

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

323 Reform St. N.
NYA, MN. 55368

PASTOR

Fr. Abraham Kochupurackal CMI

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

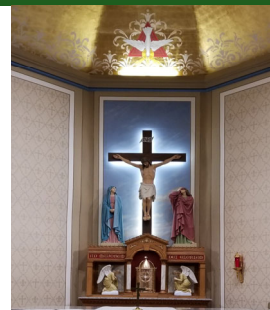
ST. BERNARD CHURCH

212 Church Street E.
Cologne, MN. 55322

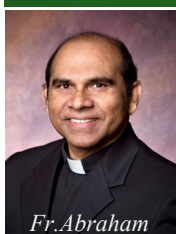


Website: AscensionNYA.org
Parish Office Hours:
Mon.—Wed & Fri. 9am—2pm
Office Phone: 952-467-3351
Business Administrator:
Sherry Witte.....952-777-0110
busadmin@ascensionnya.org
Safe Environment Coordinator:
Sarah Smith....952-777-0111
bookkeeper@ascensionnya.org

Website: St-Bernard-Cologne.org
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Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time - November 7, 2021



Fr. Abraham

Stewardship: Joy of Giving

Dear Sisters and brothers,

Jesus taught his disciples a lesson in giving with joy by praising a poor widow who gave the smallest of coins in contrast with the rich who gave greater amounts. Jesus taught that real giving must come from the heart. A gift that is given with unwillingness or for display loses most of its value. But a gift given out of love, with a spirit of generosity and sacrifice, is invaluable. Such a giver enjoys the joy of giving. The amount or size of the gift doesn't matter as much as the cost to the giver. The poor widow could have kept one of her coins, but

instead she recklessly gave away all she had. What we have to offer may look very small and not worth much, but if we put what we have at the Lord's disposal, no matter how insignificant it may seem, then God can do with it and with us what is beyond our calculation.

This is our third weekend of prayerful reflection on stewardship. On the past two weekends, we reflected on stewardship as an expression of gratitude and love. And this weekend's theme is joyful giving. If a parish is looking for a particular weekend to reflect seriously on stewardship and giving, perhaps this is the ideal weekend. The Gospel message challenges a person to consider the level of his or her giving. Is it out of his or her surplus; or is it an appropriate percentage of his or her income?

Some of you have been contributing your time, talents and money to this parish for decades and decades. You have lived a good part of your life in this parish. You have raised a family, you and your spouse have worked hard for decades, and you have been giving this parish a generous amount of your income, your time and service for years and years. However, your lives have changed. Perhaps you have found yourself on a fixed income now. Moreover, all of you have experienced some financial pain during these months of pandemic. Still, you have kept up the same amount of giving despite the decrease in your own income.

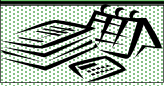
However, some of you may not be contributing what is just according to your particular talents, or time or treasure. This weekend can serve as a time to pause to think about what you contribute. Is it too much according to your financial situation? Is it too little according to your financial situation? Or is it a proportionate and generous contribution? We are not asked to neglect our every day needs of sustenance. We are asked to support our church according to each of our own financial situations.

Jesus is speaking to us in a special way, about the joyful giving through the story of the poor widow. For he has reminded us else where in the gospel: "Give and gifts will be given to you; a good measure, packed together, shaken down, and overflowing, will be poured into your lap. For the measure with which you measure will in return be measured out to you." (Luke 6:38).

In our parish we have many people who are extraordinarily generous in offering their gifts, their time and talents through the various ministries in which they are involved. Their sacrificial actions build up our community. Their lives enable the community to become more faithful. These parishioners have been instrumental in helping the parish grow and become the vibrant community of faith that we are today.

I believe, you have already received the Stewardship letter and Commitment Cards in the mail. Please take time during this week to reflect on the blessings you have received from God and how you might use your time, talents and treasure generously to serve our parish and others. Please return your completed Stewardship Commitment Cards by mail or at Mass by November 20-21. I am thankful to all of you for your tremendous faith and commitment to our parish and for all the ways that you use your gifts and talents and time to lift up and bring light to our community.

Yours in Christ, Fr. Abraham Kochupurackal CMI, Pastor



CALENDAR FOR ASCENSION AND ST. BERNARDS' PARISHES

Nov 12 9:00am Mass at the Haven
 Nov 16 4:00pm Finance Council @ Asc
 Nov 18 7:00pm Joint Mission Team @ StB
 Nov 18 Noon Early deadline for the bulletin of Nov. 28, 2021
 Nov 28 9:00am Thanksgiving Mass @ Asc

JMT Members Needed!!

The JMT is our joint parish council and assists Father with the pastoral needs/direction of our parishes. We have two positions open **at each parish** on the Joint Mission Team (JMT) committee. One position will be for a two year term and the second position will be for a three year term. We did not have elections last year due to Covid so that is why there are two positions open at each parish this year. Elections are held in November with the winning candidate taking office at the January 2022 meeting. Interested persons should contact Father, any of the current JMT members or the parish office.



Stewardship Commitment Forms/Cards

Our Stewardship Renewal Drive is underway. The Stewardship mailings with the Stewardship booklet, Commitment Card and Treasure Commitment Form were mailed this week. We are in need of more ministers for most all of the Mass ministries and desperately in need of members on the JMT and for grounds care during the summer. Please review the ministries in the booklet and prayerfully discern how God has uniquely gifted you to determine if you can help in any of these areas. All volunteers are greatly appreciated!!



We need your voice! Only one session left!

Session 6 topics for Nov 7th at Ascension & Nov 9th at St. Bernard are: 1) **Youth Ministry (grades 6-12)** and 2) **Young Adult Ministry (ages 18-35)**. Please join us on Sunday morning at 9:15am at Ascension or Tuesday evening at 7:00pm at St. Bernard. Hope to see you there! Information from all the sessions was sent to the Archdiocesan Symon Committee for compilation in preparation for the Deanery Meetings being held in February. **THANK YOU** to ALL who took the time to come, enjoy the conversation and hospitality, and to offer your opinions and ideas. Our **Prize Drawing** for those attending will be at this session!!

“Recall then that you have received the spiritual seal, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of right judgment and courage, the spirit of knowledge and reverence, the spirit of holy fear in God’s presence. Guard what you have received. God the Father has marked you with his sign; Christ the Lord has confirmed you and has placed his pledge, the Spirit, in your hearts.” — *St. Ambrose*

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

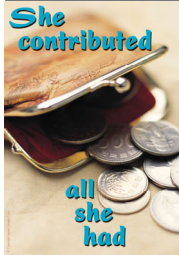
All inserts and weekend Mass announcements can be emailed or a paper copy brought to the Parish office at St. Bernard or Ascension.

Catholic Campaign for Human Development

Our special collection Nov. 20-21 will support the CCHD. More than thirty-eight million people in the United States live in poverty. This collection supports programs that empower people to identify and address the obstacles they face as they work to bring permanent and positive change to their communities. Learn more about CCHD at www.usccb.org/cchd



May God bless ALL veterans for your service to our country. May He especially keep those who lost their lives in service close to His heart.



SELF-SACRIFICING GIFT

Today’s Gospel episode takes place just after Jesus enters Jerusalem immediately before his Passion. Trustfully and with self-sacrifice, like Zarephath’s widow and the widow whom Jesus sees at the temple, Jesus will give his all for our redemption. Thus Jesus emphasizes of the widow he sees that her gift is unreserved: “from her poverty, all she had, her whole livelihood” (Mark 12:44). And, doubtlessly, Jesus saw himself and his self-giving in her and her self-giving. In Mark’s next chapter Jesus predicts the downfall of this very temple. So the widow’s unreserved giving from what she could not afford must have struck Jesus both as a victimization by others and, in the end, as a useless gift: the building controlled by the scribes’ manipulation was destined for destruction. Her giving became a vivid prefiguring of his own victimization by others in the unreserved giving of his very life, which would seem to many a useless gift, for Jesus would die and be buried. Only Jesus’ true disciples—are we?—believe that, by his resurrection, Jesus has become the Cornerstone of the new building, the Church, that replaces that torn-down temple. Therefore, we are to make our own gift of self to God in our unceasing gift of self-sacrificing love to others until Jesus comes again.
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Word of Life—“I would now like to say a special word to women who have had an abortion. The Church is aware of the many factors which may have influenced your decision, and she does not doubt that in many cases it was a painful and even shattering decision. The wound in your heart may not yet have healed. ...But do not give in to discouragement and do not lose hope. ...The Father of mercies is ready to give you his forgiveness and his peace in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.”
Pope Saint John Paul II, Evangelium vitae, no. 99. © 1995, Libreria Editrice Vaticana. Used with permission. All rights reserved.

Stewardship Prayer

Our Father,
 You have given us all that we are and all that we have.
 Thank You.
 Give us the wisdom and the strength to care for these gifts in ways that are pleasing to You.
 To develop them;
 to share them generously with our parish and others;
 to return them with increase to You,
 as You have asked us to do.
 We ask this in the name of Jesus our Savior and through the Holy Spirit.
 Amen

Mass Ministry Schedule - November 13-November 14, 2021

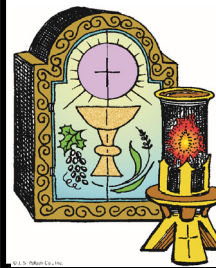
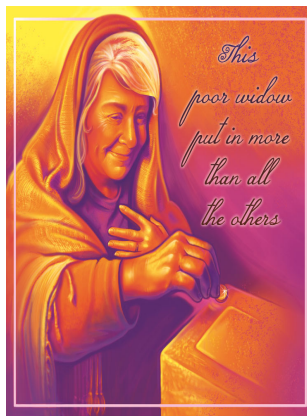
Mass Ministry	Ascension Sat. 5:00 pm	Ascension Sun. 8:00 am	St. Bernard Sun. 10:00 am
Sacristan	Rita Fahey	Kathy Kloempken	Doris Mielke
Servers	Steve Lemmer	Florian Schindler	Dan Worm
Reader	Ann Schwichtenberg	Brian Willems	Helen Nicklaus
Eucharistic Ministers	Jean Schmitz	Lisa Whitaker	Meghan Stusynski
Ushers	Rick Ulrich & Steve Schrupp	Don Whitaker & Josh Gallus	Vern Elke & Leo Willems
Greeters	Cathleen Williams	Grace Cook	Sarah Foley & Brian Vos
Homebound Ministers	N/A	Grp A: Rich & Sue Tellers Grp B: Theresa Hartmann & Pat Johnson	Doris Mielke Patricia Quinn

Mass Times/Intentions

Day	Date	Mass	Intention
Monday	Nov. 8	No Mass	
Tuesday	Nov. 9 6:15 pm	Ascension	Del Lano †
Wednesday	Nov. 10 8:00 am	St. Bernard	Elvira Winkler †
Thursday	Nov. 11 8:00 am	St. Bernard	All Military Veterans
Friday	Nov. 12 8:00 am	Ascension	For All Elected Officials
Saturday	Nov. 13 5:00 pm	Ascension	Dennis & Bernice Wickenhauser ††
Sunday	Nov. 14 8:00 am	Ascension	All Parishioners
Sunday	Nov. 14 10:00am	St. Bernard	John Slimmer † & All Parishioners

SCRIPTURE READINGS Nov 8-14, 2021

Monday: Wis 1:1-7; Ps 139:1b-10; Lk 17:1-6
Tuesday: Ez 47:1-2, 8-9, 12; Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9; 1 Cor 3:9c-11, 16-17; Jn 2:13-22
Wednesday: Wis 6:1-11; Ps 82:3-4, 6-7; Lk 17:11-19
Thursday: Wis 7:22b — 8:1; Ps 119:89-91, 130, 135, 175; Lk 17:20-25
Friday: Wis 13:1-9; Ps 19:2-5ab; Lk 17:26-37
Saturday: Wis 18:14-16; 19:6-9; Ps 105:2-3, 36-37, 42-43; Lk 18:1-8
Sunday: Dn 12:1-3; Ps 16:5, 8-11; Heb 10:11-14, 18; Mk 13:24-32



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.

St. Bernard Stewardship of Treasure

Budget for week	2,781.07
Contributions 10-20 through 10-26-21	3,176.00
Total Actual Collection YTD	51,339.36
YTD Collection Over (Under) Budget	197.73
Forward in Faith	
Envelope Income	369.00
Electronic Donations	0.00
Forward in Faith Total	369.00
Forward in Faith YTD	8,356.26
World Mission Collection	616.00

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 10/24/2021

Weekly Operating Budget:	\$ 2,788.47
Contributions:	2,073.00
E-Giving:	1,005.00
Weekly Budget YTD:	47,403.99
Actual Collection YTD:	46,948.40
Total Collected Over (Under) YTD:	(455.59)
Capital Improvement Offering:	120.00
Capital Improvement-E-Giving:	100.00
Capital Improvement YTD:	3,945.00

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