

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

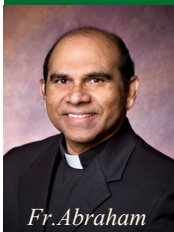


Website: AscensionNYA.org
Parish Office Hours:
Mon.—Wed & Fri. 9am—2pm
Office Phone: 952-467-3351
Business Administrator:
Sherry Witte.....952-777-0110
busadmin@ascensionnya.org
Safe Environment Coordinator:
Sarah Smith....952-777-0111
bookkeeper@ascensionnya.org

Website: St-Bernard-Cologne.org
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



The Seventh Sunday In Ordinary Time - February 20, 2022



Fr. Abraham

“Love Your Enemies”

Sisters and Brothers,

This Sunday we hear some of the most difficult teachings of Jesus Christ. (Luke 6:27-38) Jesus tells us “love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. To the person who strikes you on one cheek, offer the other one as well, and from the person who takes your cloak, do not withhold even your tunic.” It is a new commandment because, it over rules the Old Testament law of retaliation or retributive justice. There is no doubt that, humanly speaking, it is a very difficult one. However, it demands a lot of sacrifice and courage.

Jesus rejects even the mild form of retaliation. For Jesus, retaliation, or grudge has no place in the Christian life. Jesus wants his disciples to repay evil with kindness. Instead of retaliation, Jesus gives his new law of love: love your enemies.

The Greek word used for loving enemies is not ‘*storge*’ (natural love towards family members) or ‘*philia*’ (love of close friends) or ‘*eros*’ (passionate love between a man and woman), but ‘*agape*’ which is the invincible, unshakable, supreme benevolence or good will for another’s highest good. ‘*Agape*’ love is a choice more than a feeling. We choose to love, not because our enemies deserve our love, but because Jesus loves them so much that he died for them. For us Jesus is the model for this love. Jesus loves each one of us even though we do not deserve it. Jesus forgave and prayed for his enemies on the cross. We have in the Acts of the Apostles the example of St. Stephen, the first martyr who prayed for those who were putting him to death.

Jesus demands that we should forgive, pardon and be generous whether or not our offenders deserve it, and even if we are not loved in return. He also tells us to pray for those who willfully cause us suffering, hardship and unhappiness. Jesus reminds us to be merciful just as our heavenly Father is merciful.

These teachings are so against our modern ways of thinking! Yes, these same teachings would revolutionize our present world if we all lived them. Let us pray today that our hearts might truly be open to forgiveness and to the acceptance of being treated badly. Let us love all of our enemies: the enemies of our country, the enemies of our families, our personal enemies, the enemies of our Church and whatever enemy there is. Let us learn to do good for all of these enemies. Let us bless them and pray for them. What a world we can create together if we walk this path with our Lord Jesus Christ. In our celebration of the Holy Mass today, may God give us strength. Let us remember this phrase from today’s Gospel: “For the measure with which you measure will in return be measured out to you.”

Yours in Christ,
Fr. Abraham Kochupurackal, CMI
Pastor



CALENDAR FOR ASCENSION AND ST. BERNARDS' PARISHES

Sat. Feb. 19	After 5pm Mass "Linger Longer" StB
Sun. Feb. 20	After 10am Mass "Linger Longer" StB
Thurs. Feb 24	7:00pm Finance Council Mtg @ StB
Wed. Mar 2	5:00pm Ash Wed. Mass @ StB
Wed. Mar 2	6:45pm Ash Wed. Mass @ Asc
Fri. Mar 4	11am-7pm KC Fish Fry @ Asc



K-C Fish Fry @ Ascension on Friday, March 4th, 11am-7pm (or until fish is gone) . **TAKE OUT ONLY**. Cost per meal-\$14.00.

Cookie donations will be accepted.

Drop-off on Wed afternoon on Mar 2 and Thurs morning on Mar 3. Please contact Dave Donnay (952-201-1942) so we have an approximate count of cookies of cookies coming in. Thank you for helping make our fish fry a success.

The **Catholic Services Appeal** will be held on the weekend of February 26-27th. You should have received a mailing from CSAF at your home or there will be envelopes in the pews that you may use. Please let your generosity shine when responding to our brothers and sisters in need.

Together in Hope



The Catholic Services Appeal Foundation is an independent foundation partnering with fellow Catholics to share Christ's love with neighbors in need through ministries that serve the poor, support life and strengthen the Faith.

Every dollar makes an impact:

10,260 PEOPLE PER WEEK RECEIVING FRESH GROCERIES AND HYGIENE ITEMS	Thousands RECEIVING LIFE-GIVING CARE VIA HOSPITAL CHAPLAINS	56,000 YOUNG PEOPLE BEING STRENGTHENED IN THE CATHOLIC FAITH	750 PEOPLE PROVIDED WITH HOUSING/ EMERGENCY SHELTER EACH MONTH
1,000 HOT MEALS SERVED MONTHLY	27,000 CATHOLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS BENEFITING FROM FAITH-FILLED LEARNING	OVER 55 FUTURE PRIESTS RECEIVING TUITION ASSISTANCE, ROOM AND BOARD	1,000 WOMEN, BABIES & FAMILIES PROVIDED WITH LIFE-AFFIRMING SUPPORT

GIVECSAF.ORG



TRIBUNAL Annulment Consultations on Ash Wednesday **Date:** Wednesday, March 2 **Time:** 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. **Location:** [Cathedral of Saint Paul, St. Paul](#) (English consultations) and Our Lady of Guadalupe, St. Paul (Spanish consultations). On Ash Wednesday (March 2) staff members of the archdiocesan Metropolitan Tribunal will be available for confidential consultations with the general public regarding annulments and to offer assistance in filling out the application. To learn more about the Metropolitan Tribunal and the annulment process. Visit: <https://www.archspm.org/tribunal-annulments/>

The **School Sisters of Notre Dame (SSND)** invite women ages 18-45 to an online retreat Sunday, February 27 from 1-4 p.m. CST. Learn more and register for the Zoom link by February 25 at ssnd.org/events/2-27-22.

"The principle means of union with God must be found in the reception of the sacraments and in prayer."

- **St. Francis de Sales**

Ash Wednesday Services will be on **March 2nd 5:00 pm at St. Bernard and 6:45pm at Ascension**
Lenten Fasting and Abstinence

Abstinence – Catholics 14 years of age and older must abstain from eating meat on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, and all the Fridays of Lent. It is only on other Fridays of the year, outside of Lent, that a Catholic may substitute another form of penance instead of abstinence.

Fasting – Catholics between the age of 18 and 59 inclusive are required to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. On these days one full meal is allowed if necessary. Food may be taken at two other times, two smaller meals, in order to maintain strength according to each one's needs, but together they should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted. Liquids, including milk and fruit juices are allowed, however.

CHRIST RENEWS HIS PARISH

Do you wonder if you could be happier, healthier, more fulfilled and have more passion for your faith? Take time out of your busy life and join us for a Christ Renews weekend retreat. Men's Retreat: March 19-20. Women's Retreat: March 26—27. Sign-up online at <https://stjosephwacoia.org/programs/adult-formation/crhp-retreats/>

LOVED THE WEDDING. INVITE ME TO THE MARRIAGE. LOVE, GOD

A Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend can help you do that! Marriage Encounter is 44 hours away from jobs, kids, chores, and phones — where married couples can focus just on each other. The next available Weekends are May 6-8, 2022 in Buffalo, MN and Oct 7-9, 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 <<mailto:wmandbethnickles@hotmail.com>> or 612-756-8720.



Love Your Enemies

It's likely that some friends or followers of Jesus told him, from time to time, to "get real" when his teachings seemed too hard or impractical. John's Gospel, near the end of the Bread of Life discourse, reports that some disciples out and out turned away because it was too hard to continue following Jesus. When Jesus said to love our enemies, pray for those who hurt us, or do good for those who hate us, the response, "get real," wouldn't be surprising. And yet, the very life and witness of Jesus is filled with his prophetic examples of doing just that; of refusing to return harm for harm. The lives of the saints are likewise filled with such examples, especially those saints who were laborers in the field for justice and peace. Is this command of Jesus difficult? Yes. Is it impossible? No.

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Spiritual Resources!

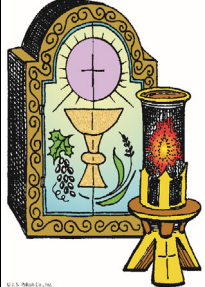
TV: **Diocese of St. Cloud: Sun., 11 AM. on KSTCTV/45; **Diocese of Winona-Rochester: Sun., 11:30 AM. on Fox 9+; **Our Lady of Grace, Edina: Sun., Noon on Fox 9+ (Dish/Direct 29, Comcast 10/807; Over Air 9.2); **EWTN: 7:00 AM, 11:00 AM, 6:00 PM.
Radio: **Relevant Radio 1330am: Weekdays and Sun. at noon, 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"

Mass Ministry Schedule - February 26-27, 2022

Mass Ministry	Ascension Sat. 5:00pm	Ascension Sun. 8:00am	St. Bernard Sun. 10:00am
Sacristan	Ann Dettmann	Kathy Kloempken	Doris Mielke
Servers	Jack Lano	Don Whitaker	Dan Worm
Reader	Cathleen Williams	Brian Willems	Sarah Foley
EMHC	Steve Helget	Irene Yaeck	Meghan Stusynski
Ushers	Gary Widmer & Tom Lano	Tim George & Paul Lano	Brian Symanitz & Leo Willems
Greeters	Grace Cook	Matt & Jamie Smith	Casey Jones & Julie Kleindl
Homebound Ministers	N/A	Grp A: Sue & Rich Tellers Grp B: Curt Wilson & Steve Lemmer	N/A

Mass Times/Intentions

Day	Time	Occasion	Intention
Monday	Feb. 21	No Mass	
Tuesday	Feb. 22 6:15 pm	Ascension	Patricia Prchal †
Wednesday	Feb. 23 8:00 am	St. Bernard	Dennis Wickenhauser †
Thursday	Feb. 24 8:00 am	St. Bernard	Marcy Wickenhauser †
Friday	Feb. 25 8:00 am	Ascension	Mass of Reparation
Saturday	Feb. 26 5:00 pm	Ascension	Teresa Bailey †
Sunday	Feb. 27 8:00 am	Ascension	For Pope Francis
Sunday	Feb. 27 10:00 am	St. Bernard	Dennis & Bernice Wickenhauser †† & All Parishioners



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

St. Bernard
Suspended for the
Months of January and February
Watch the bulletin
for the return of Adoration.

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 Feb 21-27, 2022

Monday: Jas 3:13-18; Ps 19:8-10, 15; Mk 9:14-29 **Tuesday:** 1 Pt 5:1-4; Ps 23:1-3a, 4-6; Mt 16:13-19 **Wednesday:** Jas 4:13-17; Ps 49:2-3, 6-11; Mk 9:38-40 **Thursday:** Jas 5:1-6; Ps 49:14-20; Mk 9:41-50 **Friday:** Jas 5:9-12; Ps 103:1-4, 8-9, 11-12; Mk 10:1-12 **Saturday:** Jas 5:13-20; Ps 141:1-3, 8; Mk 10:13-16 **Sunday:** Sir 27:4-7; Ps 92:2-3, 13-16; 1 Cor 15:54-58; Lk 6:39-45

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.

St. Bernard Stewardship of Treasure

January Budget for week	3,059.33
Contributions 02-01 through 2-08-22	3,067.67
Total Actual Collection YTD	117,073.09
Total Actual Collection Over (Under) Budget	6,394.56
Forward in Faith	
Envelope Income	185.00
Electronic Donations	265.50
Forward in Faith Total	450.50
Forward in Faith YTD	56,350.22

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 2/6/2022

Weekly Operating Budget:	\$ 2,788.47
Weekly Envelopes/Plate:	2,339.00
Weekly E-Giving:	250.00
Collections Budget YTD:	
Actual Collection YTD:	89,231.04
Total Collected Over (Under) YTD:	98,004.26
Capital Improvement Offering:	8,773.22
Capital Improvement E-Giving:	80.00
Capital Improvement YTD:	7,120.00

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