today *to call our fellow citizens back to our country's founding principles*, and most especially *to renew our national respect for the rights of those who are unborn, weak, disabled and terminally ill*. Real freedom rests on the inviolability of every person as a child of God.”

United States Conference of Catholic Bishops
“Living the Gospel of Life,” © 1998 USCCB.

**CHURCH OF ST. BERNARD
STEWARSHIP OF TIME
May 18 through May 24, 2020**

SERVERS:

Sat. 8:00pm Jim Monsen
Sun. 10:00am. Holly Feist & April Henkel

LECTORS:

Sat. 8:00 pm. Roger Storms
Sun. 10:00 am Breda Jones

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER:

Sat. 8:00pm Mary Meuwissen
Sun. 10:00am Lori Kasel

GREETERS:

Saturday 8:00pm Marcy Wickenhauser
Sunday 10:00am Brian Vos

USHERS

Sat. 8:00pm Ralph Laumann & Danny Hoen
Sun. 10:00am Vern Elke & Brian Vos

CHURCH CLEAN: Sarah Hammers

NARTHEX CLEANING: Sarah Hammers

MASS INTENTIONS

Sat. May 16 8:00pm. All Parishioners
Sun. May 17 10:00am. †Phyllis Vos
Mon. May 18 No Mass
Tues. May 19 6:15pm Mass at Ascension
Wed. May 20 8:00am †Shirley Brown
Thurs. May 21 8:00am †Bernice Peterson,
 †Leonard Meuleners & †Bill Middendorf
Fri. May 22 7:15am Mass at Ascension
Sat. May 23 8:00 pm †Paul Wickenhauser
 & All Parishioners
Sun. May 24 10:00am. †Muriel Wickenhauser

Stewardship of Treasure

Budget for week	3,148.60
Contributions 5-05 through 05-12-2020	1,280.00
Total Actual Collection YTD	170,644.50
YTD Collection Over (Under) Budget	4,819.30

Forward in Faith

Envelope Income	150.00
Electronic Donations	0.00
Forward in Faith Total	150.00
Forward in Faith YTD	21,145.68

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 ext.241, or visit www.st-bernard-cologne.org

**CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION
STEWARSHIP OF TIME
May 18 through May 24**

SERVERS:

Sat. 5:00 pm: Isabella Miller, Haley Stender
Sun. 8:00 am: Volunteer, Colin Willems

READERS:

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

EUCARISTIC MINISTERS:

Sat. 5:00 pm: Steve Lemmer
Sun. 8:00 am: Joe Weckman

COMMUNION TO THE HOMEBOUND

May 24th 8:00 am

Team A: Tim & Rita Fahey
Team B: Tim George & Steve Helget

USHERS FOR MAY:

Sat. 5:00 pm: Kent Fabel, Curt Wilson
Sun. 8:00 am: Jeremy Friendshuh, Steve Coyle

SACRISTAN:

Sat. 5:00 pm: Sherry Witte
Sun. 8:00 am: Pat Clark

GREETERS:

Sat. 5:00 pm: Pat Johnson
Sun. 8:00 am: Renee Garfunkel

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon.	May 18	No Mass
Tues.	May 19	6:15 pm Larry Schmitz †
Wed.	May 20	8:00 am Mass at St. Bernard
Thurs.	May 21	8:00 am Mass at St. Bernard
Fri.	May 22	7:15 am Fr. Evan Harkins †
Sat.	May 23	5:00 pm All Parishioners

**Weekly Collection Report
Totals for 05/10/2020**

Weekly Operating Budget:	\$3,379.81
Contributions:	\$1,160.00
E-Giving:	\$290.00
Weekly Budget YTD:	\$152,091.45
Actual Collection YTD:	\$136,945.64
Total Collected Over (Under) YTD	(\$15,145.81)
Capital Improvement Offering:	\$2,310.00
Capital Improvement-E-Giving:	\$75.00
Capital Improvement YTD:	\$13,964.00