

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

323 Reform St. N.
NYA, MN. 55368

PASTOR

Fr. Abraham Kochupurackal CMI

OFFICE952-856-1050
frabraham@st-bernard-cologne.org

ST. BERNARD CHURCH

212 Church Street E.
Cologne, MN. 55322



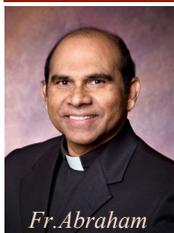
Website: AscensionNYA.org
Parish Office Hours:
Mon.—Wed & Fri. 9am—2pm
Office Phone: 952-467-3351
Business Administrator:
Sherry Witte.....952-777-0110
busadmin@ascensionnya.org
Safe Environment Coordinator:
Sarah Smith....952-777-0111
bookkeeper@ascensionnya.org

Website: St-Bernard-Cologne.org
Parish Office Hours:
Tues—Fri. 9am—2pm
Office Phone: 952-466-2031
Business Administrator:
Sherry Witte.....952-856-1051
busadmin@st-bernard-cologne.org
Safe Environment Coordinator:
Sarah Smith....952-856-1052
bookkeeper@st-bernard-cologne.org



Pentecost Sunday May 23, 2021

“Receive the Holy Spirit”



Dear Sisters and Brothers,

The Easter Season ends with the celebration of Pentecost. The Ordinary Time resumes Monday following Pentecost with the 8th week. On this Solemnity of Pentecost, we celebrate the wonderful good news that the Risen Lord has poured out his Spirit upon us. First of all, it is to convince us of his victory over sin and death. Secondly, it is to strengthen us to continue his work of salvation by our own love and concern for others.

Both the Jews and the Christians celebrate Pentecost. The word Pentecost is Greek for “*pentekoste*” which means “fiftieth.” The feast received this name because it was celebrated fifty days after the Feast of the Passover.

For Christians, it is a memorial of the day the Holy Spirit descended on the apostles and the Virgin Mary in the form of fiery tongues, an event that took place fifty days after the resurrection of Jesus. The feast also commemorates the official inauguration of the Church by the apostolic preaching of St. Peter, resulting in the conversion of 3,000 Jews to the Christian faith. Pentecost is, thus, the official birthday of the Church.

On the day of Pentecost, Jesus fulfilled his promise to send the Advocate or *Paraclete*. The gift of the Spirit would also enable them to fulfill Jesus’ commission to preach the gospel to all nations. Today’s gospel passage also tells us how Jesus gave to the Apostles the power and authority to forgive sins. “*Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained.*” (John 20:19-23) These wonderful words, which bind together inseparably the presence of the Holy Spirit and the gift of forgiveness, are referred to directly in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

The Acts of the Apostles (2:1-11) describes how the Holy Spirit empowered the early Christians to bear witness to Christ by their sharing love and strong faith. This “anointing by the Holy Spirit” also strengthened the early Christian martyrs during the period of brutal persecution that followed. Today’s Scripture readings remind us that the gift of the Holy Spirit moves its recipients to action and inspires them to share this gift with others.

How beautiful is the thought that the Holy Spirit lives within us! St. Paul reminds the Corinthian community of this fact when he asks, “*Do you not know that you are God’s temple and that God’s Spirit dwells in you?*” (1 Cor 3:16). It is the Holy Spirit who develops our intimacy with God. “*God has sent the Spirit of His Son into our hearts crying, ‘Abba’ (Father).*” (Gal. 4:6). “*God’s love has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.*” (Rom 5:5). “*No one can say, ‘Jesus is Lord,’ except by the Holy Spirit.*” (1 Cor 12:3). Moreover, we know that it is the Holy Spirit who teaches us to pray (Rom 8:26). By the power of the Spirit, we also know the Lord Jesus through his Church. It is the Holy Spirit who enlivens, enlightens, guides, and sanctifies the Church. We know Jesus through the Sacramental Mysteries of the Church, and the Holy Spirit is at the heart of the sacramental life of the Church. Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Orders are the Sacramental Mysteries through which people receive the seal of the Holy Spirit. It would be impossible for us to receive Jesus in the Eucharist without the descent of the Holy Spirit at the Epiclesis of the Divine Liturgy. Even the forgiveness of sins, comes through the Holy Spirit (John 20:21-23). The Holy Spirit both confirmed the apostles in Holy Orders as priests and empowered them to forgive sins by His power, a work which He continues today in each of our priests. Today is a great day to ask the Holy Spirit to rekindle in us the spirit of new life and enthusiasm, the fire of God’s love.

Ordination: Seven men will be ordained priests on May 29th, 10:00am at the Cathedral of St. Paul. It will be livestreamed via the Cathedral’s Facebook page. Please keep them in your prayers.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Abraham Kochupurackal CMI

Pastor

Bulletin copy is due by Thursdays @ NOON

for the bulletin two weekends out;
St. Bernard copy must be emailed to:
bulletin@st-bernard-cologne.org and
pquinn55322@hotmail.com

Ascension copy must be emailed to:
busadmin@ascensionnya.org

All inserts and weekend Mass announcements can be
emailed or a paper copy brought to the Parish office at
St. Bernard or Ascension.



**CALENDAR FOR ASCENSION AND
ST. BERNARDS' PARISHES**

All events cancelled until further notice.

There are different kinds of spiritual gifts
but the same Spirit. *1 Corinthians 12:4*

Church of Ascension Norwood Young America, MN

Please pray for the repose of the souls of Patricia A. Flusemann who passed away on May 2nd and **Margaret "Peg" Boyle** whose funeral was at Ascension on Wed., May 12th. May they rest in peace and may their souls and all the souls of the faithfully departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Also pray for peace and comfort for their families.

If **Pentecost** celebrates the gifts of the Spirit, it can tempt us to separate the Spirit from the Father and Jesus. Sometimes we think of the Father as the God of the Old Testament, Jesus as center of New Testament, and the Spirit as God of the present age, almost as if the Father and Jesus were enjoying their retirement. No, we have one God who is over all and in all. The Spirit has been active in all ages. The prophets were empowered by the Spirit to proclaim God's word to Israel. Jesus was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit. Jesus was filled with the Spirit as he preached and worked miracles. Then at Pentecost the disciples were filled with the Spirit. The Spirit's gifts are meant to be shared. The prophets could not help proclaim God's message. Jesus shared all he knew with his disciples. The disciples went out to the world to spread the news of Jesus' death and resurrection. So we, too, are given gifts to be shared. As we come to realize how much God has done for us and how close he is to us, we will want to share that with others. Obviously, we can't make everyone believe in Jesus. But how sad would it be if someone we know was looking for the truth and we neglected to offer it?
Tom Schmidt, Copyright (c) J. S. Paluch Co.

Spiritual Resources!

TV: Diocese of St. Cloud: Sun., 11 AM. on KSTCTV/45;—
Diocese of Winona-Rochester: Sun., 11:30 AM. on Fox 9+;
— Our Lady of Grace, Edina: Sun., Noon on Fox 9+ (Dish/
Direct 29, Comcast 10/807; Over Air 9.2);—EWTN: 7:00
AM, 11:00 AM, 6:00 PM.

Radio: Relevant Radio 1330am: Weekdays and Sun. at
noon, and at 9 a.m. — EWTN: ewtn.com/radio/listen-live

**Please pray the Rosary daily for our nation, our world,
an end to Abortion and an end to the Coronavirus.**

The following is a list of a few TV and Radio stations that
air the Rosary.

TV:EWTN: 6:30am, After the TV Mass at Approximately
8:00am.; 2:30pm.; 8:30pm.

— Catholic TV Network: 2:00 am; 9:00am; 5:30pm Nuvera
Nu Tel Cable TV Ch. 21

Radio: Revelant Radio 1330am: 7:00pm. "Family Rosary
across America"

Church of St. Bernard

Cologne, MN

The **Memorial Day Mass** this year will be held at **St. Bernard** on Monday, May 31st at 8:45am. The **Cologne VFW** Flags & Honor Guard will be at the St. Bernard cemetery at about 9:30am. to salute all veterans.

The **NYA VFW** and American Legion will be at the **Ascension Cemetery**, also on Monday, May 31st at about 9:30 am. There will be a short prayer service followed by the salute to all veterans.

HELP NEEDED: We are in need of help with lawn mowing this summer. If you are interested in volunteering your time helping with this stewardship opportunity, please contact Ralph Laumann at 952-992-0697 or the parish office at 952-466-2031. Any amount of volunteer time is welcomed. A schedule will be worked out for anyone interested in helping.

Resident House Mother

Enkrateia House of Hope (EHOH) located in the SW suburban area, is seeking a compassionate, highly efficient team player to assist in providing a positive social, intellectual, emotional and faith-filled spiritual living environment for pregnant mothers and their children. If you are called to be a part of this great ministry to transform a woman's life by being hands and feet of Christ, please call 612-508-0217 or send an e-mail to enkrateiahouseofhope@gmail.com. Please see the bulletin insert for more details. Or their website-<https://www.enkrateiahouseofhope.org>

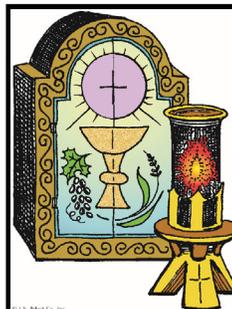
Word of Life "The Lord says to us, 'Do not fear: I am with you' (Isaiah 41:10). He speaks these words not as one who merely observes our pain, but as one who experienced immense suffering. And the very wounds that bear witness to his suffering indicate the essence of our identity and worth: we are loved by God. Reflecting on the healed wounds of the Risen Christ, we see that even our most difficult trials can be the place where God manifests his victory. He makes all things beautiful. He makes all things new."
USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities
"Be Not Afraid"
NABRE © 2010 CCD. Used with permission.

Mass Ministry Schedule - May 29 & 30, 2021

Mass Ministry	Ascension Sat. 5:00 pm	Ascension Sun 8:00 am	St. Bernard Sat. 8:00 pm	St. Bernard Sun. 8:00 am
Sacristan	Rita Fahey	Suspended until further notice	Suspended until further notice	Patricia Quinn
Servers	JMT Member			
Reader	JMT Member			Volunteer
Eucharistic Ministers	JMT Member			Vicki Amst
Ushers	JMT Member			Volunteer
Greeters	Suspended until further notice			Suspended until further notice
Homebound Ministers	Sue Tellers & Volunteer			Barb Knorr & Volunteers

Mass Times/Intentions

Day	Time	Mass	Intention
Monday	May 24	No Mass	
Tuesday	May 25 6:15 pm	Ascension	† Ann Fitz
Wednesday	May 26 8:00 am	St. Bernard	† Lawrence Zimmer
Thursday	May 27 8:00 am	St. Bernard	† Lorraine Hoen
Friday	May 28 6:15 pm	Ascension	† Kevin Knott
Saturday	May 29 5:00 pm	Ascension	† Dorothy Lewandowski
Sunday	May 30 10:00 am	St. Bernard	All Parishioners, † Robert G. Fritz, † Denann Karels



Eucharistic Adoration

Ascension
Every Tuesday & Friday
3:00 pm until 6:00 pm

St. Bernard
Every Wednesday
2:00 pm until 7:00 pm

SCRIPTURE READINGS May 24 – May 30, 2021

Monday: Gn 3:9-15, 20 or Acts 1:12-14; Ps 87:1-3, 5-7; Jn 19:25-34 **Tuesday:** Sir 35:1-12; Ps 50:5-8, 14, 23; Mk 10:28-31 **Wednesday:** Sir 36:1, 4-5a, 10-17; Ps 79:8, 9, 11, 13; Mk 10:32-45 **Thursday:** Sir 42:15-25; Ps 33:2-9; Mk 10:46-52 **Friday:** Sir 44:1, 9-13; Ps 149:1b-6a, 9b; Mk 11:11-26 **Saturday:** Sir 51:12cd-20; Ps 19:8-11; Mk 11:27-33 **Sunday:** Dt 4:32-34, 39-40; Ps 33:4-6, 9, 18-20, 22; Rom 8:14-17; Mt 28:16-20



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

By appointment with Father.
Call 952-856-1050

Anointing of the Sick

Call the parish office at any time.

St. Bernard Stewardship of Treasure

Budget for week	3,027.20
Contributions 05-05 through 05-11-21	3,644.00
Total Actual Collection YTD	169,901.62
YTD 12-31 Collection Over (Under) Budget	8,314.76
Forward in Faith Total 03-24 through 04-06-2021	
Envelope Income	475.00
Electronic Donations	0.00
Forward in Faith Total	475.00
Forward in Faith YTD	32,650.70
Catholic Home Missions Collection	60.00

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.org

Ascension Weekly Collection Report

Totals as of 5/9/2021

Weekly Operating Budget:	\$ 3,115.38
Contributions:	1,920.00
E-Giving:	750.00
Weekly Budget YTD:	140,192.10
Actual Collection YTD:	132,152.75
CUF-KC December Match:	7,500.00
Total Collected Over (Under) YTD:	(679.35)
Capital Improvement Offering:	20.00
Capital Improvement-E-Giving:	45.00
Capital Improvement YTD:	8,350.00

Sign up for electronic giving at ascensionnya.org
Under Links -> E-giving. Or call the parish office for more information: 952-467-3351.