

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

323 Reform St. N.
NYA, MN. 55368

PASTOR

Fr. Abraham Kochupurackal CMI

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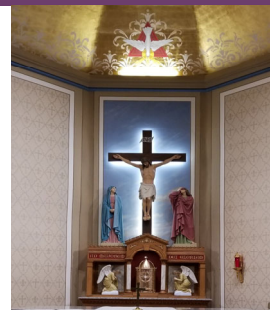
ST. BERNARD CHURCH

212 Church Street E.
Cologne, MN. 55322

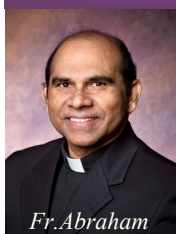


Website: AscensionNYA.org
Parish Office Hours:
Mon.—Wed & Fri. 9am—2pm
Office Phone: 952-467-3351
Business Administrator:
Sherry Witte.....952-777-0110
busadmin@ascensionnya.org
Safe Environment Coordinator:
Sarah Smith....952-777-0111
bookkeeper@ascensionnya.org

Website: St-Bernard-Cologne.org
Parish Office Hours:
Tues—Fri. 9am—2pm
Office Phone: 952-466-2031
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Safe Environment Coordinator:
Sarah Smith....952-856-1052
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The Second Sunday of Advent - December 5, 2021



Fr. Abraham

Prepare for the Coming of the Lord

My Dear Sisters and Brothers,

On this Second Sunday of Advent, we hear the challenging call of John the Baptist, the baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins; and to prepare the way of the Lord (Lk 3: 1-6). We need to open ourselves to further conversion, to an ever deeper change of heart, to a deeper listening to what Jesus is asking of us, “Lord, what do you want me to do, to be?”

We need to find total reconciliation with God and with all those people who come into our lives. Forgiveness involves a total reconciliation with our God and with all those whom we have hurt or with whom we have come in conflict. It is a healing, a making whole. This is how we have to “prepare a way for the Lord.

Advent is a time to evaluate our actions, to see how we practice our Christian faith. John the Baptist invited us to prepare ourselves for the entry of Jesus into our lives. This preparation should include our firm resolution to change our lives and leave sin behind. We can do this by examining our conscience to identify our weak points and our strong points. Do we follow what the Lord asks of us in Holy Scripture? Or are we trying to make God accommodate himself to what is convenient for us? Let us confess our sins and humbly do whatever penance is necessary. In this way, we will be able to receive the Body and the Blood of Our Lord as we should and it will nourish us.

Doing charity is a good way of preparation for the coming of the Lord. We are doing various charitable works through out the year. This Advent season challenges us in a special way to announce the Good News to those who are suffering from various sickness and poverty. When we act in such a way that those who experience our sacrifice can say of us: This person follows Christ. In him or her, there is love of God.

Like John the Baptist, each one of us has a mission to communicate, the Spirit of Christ and his message of hope, love, freedom and peace. We are called to help people fill the valleys and make their rough paths smoother. A word of affirmation and encouragement can work wonders. To have a naturally cheerful disposition can be a real witness of Christian joy.

Advent is a time of special prayers, so that prayer opens our eyes to the presence of God, helping us to see everything in proper perspective and implants in our hearts peace even in the midst of problems and pains.

December 8th, the Solemnity of the **Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary**, Patronal Feast Day of the United States of America. It is a holy day of obligation. We have two Masses on the Feast day, 8:00 am at St. Bernard and 6:45pm at Ascension.

End of the Year of St. Joseph: The end of the Year of St. Joseph occurs on Wednesday **December 8, 2021**. Archbishop Hebda will mark the occasion with a special Mass that evening 7:00 pm at the Cathedral of St. Paul, to which all are invited. This Mass fulfills the obligation to attend Mass on the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception.

Yours in Christ, Fr. Abraham Kochupurackal CMI, Pastor



CALENDAR FOR ASCENSION AND ST. BERNARDS' PARISHES

Dec 8	8:00am	Immaculate Conception Mass @ StB
Dec 8	6:45pm	Immaculate Conception Mass @ Asc
Dec 9	Noon	Early deadline for Dec. 19th bulletin.
Dec. 15	Noon	Early deadline for Dec. 26th bulletin
Dec 15	6:30-8:00pm	Combined Reconciliation @ Asc
Dec 16	7:00pm	Joint Mission Team Meeting @ StB

Advent/Christmas/New Years Schedule

Immaculate Conception Masses—Holy Day of Obligation

Dec. 8 **8:00am @ StB** and **6:45pm @Asc**

Combined Reconciliation Service

Dec. 15 **6:30—8:00pm @ Asc**

Christmas Schedule

Dec. 24 **4:00pm @ Asc** and **6:30pm @ StB**

Dec. 25 **8:00am @ Asc** and **10:00am @ StB**

Feast of the Holy Family (4th weekend of month schedule)

Dec. 25 **5:00pm @ Asc**

Dec. 26 **8:00am @ Asc** and **10:00am @ StB**

NOTE: Mass attendance at Christmas and the Feast of the Holy Family are required. Attending one Mass on Dec 25th will NOT fulfill both obligations.

New Year's and Solemnity of Mary/Epiphany

Jan 1 **5:00pm @ StB**

Jan 2 **8:00am @ Asc** and **10:00am @ StB**

Note: The Solemnity of Mary Holy Day obligation has been suspended this year as it falls on a Saturday and Sunday is the celebration of the Epiphany of the Lord.

The knotting **Quilting Group** from Church of the Ascension have plans to start meeting in the lower level of the Narthex at St. Bernard Church. We will be meeting Tuesdays from 9:00-12:00, come when you are available. Please bring a scissors for cutting yarn and a pliers. Prior knowledge NOT necessary. We would like to see more members from both parishes as we have many quilt tops to knot off. Questions - please call Irene Yaeck: 612-716-7063

CSAF Update: Contributions for the Catholic Services Appeal Foundation campaign need to be postmarked by Dec. 31st in order to qualify for the parish rebate. Ascension's goal is \$9,290. Received so far is \$12,690. St. Bernard's goal is \$11,549. Received so far is \$10,795. Just short by \$754. Please prayerfully consider a contribution to bring us up to goal. Thank you to everyone who has supported this campaign and the 20 designated ministries supported by CSAF.

Envelopes for Christmas Flower memorials are in your envelop packets for December. Please designate who the memorial is for and place them in the Sunday collection.

"A man's soul is as full of voices as a forest; there are ten thousand tongues there like all the tongues of the trees: fancies, follies, memories, madness's, mysterious fears, and more mysterious hopes. All sanity in life consists in coming to the conclusion that some of those voices have authority and others do not." — *G. K. Chesterton*

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.

Your Prayers are Requested: for the repose of the Soul of *Marcy Wickenhauser*, who passed away Friday, November 26th . Her funeral was on Thursday, December 2nd. Please also pray for peace and comfort for her family. May her soul and all the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.



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.

Advent 2021: Area Reconciliation Services

CATHOLIC CHURCH	LOCATION	DATE	TIME
Saints Joachim & Anne			
St. Mark	Shakopee	Dec 4	8:00am- 5:00pm
St. Mary	Waverly	Dec 6	7:00pm
St. Victoria	Victoria	Dec 7	6:30pm
Holy Name of Jesus Wayzata	Tuesdays	7:00 pm - 8:00 pm	
St. Bernard & Ascension	NYA	Dec 15	8:00 pm
Our Lady of the Lake	Mound	Dec 15	6:30 pm
St. Hubert	Chanhassen	Dec. 16	6:30pm
St. Joseph	Waconia	Dec 19	4:00 pm

Worldwide Marriage Encounter

"Yet, O LORD, you are our father; we are the clay and you the potter; we are all the work of your hands." As we begin the waiting of advent, let us strive to become the work of his hands by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next Weekends are Feb 11-13, 2022 in Buffalo, MN and May 6 -8, 2022 in Buffalo, MN. For more information, call Brent & Tracy Chessen at 612-756-8720 or visit them at twincitieswwme.org.



Second Sunday of Advent

AN UNNOTICED ADVENT

Today Luke solemnly announces the names of the secular and sacred powers who thought they held the world's destiny in their hands. But they completely missed the decisive event that forever changed the world's religious and political history. When no one else was listening, God's Word came to a nobody, John the Baptist, and not in the temple sanctuary or palace throne room, but "out in the sticks," the Word that would one day cleanse the temple and topple thrones. The powerful names that Luke announces were not popular with ordinary people: times were tough, the economy was bad, people were having to make do with less; and those names reminded common folks that so much of life was beyond their control. Sound familiar? Yet just then, when many were far from hopeful, God acted decisively to save the people, and John the Baptist invited his listeners then, and us today, to join in the Good News of new life.

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Mass Ministry Schedule - Dec. 8-Immaculate Conception & Dec. 11-12, 2021

Mass Ministry	St. Bernard-Dec. 8 Imm. Conc.-8am.	Ascension-Dec. 8 Imm. Conc- 6:45pm.	Ascension Sat. 5:00 pm	Ascension Sun. 8:00am	St. Bernard Sun. 10:00 am.
Sacristan	Doris Mielke	Sherry Witte	Ann Dettmann	Brian Willems	Doris Mielke
Servers	Dan Worm	Florian Schindler	Jack Lano	Paul Prosocki	Daniel Worm
Reader	Lori Kasel	Ann Schwichtenberg	Darlene Mondor	Cheryl Coyle	Rob Wickenhauser
EMHC	Victoria Amst	Steve Lemmer	Cathleen Williams	Kathy Kloempken	Julie Clemensen
Ushers	Vern Elke & Leo Willems	Steve Schrupp & Jeremy Friendshuh	Tom Lano & Jim Mulville	Josh Gallus & Tim George	Tom Dahl & Andy Kleindl
Greeters	Roger Storms	Sue Schultz	Leo Pouliot	Grace Cook	Casey Jones & Julie Kleindl
Homebound Ministers	N/A	N/A	N/A	Theresa Hartmann & Pat Johnson Paul & Corrine Prosocki	Doris Mielke & Patricia Quinn

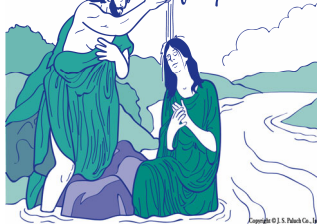
Mass Times/Intentions

Monday	Dec 6	No Mass	
Tuesday	Dec 7 6:15 pm	Ascension	Patricia Prchal †
Wednesday	Dec 8 8:00 am	St. Bernard	Nick & Rebecca † Shamla
Wednesday	Dec 8 6:45 pm	Ascension	For Pope Francis
Thursday	Dec 9 8:00 am	St. Bernard	Martin J. Quinn †
Friday	Dec 10 8:00 am	Ascension	Bernice & Dennis Wickenhauser ††
Saturday	Dec 11 5:00 pm	Ascension	Clarence H. Green †
Sunday	Dec 12 8:00 am	Ascension	All Parishioners
Sunday	Dec 12 10:00 am	St. Bernard	Stanley Paul † & All Parishioners

SCRIPTURE READINGS Dec 6-12, 2021

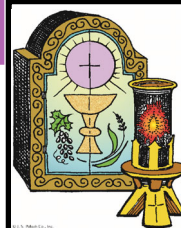
Monday: Is 35:1-10; Ps 85:9-14; Lk 5:17-26 **Tuesday:** Is 40:1-11; Ps 96:1-3, 10ac, 11-13; Mt 18:12-14 **Wednesday:** Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1-4; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38 **Thursday:** Is 41:13-20; Ps 145:1, 9-13ab; Mt 11:11-15 **Friday:** Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Mt 11:16-19 **Saturday:** Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80: 2ac, 3b, 15-16, 18-19; Mt 17:9a, 10-13 **Sunday:** Zep 3:14-18a; Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6; Phil 4:4-7; Lk 3:10-18

John proclaimed a baptism of repentance



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	3,183.50
Contributions 11-17 through 11-23-21	2,879.00
Total Actual Collection YTD	63,638.45
YTD Collection Over (Under) Budget	165.25
Forward in Faith	
Envelope Income	225.00
Electronic Donations	0.00
Forward in Faith Total	225.00
Forward in Faith YTD	10,935.18
Campaign for Human Development Collection	426.00
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 11/21/2021

Weekly Operating Budget:	\$ 2,788.47
Contributions:	3,538.00
E-Giving:	240.00
Weekly Budget YTD:	58,557.87
Actual Collection YTD:	58,443.40
Total Collected Over (Under) YTD:	(124.47)
Capital Improvement Offering:	20.00
Capital Improvement-E-Giving:	25.00
Capital Improvement YTD:	4,400.00

Sign up for electronic giving at ascensionnva.org

Under Links -> E-giving. Or call the parish office for more information: 952-467-3351.