

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

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PASTOR

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ST. BERNARD CHURCH

212 Church Street E.
Cologne, MN. 55322

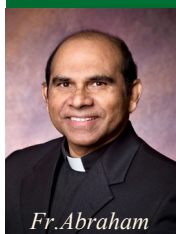


Website: AscensionNYA.org
Parish Office Hours:
Mon.—Wed & Fri. 9am—2pm
Office Phone: 952-467-3351
Business Administrator:
Sherry Witte.....952-777-0110
busadmin@ascensionnya.org
Safe Environment Coordinator:
Sarah Smith...952-777-0111
bookkeeper@ascensionnya.org

Website: St-Bernard-Cologne.org
Parish Office Hours:
Tues—Fri. 9am—2pm
Office Phone: 952-466-2031
Business Administrator:
Sherry Witte.....952-856-1051
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Safe Environment Coordinator:
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The Fifth Sunday In Ordinary Time - February 6, 2022



The Call of God

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

The call of the Lord comes to his people in many ways. The Prophet Isaiah describes how God touched his mouth. It is not clear whether this is an inner vision of Isaiah or a strong dream or some other way of perceiving the reality. On the other hand, it is clear that Isaiah takes it as God reaching into his personal life and cleansing him so that he can proclaim God's word to others. Because of this awareness of being cleansed and purified, Isaiah feels that he can be a mouthpiece to be sent by the Lord to His People.

We can note three things about this Divine call: it comes from God, there is a purification and cleansing, and, finally, there is a willingness on the part of the one who is called to respond with assent.

Saint Paul in his First Letter to the Corinthians speaks about his personal call to serve the Lord. It also comes directly from God, even knocking him to the ground. It purifies him and making him aware of God's plans in a way he had never thought of before, and Paul becomes willing to follow the Lord.

It is important to know that the call of the Lord makes the people aware of their unworthiness. Isaias said, "I am a man of unclean lips, living among a people of unclean lips, yet my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts." St. Paul acknowledged, "For I am the least of the apostles, not fit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me has not been ineffective." When Jesus called Peter, he confessed, "Depart from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man."

We can sometimes feel unworthy of the call from God. When a person becomes aware of his unworthiness, and God's infinite mercy, he is on a holy path to a greater intimacy with God. God called and continues to call some unworthy characters: King David, Mary Magdalene, the penitent thief at Our Lord's Crucifixion. Doesn't this give us all hope for our salvation, the ultimate reunion with God the Father?

Peter doubts the words of Jesus commanding him to drop his nets, but, nonetheless, does Jesus' bidding. It is because Peter obeys that he discovers the presence of God, is humbled, and then follows Jesus. James and John seem to display little resistance to the call of the Lord.

Simon Peter was an expert fisherman. Despite his professional expertise, he came up empty-handed. This is when Christ stepped into the picture. Jesus made them to find the biggest catch from where they found nothing with their own effort. Jesus transformed and transforms the hopeless conditions to a fully fruitful.

The miracle made Simon realize his condition. He found himself a sinner. God's intervention enables us to realize who we are and what we are. Jesus invited them to follow him. They accepted it. They obeyed and acted on the Word of Jesus. They surrendered unconditionally before Jesus.

When Jesus enters our life, even hopeless conditions will become surprisingly fruitful and hopeful. The word of God is powerful enough to transform our life with new hope. Our weakness, limitations and past failures, do not matter. The only thing needed is our readiness to act on Jesus' words, to surrender ourselves and to accept Jesus' call.

Today Jesus comes to us with a request to give him some place in our life, with an offer of hope, and an invitation to follow him. He wants us to experience his grace in abundance, to live our life fully and its best, and to be witnesses of his kingdom, to become fishers of men, in our living situations. Let us listen to him, act on his Words and find the miracles that God does in our life.

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



CALENDAR FOR ASCENSION AND ST. BERNARDS' PARISHES

Tues, Feb 15 4:00pm Finance Council Mtg @ Asc
 Thurs, Feb 17 7:00pm JMT Meeting @ StB
 Thurs, Feb 24 7:00pm Finance Council Mtg @ StB



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

Catholic Social Teaching in Times of Religious and Political Disruption Thursday, February 24, 7-8:30 p.m., virtual event. Historian and Vatican chronicler Massimo Faggioli will discuss the foundations of Catholic social teaching and will explain how these principles serve as a guide for us as we live with current religious and political disruptions. For more information about this talk hosted by Saint Frances Cabrini and to register, visit cabrin-umn.org/tegeder-talks.



Catholic Schools Week is Jan 30—Feb 5th.

FAITH. EXCELLENCE. SERVICE. As communities of **FAITH**, Catholic schools instill in students the desire to be like Christ. Academic **EXCELLENCE** is what Catholic education is known for. It is intentionally directed to the growth of the whole person – mind, body and spirit **SERVICE** is a large part of Catholic education and the core of Catholic Disciples.

Contributions to the local Catholic School of your choice can be made next Sunday. There are Catholic School week envelopes in the Ascension packets. St. Bernard parishioners may use a plain envelope labeling it with 'Catholic Schools week'. Please designate the school you would like your donation to go to. Please help our Catholic Schools provide the best education to ALL the little children!

"It is clear to me, Lord, that children hold a special place in your heart. It follows, then, that you would want me to do everything I can to protect their lives. Help me to become like a child in thought and deed for the sake of my salvation. Open the doors to opportunities to protect the unborn."
 — *Mary Sambo*

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"

Thank you! Thank you for your generous gifts for our Moms and little ones in need! I am overwhelmed by all the wonderful things that you brought in! From the soft homemade blankets, to the sweet little hats and the practical diapers. I know we will be able to bless many because of your generosity.
 Thanks again! *The Birthright of Hutchinson*

D'Ice Cribbage Tournament Benton Lake, Cologne, MN Sat. Feb 12, 2022 at 11:00am to 3:00pm UTC-06:00
 It's Official: 2022 D'Ice Cribbage Tournament, Feb 12, 2022. \$15 to play, 7 games, 1st place \$100 cash and custom board, 2nd place \$75 cash, 3rd place \$50 cash. Come join us! Lots of new things happen including a raised floor to keep your feet dry and lots of free door prizes, great food and drink as well.

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://stjosephwaconia.org/programs/adult-formation/crhp-retreats/>

Feeling disconnected? Every married couple deserves the gift of a **Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend!** The next weekends in this area will be held Feb 11-13, 2022 in Buffalo, MN and May 6-8, 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.

They left everything and followed him.



RECEIVING THE CALL


All three readings today feature what are known as the "call" stories of famous figures of our faith: Isaiah, Paul, and Simon Peter. Each story shares features common to scriptural "call" stories: First, an encounter with God or a messenger of God. Second, there is some sort of resistance, usually framed as a claim of unworthiness. Third, the one who has been called receives an assurance that they are, indeed, fit for the mission. In this way God has continued to call prophets, apostles, saints, and everyday women and men throughout time. It is unlikely that any of us will receive a "call" as dramatic as fiery angels in the temple, a booming voice from heaven striking us down, or sitting side-by-side in a boat with Jesus of Nazareth. This doesn't mean we can't, or won't, or haven't received a call from God. It may even be a "spillover" from somebody else's, the way James and John are called through Jesus giving Simon Peter his mission. *Copyright (c) J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.*

Mass Ministry Schedule - February 12-13, 2022

Mass Ministry	Ascension Sat. 5:00pm	Ascension Sun. 8:00am	St. Bernard Sun. 10:00am
Sacristan	Sherry Witte	Brian Willems	Doris Mielke
Servers	Jack Lano	Florian Schindler	Dan Worm
Reader	Darlene Mondor	Ann Schwichtenberg	Rob Wickenhauser
EMHC	Jean Schmitz	Steve Lemmer	Julie Clemensen
Ushers	Dave Donnay & Steve Schrupp	Eugene Dvorak & Josh Gallus	Bob Symanitz & Leo Willems
Greeters	Grace Cook	Leo Pouliot	Sarah Foley & Brian Vos
Homebound Ministers	N/A	Grp A: Sue & Rich Tellers Grp B: Theresa Hartmann & Pat Johnson	N/A

Mass Times/Intentions

Day	Date	Mass Time	Intention
Monday	Feb. 7	No Mass	
Tuesday	Feb. 8	6:15 pm	Ascension Phero †
Wednesday	Feb. 9	8:00 am	St. Bernard Communion Service
Thursday	Feb. 10	8:00 am	St. Bernard No Mass
Friday	Feb. 11	8:00 am	Ascension No Mass
Saturday	Feb. 12	5:00 pm	Ascension Clarence H. Green †
Sunday	Feb. 13	8:00 am	Ascension All Parishioners
Sunday	Feb. 13	10:00 am	St. Bernard Stanley Guettler † & All Parishioners

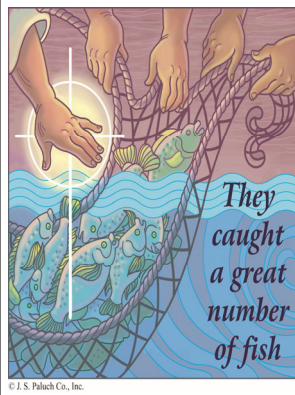


Eucharistic Adoration
Ascension
Every Tuesday
3:00 pm until 6:00 pm

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

SCRIPTURE READINGS
Feb 7-13, 2022

Monday: 1 Kgs 8:1-7, 9-13; Ps 132:6-7, 8-10; Mk 6:53-56 **Tuesday:** 1 Kgs 8:22-23, 27-30; Ps 84:3-5, 10-11; Mk 7:1-13 **Wednesday:** 1 Kgs 10:1-10; Ps 37:5-6, 30-31, 39-40; Mk 7:14-23 **Thursday:** 1 Kgs 11:4-13; Ps 106:3-4, 35-37, 40; Mk 7:24-30 **Friday:** 1 Kgs 11:29-32, 12:19; Ps 81:10-15; Mk 7:31-37 **Saturday:** 1 Kgs 12:26-32; 13:33-34; Ps 106:6-7ab, 19-22; Mk 8:1-10 **Sunday:** Jer 17:5-8; Ps 138:1-5, 7-8; 1 Cor 15:12, 16-20; Lk 6:17, 20-26



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

January Budget for week	2,493.64
Contributions 01-19 through 1-25-22	2,358.50
Total Actual Collection YTD	107,633.91
Total Actual Collection Over (Under) Budget	2,507.65

Forward in Faith

Envelope Income	250.00
Electronic Donations	100.00
Forward in Faith Total	350.00
Forward in Faith YTD	55,039.72

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 1/23/2022

Weekly Operating Budget:	\$ 2,788.47
Weekly Envelopes/Plate:	1,388.00
Weekly E-Giving:	1,111.80

Collections Budget YTD:	83,654.10
Actual Collection YTD:	93,298.26
Total Collected Over (Under) YTD:	9,644.16
Capital Improvement Offering:	150.00
Capital Improvement-E-Giving:	100.00
Capital Improvement YTD:	6,920.00

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