

# CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

323 Reform St. N.  
NYA, MN. 55368

## PASTOR

Fr. Abraham Kochupurackal CMI  
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# ST. BERNARD CHURCH

212 Church Street E.  
Cologne, MN. 55322

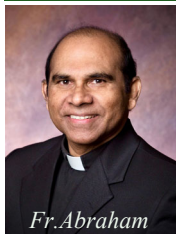


**Website:** AscensionNYA.org  
**Parish Office Hours:**  
Mon.—Wed & Fri. 9am—2pm  
**Office Phone:** 952-467-3351  
**Business Administrator:**  
Sherry Witte.....952-777-0110  
busadmin@ascensionnya.org  
**Safe Environment Coordinator:**  
Sarah Smith....952-777-0111  
bookkeeper@ascensionnya.org

**Website:** St-Bernard-Cologne.org  
**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  
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## Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time - September 5, 2021



Fr. Abraham

### Hear What Jesus Tells Us

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Today's Gospel is about the healing of a deaf and dumb man. (Mark 7:31-37). The way Jesus heals the man reminds us of the Sacrament of Baptism. Through the baptism, our ears are opened to hear the Word of God and our tongues are loosened to speak about Christ to others. Baptism is a sign of our full incorporation into the Body of Christ, his Church. It involves a total commitment on our part to the way of life that Jesus calls us to follow. A constituent part of that commitment is a growing openness to hear what Jesus tells us and a growing ability to be able to share our faith with others.

Why did Jesus heal the deaf and dumb man? One answer to that question is found in today's first reading (Isa 35:4-7). Isaiah says, "The deaf will hear...., and those who cannot speak will shout for joy." By healing the deaf and the dumb man, Jesus fulfils two of the signs that Isaiah says will help people to recognize the Messiah. Another answer to the question is to tell us something personal about Jesus. It tells us that he is a compassionate person. We see this, especially, in the way Jesus heals the man. Jesus takes him off, away from the crowd. Deaf people are often embarrassed by their situation. They can't understand the simplest question people ask them. By taking the man away from the crowd, Jesus shows real compassion for him.

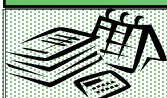
Jesus took him to have a personal encounter with the Messiah. He calls us too away from the crowd, away from the noise. The healing of the deaf and dumb man is a source of hope for many today. Many of us today are deaf and dumb-not physically, but spiritually.

There is a great deal of noise in our lives, but not just in the sense of sound. There is noise in the sense of disturbance - like the radio, the TV, the phone, those driving down the street with their radios and stereos on in loud voice. These are all audio noises, but there is also noise, disturbance, created by the continual worrying about tomorrow, the hanging on to the unhappy stories of the past. Quiet before the Lord is so important: A few moments before and after Mass, out of respect for the presence of the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament, out of respect for the needs of others to get away from the noise, out of respect for our own need to listen to the Lord in the quiet.

Hear the whisper of Christ on the cross, telling us in the darkest moments of our lives that we will get through this together. Hear the beautiful voice of the Holy Spirit singing the Love Song of God in our hearts. Hear the voice of Mary, reassuring the concerned steward at the wedding feast of Cana, and reassuring us, saying, "Do whatever he tells you." Hear the voice of our conscience within, calling us to the new life of the Lord's love, calling us to holiness.

Today's gospel is inviting us to give Jesus an opportunity to touch our tongue to loosen it, and put his fingers in our ears and open them, spiritually. It invites us to set aside a few minutes for daily prayer to let Jesus do for us what he did for the man in the gospel. It invites us to let Jesus heal us of our deafness and dumbness. More concretely, it is to set aside a few minutes for daily prayer to give Jesus a chance to touch us, heal us and make us a whole person once again.

Yours in Christ,  
Fr. Abraham Kochupurackal, CMI  
Pastor



**CALENDAR FOR ASCENSION AND ST. BERNARD'S PARISHES**

Sept 8 6:00pm FF Family Night/Registration @ Asc  
 Sept 10 9:00am Mass at the Haven, NYA  
 Sept 16 7:00pm Joint Mission Team (JMT) Mtg @ StB

**Faith Formation Volunteers Needed:** Weekly classes are scheduled to start on **Wed., Sept. 8th**. We are still in need of three volunteers to help teach. There is one opening to *co-teach in our confirmation program*. We also need two more volunteers in the *middle school Edge program*--you would be a small group leader and have some occasional teaching opportunities. **We need to fill these positions before classes can start.** Please pray about sharing your unique gifts and experiences with our FF students. **Contact:** Julie Kleindl to learn more.

**Correction:** On the Ascension Parish Statistics enclosed with the year end financial statements, the donations for the Food Shelf were left off. Parishioner donations paid to the Southwest Carver Food Shelf for the year were \$1588. Thank you!!

**Mark your Calendars!** It is Ascension's turn to host the **Parish Picnic** this year. It is scheduled for Sat., Sept. 25th and will be held at the Legion Park in NYA. Mass that day will be at 4:00pm with the picnic to follow.

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

**Synod Small Group Meetings**

We will have three opportunities to join a Synod small group. Sunday mornings at 9:15am at Ascension, Sunday mornings at 11:15am at St. Bernard and on Wed. evening at 6:15pm at Ascension (this one coincides with Faith Formation classes so parents can attend while their children are in class). There will be six weekly sessions starting Sun, Sept 26th and Wed. Sept 29th. We will not meet during MEA break.

You may participate in any of these sessions at whichever meeting time works best for your schedule. This is our opportunity to give Archbishop Hebda feedback on the priorities we would like to see as focus areas in our parishes and Archdiocese.

The family is the little Church where we begin to encounter God, to love him, and to form personal ties with him.

— Robert Cardinal Sarah.



**Mon. Sept 6th—Office Closed**

Blessings to everyone who works to support your families, communities, faith and charitable endeavors.

**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](http://twincitieswwme.org) or contact Brent & Tracy at [applications@twincitieswwme.org](mailto:applications@twincitieswwme.org) <<mailto:wmandbethnickles@hotmail.com>> or 612-756-8720.

**Missionary Appeal Collection:  
Sept. 11-12 at all Masses**

**REACH OUT TO PERU'S POOR:** Each year throughout the parishes in the United States, people have the opportunity to hear about the world missions. On the weekend of **September 11-12, 2021, Sister Carolyn Puccio, CSJ will speak at the masses on behalf of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet** that work among the people living in poverty in Peru. Sister Carolyn is well aware of the needs of the Sisters of St. Joseph and the people to whom they minister in Peru. The pandemic has compounded the hardships of the people in Peru. Currently, the Sisters of St. Joseph are using donations to provide food for families that have nothing to eat; oxygen to those with Covid-19, and funds to assist families with funeral expenses for those who have died from the coronavirus. Your prayers are requested for the sisters in Peru and your generosity in the special collection for Peru will be greatly appreciated.



Our readings this Sunday describe God's work of liberation for those who are vulnerable. Isaiah portrays the coming of God in terms of the healing of the blind, the deaf, and the lame. James notes that God chooses the poor to be rich in faith. In Mark's Gospel, Jesus heals a deaf person who has a speech impediment. The readings remind us of the acute struggles of the disabled, the excluded, and the poor. In the last year and a half, the pandemic has reminded us that we are all vulnerable, that illness and death are near us always. Today we hear that God's presence is revealed when God lifts us up, and when we join God to lift each other up. Our care for others, especially those in greatest need, can be our grateful response to God's healing of us in our own vulnerability. *Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.*

**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](mailto:bulletin@st-bernard-cologne.org) and [pquinn55322@hotmail.com](mailto:pquinn55322@hotmail.com)

**Ascension** copy must be emailed to: [busadmin@ascensionnya.org](mailto: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](http://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"

## Mass Ministry Schedule - September 11-September 12, 2021

Mass Ministry	Ascension Sat. 5:00 pm	Ascension Sun. 8:00 am	St. Bernard Sun. 10:00 am
<b>Sacristan</b>	Ann Dettmann	Sherry Witte	Doris Mielke
<b>Servers</b>	Jack Lano	Steve Lemmer	Dan Worm
<b>Reader</b>	Cathleen Williams	Jean Schmitz	Ally Kunkel
<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>	Bill Hart	Lisa Whitaker	Tom Kasel
<b>Ushers</b>	Jim Mulville & Steve Schrupp	Don Whitaker & Josh Gallus	Andy Kleindl & Leo Willems
<b>Greeters</b>	Sue Schultz	Amy & Justin Buckentin	Casey Jones & Julie Kleindl
<b>Homebound Ministers</b>	N/A	Grp A: Rich & Sue Tellers Grp B: Tim & Rita Fahey	Barb Knorr Connie Medenwaldt

### Mass Times/Intentions

Day	Date	Mass	Intentions
Monday	Sept. 6	No Mass	
Tuesday	Sept. 7 <b>6:15 pm</b>	Ascension	Living & deceased members of the Braunwarth family
Wednesday	Sept. 8 <b>8:00 am</b>	St. Bernard	Hilbert & Euella Knauer ††
Thursday	Sept. 9 <b>8:00 am</b>	St. Bernard	Elvira Winkler †
Friday	Sept. 10 <b>8:00 am</b>	Ascension	For All the Unborn
Saturday	Sept. 11 <b>5:00 pm</b>	Ascension	Dennis & Bernice Wickenhauser ††
Sunday	Sept. 11 <b>8:00 am</b>	Ascension	All Parishioners
Sunday	Sept. 12 <b>10:00am</b>	St. Bernard	Paul Wickenhauser †, Bernice Wickenhauser † & All Parishioners



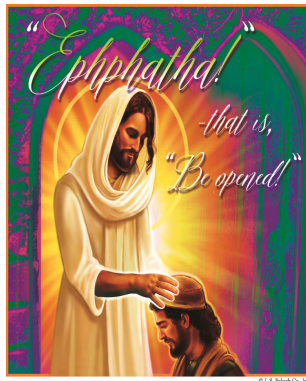
### Eucharistic Adoration

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

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

**SCRIPTURE READINGS**  
Sept 6—12, 2021

**Monday:** Col 1:24 — 2:3; Ps 62:6-7, 9; Lk 6:6-11 **Tuesday:** Col 2:6-15; Ps 145:1b-2, 8-11; Lk 6:12-19 **Wednesday:** Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30; Ps 13:6 Mt 1:1-16, 18-23 [18-23] **Thursday:** Col 3:12-17; Ps 150:1b-6; Lk 6:27-38 **Friday:** 1 Tm 1:1-2, 12-14; Ps 16:1b-2a, 5, 7-8, 11; Lk 6:39-42 **Saturday:** 1 Tm 1:15-17; Ps 113:1b-7; Lk 6:43-49 **Sunday:** Is 50:5-9a; Ps 116:1-6, 8-9; Jas 2:14-18; Mk 8:27-35



### 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.

### St. Bernard Stewardship of Treasure

Budget for week	2,930.47
<b>Contributions 08-18 through 08-24-21</b>	<b>3,555.00</b>
Total Actual Collection YTD	26,656.18
<b>YTD Collection Over (Under) Budget</b>	<b>2,871.30</b>
<b>Forward in Faith</b>	
Envelope Income	560.00
Electronic Donations	100.00
<b>Forward in Faith Total</b>	<b>660.00</b>
<b>Forward in Faith YTD</b>	<b>4,777.84</b>

**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](http://www.st-bernard-cologne.org)

### Ascension Weekly Collection Report

Totals as of 8/22/2021

<b>Weekly Operating Budget:</b>	\$ 2,788.47
<b>Contributions:</b>	1,095.35
<b>E-Giving:</b>	875.00
<b>Weekly Budget YTD:</b>	22,307.76
<b>Actual Collection YTD:</b>	23,867.60
<b>Total Collected Over (Under) YTD:</b>	1,559.84
<b>Capital Improvement Offering:</b>	170.00
<b>Capital Improvement-E-Giving:</b>	80.00
<b>Capital Improvement YTD:</b>	1,730.00

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