

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

323 Reform St. N.
NYA, MN. 55368

PASTOR

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ST. BERNARD CHURCH

212 Church Street E.
Cologne, MN. 55322

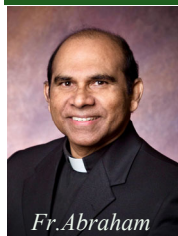


Website: AscensionNYA.org
Parish Office Hours:
Mon.—Wed & Fri. 9am—2pm
Office Phone: 952-467-3351
Business Administrator:
Sherry Witte.....952-777-0110
busadmin@ascensionnya.org
Safe Environment Coordinator:
Sarah Smith....952-777-0111
bookkeeper@ascensionnya.org

Website: St-Bernard-Cologne.org
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Safe Environment Coordinator:
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Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time - September 19, 2021



The Greatest is the Servant

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

At the screening of the film, “*Mother Teresa*”, during the celebration of the fortieth anniversary of the United Nations in 1983, the Secretary General, Javier Perez de Cuellar, introduced Mother Teresa to an elite gathering of the representatives of the member countries of the UN. He needed only one sentence for his introduction: “*I present to you the most powerful woman in the world!*”

Mother Teresa’s power consisted in humble, sacrificial, and Christian service to the humanity. She was a living proof of Jesus’ words in today’s gospel. When the Apostles argue among themselves as to who among them is the greatest, Jesus calls a child into their midst and thus begins to teach them the greatness of the Christian life: “If anyone wishes to be first, he shall be last of all and the servant of all.” (Mark 9:35) True greatness consists in serving one’s fellow men and is never self-centered. It lies in the ability to see and respond to the needs of others and it presupposes compassion and sympathy. Jesus, himself, is our model. He came not to be served, but to serve (Matthew 20:28). Paul the Apostle states that Jesus emptied himself and took the form of a servant (Philippians 2:7).

Jesus wants his disciples to substitute for their ambition to rule to serve, thus becoming the greatest. We are all supposed to be serving, whatever our position or role in the society, in the family or in the Church may be, because true greatness lies in being the servant of all. Ambition to rule always looks for its own positions and privileges by means of excuses, while desire to service seeks for opportunities to find privileges for others through sacrificial love.

The second reading is in tune with the dispute among the apostles about who is the greatest. St. James warns us that selfish ambitions destroy peace and cause conflicts and war. He advises us to choose the path of righteousness and humble service which leads to lasting peace. (James 3:16--4:3)

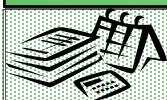
The humanity is still arguing and fighting about who is the greatest. Worldly understanding of greatness comes from enough wealth, influence, reputation and power to do whatever one wants. Jesus, on the other hand, reveals that human greatness has to do with living the truth of our relationship with God and with each other regardless of how much wealth or power we may possess.

The secret of understanding the greatness of Jesus and thereby the meaning of human greatness is to understand the relationship of Jesus with God. Jesus also reveals that our relationship with God is inseparable from our relationship with each other. Jesus calls us to seek the greatness by the loving service. Only by following in the way of Jesus we will be on the path to greatness.

Jesus calls us to set aside our own desires for the sake of others. Every day, every moment of the day you and I are called to consider others over ourselves. The needs of the children, the sick, the poor and the elderly call us away from ourselves and call us into Jesus. Every day we have to resist the temptation to selfishness, the temptation to put ourselves before others.

God will make the humble great and the world will realize it when the time comes. We need to ask the Holy Spirit to help us to become truly great through humble and selfless service. St Teresa of Calcutta puts it: “The fruit of Silence is Prayer. The fruit of Prayer is Faith. The fruit of Faith is Love. The fruit of Love is Service. And the fruit of Service is Peace.”

Yours in Christ, Fr. Abraham Kochupurackal, CMI, Pastor



CALENDAR FOR ASCENSION AND ST. BERNARD'S PARISHES

Sept 21 4:00pm Finance Council Mtg @ Asc
 Sept 23 7:00pm Finance Council Mtg @ StB

Faith Formation Volunteer Needed: Classes started on Wed., Sept. 8th. There is still one opening for *co-teaching in our confirmation program*. **We need to fill this position before classes can start for this program.** Please pray about sharing your unique gifts and experiences with our Confirmation students. **Contact:** Julie Kleindl to learn more.

The Parish Picnic will be held on Sept. 25th at the Legion Park in Norwood. Mass is at 4:00pm that day at Ascension with the picnic to follow. Bring your appetites and enjoy the fellowship.

St. Bernard's Chili feed and Cash Raffle is scheduled for Sat., Nov. 6th. Mass that day will be at 5:00pm followed by the Chili Feed.

Synod Small Group Meetings Let's talk...

If you ever start a sentence with, "The Church needs to..." then this is for you! Plan to discuss and provide input about the best ways for the local Catholic Church to form:

- * Parishes that are in the service of evangelization;
- * Missionary disciples who know Jesus's love and respond to his call; and
- * Youth and young adults in and for a Church that is always young.

Join a small group to discuss and give feedback on priorities within each Synod focus area. Mark your calendar for either Sunday mornings at 9:15am at Ascension starting on Sept. 26th or Tuesday evenings at 7:00pm at St. Bernard starting on Sept. 28th. Register for the parish of your choice at <https://tinyurl.com/427p2h6>. Registrations are not required but are requested for planning purposes.

Join Catholic author Dan Burke for *Into the Deep*, a mini-retreat to discover the depths of prayer at The Winery at Sovereign Estates ([9950 North Shore Road, Waconia, MN 55387](https://www.google.com/maps/place/9950+North+Shore+Road,+Waconia,+MN+55387)) from 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM on Sunday, September 26th. Registration is at \$29. Register at SpiritualDirection.com/Events.

"To teach in order to lead others to faith is the task of every preacher and of each believer."— *St. Thomas Aquinas*

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.

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"

Archdiocesan Candlelight Rosary Procession

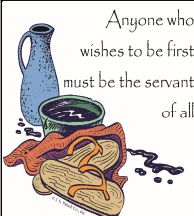
Friday, October 1, 6:30 p.m. at the Minnesota State Capitol, St. Paul. Join in praying the rosary as we process from the State Capitol to the Cathedral of Saint Paul. Gather at the MN State Capitol approach at 6:30 p.m., for the procession which will begin at 7 p.m. We will conclude with Marian prayers, Eucharistic Adoration, and Benediction at the Cathedral. See more information at minnesotarosaryprocessions.org.

IS THE HONEYMOON OVER? It doesn't have to be! A Marriage Encounter weekend can rekindle the excitement and romance in your relationship. This is a private weekend away from life's distractions that allows a husband and wife to focus on each other. The next **Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekends** are Oct 8-10, 2021 in Buffalo, MN and Feb 11-13, 2022 in Buffalo, MN. Early registration is highly recommended. For more information visit our website at: twincitieswwme.org or contact Brent & Tracy at applications@twincitieswwme.org or 612-756-8720.

Saint John's Abbey Guesthouse—Collegeville, MN

Day Retreat – Sept. 29, 2021; 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
An Introduction to a Celtic Way of Prayer
 Presented by David Keller and Emily Wilmer
 Cost: \$50 includes lunch.
 To learn more: <http://www.abbeyguesthouse.org> or call 320-363-3929.

All are Welcome! The East Union Lutheran Church in Carver will be hosting the **Annual Chicken Dinner** on Sunday, Sept. 26th from 4:00 pm—6:00pm. Featuring home-cooked chicken, potatoes, corn & homemade deserts. Adults \$12, children under 10 \$6.00.



Today's first two readings present a striking contrast between two pathways in life. In Wisdom and the letter from James we are told of the path of the wicked, which leads to oppression and violence. We also hear of the path of the faithful, which leads to peace and human flourishing. Then our Gospel reading from Mark takes our reflection farther. The choice is shown to be not so simple or obvious. The path of faithfulness means following Jesus' lead, to expand our circle of care toward everyone, especially the most vulnerable. This path also includes opening ourselves to suffering and trials, as we face resistance from within and from outside us. The two paths essentially diverge over whether we refuse or accept God's love. Each day we face such choices as God invites us into the divine circle of care and enlists us to extend our own circle to those around us. *Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.*

Mass Ministry Schedule - September 25-September 26, 2021

Mass Ministry	Ascension Sat. 5:00 pm	Ascension Sun. 8:00 am	St. Bernard Sun. 10:00 am
Sacristan	Sherry Witte	Kathy Kloempken	Doris Mielke
Servers	Bill Hart	Don Whitaker	Dan Worm
Reader	Darlene Mondor	Cheryl Coyle	Julie Kleindl
Eucharistic Ministers	Jean Schmitz	Lisa Whitaker	John Eiden
Ushers	Curt Wilson & Steve Schrupp	Florian Schindler & Eugene Dvorak	Brian Vos & Leo Willems
Greeters	Jan Mulville	Renee Garfunkel	Casey Jones & Andy Kleindl
Homebound Ministers	N/A	Grp A: Tim & Rita Fahey Grp B: Sue & Richard Tellers	Barb Knorr Connie Medenwaldt

Mass Times/Intentions

Monday	Sept. 20	No Mass	
Tuesday	Sept. 21 6:15 pm	Ascension	Tom Bohlinger †
Wednesday	Sept. 22 8:00 am	St. Bernard	Dennis & Bernice Wickenhauser ††
Thursday	Sept. 23 8:00 am	St. Bernard	Elvira Winkler †
Friday	Sept. 24 8:00 am	Ascension	Del Lano †
Saturday	Sept. 25 5:00 pm	Ascension	Clarence H. Green †
Sunday	Sept. 26 8:00 am	Ascension	Living & Deceased members of the Brown-Braunwarth family
Sunday	Sept. 26 10:00am	St. Bernard	All Parishioners & Robert G. Fritz †



Eucharistic Adoration

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

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

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. 5:45pm - 6:05pm

St. Bernard: Wed: 7:30am-7:50am

Saturday: 4:30pm—4:50pm

at parish hosting the Mass

By appointment with Father- Call 952-856-1050

Communion for Homebound

Ascension - Sue Tellers.....612-247-6881

St. Bernard - Barb Knorr.....952-466-2447

Anointing of the Sick

Call the parish office at any time.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Sept 20-26, 2021

Monday: Ezr 1:1-6; Ps 126:1b-6; Lk 8:16-18
Tuesday: Eph 4:1-7, 11-13; Ps 19:2-5; Mt 9:9-13
Wednesday: Ezr 9:5-9; Tb:13:2, 3-4abefghn, 7-8; Lk 9:1-6
Thursday: Hg 1:1-8; Ps 149:1b-6a, 9b; Lk 9:7-9
Friday: Hg 2:1-9; Ps 43:1-4; Lk 9:18-22
Saturday: Zec 2:5-9, 14-15a; Jer 31:10-12ab, 13;
 Lk 9:43b-45
Sunday: Nm 11:25-29; Ps 19:8, 10, 12-14; Jas 5:1-6; Mk 9:38-43, 45, 47-48



St. Bernard Stewardship of Treasure

Budget for week	3,325.50
Contributions 09-01 through 09-07-21	2,936.92
Total Actual Collection YTD	32,410.10
YTD Collection Over (Under) Budget	2,369.75
Forward in Faith	
Envelope Income	335.00
Electronic Donations	265.50
Forward in Faith Total	600.50
Forward in Faith YTD	5,453.34
Haiti Emergency Fund Col. For this week	260.00
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 9/05/2021

Weekly Operating Budget:	\$ 2,788.47
Contributions:	3,693.80
E-Giving:	240.00
Weekly Budget YTD:	27,884.70
Actual Collection YTD:	30,479.40
Total Collected Over (Under) YTD:	2,594.70
Capital Improvement Offering:	85.00
Capital Improvement-E-Giving:	25.00
Capital Improvement YTD:	2,105.00

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