

Letter from Archbishop Hebdia

Pentecost weekend more than I ever remember in the past. With and through your prayers, I am confident that there will be an outpouring of the Holy Spirit on this local Church as approximately 500 delegates from around our archdiocese gather at Cretin-Derham Hall high school for our first Synod in more than 80 years.

In St. John's Gospel, Jesus stresses for his Apostles that he needs to return to the Father so that the Spirit, the Advocate, could be sent to them, noting that "when the Spirit of truth comes, he will lead you to the complete truth." Given our efforts to listen to the Holy Spirit throughout the Synod process, I trust that the Spirit will indeed be leading us toward the "complete truth" about who we are and about how our God both desires to love us in this archdiocese and calls us to serve lovingly our sisters and brothers. At this point, the work of the Spirit will be most obviously manifested in the Synod voting, as the members prayerfully discern and indicate their priorities among the 40 Synod propositions, drawn from the extensive discussions that we have had these past three years. I will always be grateful for your robust participation in this effort.

We have relied heavily on the intercession of the saints throughout this process, often seeking the intercession of our patron, St. Paul, as well as that of St. Joseph, the patron of the Universal Church, and the Blessed Mother, under the title of "Mother of the Church." They have been great companions as we have walked together on our synodal journey.

As we now proceed to the Synod Assembly weekend, however, I'm calling as well for the intercession of three "Blesseds" who have connections to our archdiocese: Blessed Stanley Rother, the martyred diocesan priest whose ancestors settled near New Trier when they came from Germany and whose relatives continue to populate that part of our archdiocese; Blessed Solanus Casey, the wise Capuchin friar who was confirmed at St. Michael in Stillwater and who served as a prison guard at the prison there; and the martyred Christian Brother, James Miller, who once lived and taught at the very school where we will be gathering.

While all three of them have touchpoints in each of our three focus areas, it seems to me that Blessed Stanley Rother, as a diocesan priest, pastor and missionary, will have a special connection to our discernment about our first focus area, forming parishes at the service of evangelization. I love how he models the importance of humble listening in forming a faith community that responds to the needs of God's people.

Likewise, Blessed Solanus Casey seems to have a particular connection to our second focus area, forming missionary disciples who know Jesus' love and respond to his call. I find it significant that his time in our archdiocese as a young layman was a time of personal discernment for him and the beginning of the development of his remarkable interior life. He was blessed with deep insights into how the call to discipleship that he heard in his prayer led him to value the opportunities that he was given to share his faith with others in the ordinariness of daily life.

An icon of Blessed James Miller created by local artist Nick Markell is displayed at Cretin-Derham Hall High School. Blessed James is among the "blesseds" Archbishop Bernard Hebdia is asking to intercede for **the Synod Assembly June 3-5. COURTESY CRETIN-DERHAM HALL**

Blessed Brother James Miller, finally, seems to be an ideal intercessor for our third focus area, forming youth and young adults in and for a Church that is always young. Imbued with the spirit of the Christian Brothers, Brother James committed his life to the LaSallian mission of "providing a human and Christian education to young people." Both at Cretin and in his work in Nicaragua and Guatemala, Brother James gave his life to teaching not only Spanish and English but also the faith, modeling for his young students what it meant to be a follower of Jesus, as convincingly on the soccer pitch as in the classroom.

I hope that you will join me in both praying for the success of the Synod and seeking the intercession of these three remarkable Blesseds. While the Synod sessions are only open to those who are formally designated to represent their parishes or otherwise named to the Synod, all are especially welcome to join us for the Synod's celebration of the extended **Vigil of Pentecost on Saturday evening, June 4, in the Cathedral of St. Paul**. Following the 7 p.m. Mass, there will once again be an opportunity for Spirit-inspired prayer and praise, directed by leaders drawn from groups and organizations affiliated with the Catholic Charismatic Renewal Office here in the archdiocese. Recalling the amazing outpouring of the Spirit that we experienced at St. Peter in 2019 and at St. Bonaventure last year, I hope that you will be able to join us this year on June 4.

Follow The Catholic Spirit to stay up-to-date on the latest news about the Archdiocesan Synod. Visit thecatholicspirit.com. Find links and resources for all of the above at archspm.org/synod.

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**ST. BERNARD
CHURCH**
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The Ascension of the Lord - May 29, 2022



The Ascension of the Lord

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

The Ascension Day of Jesus Christ always falls on a Thursday on the 40th day of Easter. It is a holy day of obligation. In many dioceses in USA, the Ascension is celebrated on the following Sunday. The decision to move Holy days of Obligation from weekdays to Sunday is to encourage more Catholics to observe feasts considered important.

In our Archdiocese, the Ascension is observed on this Sunday. Today's readings describe the Ascension of the Lord Jesus into his heavenly glory and the sending of the Holy Spirit. Before the ascension, Jesus instructed his apostles to remain in Jerusalem and wait for the baptism by the Holy Spirit. Then he entrusted his Apostles the mission of preaching the Good News and evangelizing the whole world, "bearing witness to him through their lives. Ascension of Jesus is also the start of our mission, the mission that he gave to his Church. As God the Father sent him, Jesus sends each of us out in to the world, to continue his mission.

Each Sunday, we profess through the Creed, "He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father." Jesus' Ascension was the culmination of God's divine plan for him, to return to his Father. Ascension is the grand finale of all his words and works done for us and for our salvation. It was a culmination, but not the conclusion. As he is now with God in glory, he is now with us in Spirit.

The Ascension and Pentecost, together, mark the beginning of the Church. The feast of the Ascension tells us that the church must be a community in mission, guided by God's Spirit and confident of God's protection even in the midst of suffering and death.

On the Solemnity of the Ascension, let us renew our commitment to be true disciples everywhere we go, beginning with our family and our parish, "living in a manner worthy of the call we have received."

Happy Feast of Ascension of the Lord to all, especially to the Ascension parish family.

Praying Rosary twenty minutes before every weekend Mass with special intentions. You are welcome to join us.

Rosary Intention: *On this Memorial Day Weekend, pray for all the men and women who died serving our country.*

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Abraham Kochupurackal, CMI
Pastor



CALENDAR FOR ASCENSION AND ST. BERNARDS' PARISHES

Sun, June 5th 11am Linger Longer Honoring HS Grads @StB



Memorial Day Mass/Service

The Memorial Day Mass this year will be at 8:45am on Mon., May 30th at Ascension followed by a short service in the cemetery. The

VFW Honor Guard will be there to perform a salute to the veterans. At **St. Bernard**, the Flags & Honor of MN Honor Guard will be at the cemetery at 9:30 am to perform a salute to the veterans. Please come to pay respect to those who served to keep our country safe and protect the freedoms we all enjoy. May God bless and keep each of them.



Congratulations High School Graduates!!

A Mass will be held in your honor at 10:00am on Sun., June 5th at St. Bernard. Fr. Abraham will offer the graduates a special blessing at the Mass and we will have a special Linger Longer after the Mass. Please invite your families to join us!

Synod Assembly Mass

Saturday, June 4, 7 p.m.,

Cathedral of Saint Paul, St. Paul

Be part of this historic gathering of our local Church, joining Archbishop Hebda, Bishop Williams and more than 500 Synod members from across the Archdiocese who are meeting June 3-5 for the Synod Assembly. Please see the back of the bulletin for Archbishop Hebda's latest letter and how you can pray for the a successful Synod Assembly.

Thank you -

We wish to THANK: Monica Kooiman and Sarah Hammers who spent Saturday, May 21st washing ALL of the windows of the Main Entrance of the Church. They now sparkle like diamond jewelry! **Thank you so much Monica & Sarah!**

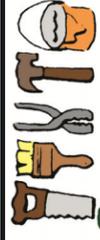
Thank you -

To Vicki Arnst who purchased flowers and with the help of Monica Kooiman planted the flowers by the main Church entrance and on the north side of the Church. Beautiful! Well done! **Thank you so much Vicki and Monica!**

The gardening team at St. Bernard's still has some hydrangeas to split from the garden located outside of the rectory porch, the flowers are white. Please contact Monica Kooiman if interested.

Word of Life—"The Lord says to us, 'Do not fear: I am with you' (Isaiah 41:10). He speaks these words not as one who merely observes our pain, but as one who experienced immense suffering. And the very wounds that bear witness to his suffering indicate the essence of our identity and worth: we are loved by God. Reflecting on the healed wounds of the Risen Christ, we see that even our most difficult trials can be the place where God manifests his victory. He makes all things beautiful. He makes all things new." USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities, "Be Not Afraid" NABRE © 2010 CCD. Used with permission.

"As we begin to experience God's presence and are slowly changed an amazing thing begins to happen: we find peace wherever we go." - Fr. Dave Pivonka, TOR



Maintenance / "handy-person" needed. St. Bernard is looking to hire a part-time maintenance/handy-person to perform routine maintenance in all buildings, as well as cleaning in the school building and to be backup to our lawn mowing volunteers. We anticipate approximately 40 hrs per month with starting wage of \$15.00/hr. Please contact the parish office (952-466-2031) if you are interested.

We're Switching Bulletin Companies

We are in the process of moving to a new bulletin company as the one we were using did not renew our contract when it came due. Kristee Flynn (651-303-3461) is our contact at the new company, LPI. See below.

Ads on the back page pay for the weekly production of the bulletin. Ads can be purchased for your business or in memory of loved ones. They can be your favorite bible verse, favorite saint or be in support of a community service such as pro-life organizations or the local food shelf, etc. The list is endless.

If you would like to place an ad (or know of someone else who might), please contact Kristee at 651-303-3461. Thank you for supporting this ministry!

LPI will start printing the bulletins for us the second or third week of June depending on when enough ads have been sold.

ATTENTION BUSINESS OWNERS, SELF-EMPLOYED AND FAMILIES!

Build your business and help us grow a vibrant faith community!



Available ADVERTISING SPACE

Kristee Flynn from LPI, our parish communication partner, will be working with us securing new ads for our bulletin this week. Please consider purchasing an ad for a business, sponsoring a charity, or in Memory of a Loved One. Your participation makes our bulletin successful, and you attract customers!

BENEFITS OF ADVERTISING

- Local, targeted community advertising for one full year, at one low price.
- A FREE ad listing on parishonline.com.
- FREE, professional ad design, and 4 free ad changes per year.

Kristee Flynn
651-303-3461



BECAUSE VIBRANT CHURCHES MATTER

Mass Ministry	St. Bernard Sat. 5:00pm	Ascension Sun. 8:00am	St. Bernard Sun. 10:00am
Sacristan	Patricia Quinn	Cheryl Coyle	Patricia Quinn
Servers	Volunteers	Caleb Michels & Gabriel Michels	Daniel Worm & Kieran Allison
Reader	Joyce Schwartz	Darlene Mondor	Sarah Foley
EMHC	Bernie Shambour	Steve Coyle	Pam Kunkel
Ushers	Danny Hoen & Volunteer	Jeremy Friendshuh & Tom Lano	Bob Symanitz & Leo Willems
Greeters	Roger Storms	Grace Cook	Julie & Andy Kleindl
Homebound Ministers	N/A	Grp A Rich & Sue Tellers Grp B Paul & Corrine Prossoski	N/A

Mass Times/Intentions

Monday	May 30	No Mass	
Tuesday	May 31 6:15 pm	Ascension	John Worm †
Wednesday	June 1 8:00 am	St. Bernard	Hilbert & Euella Knauer † †
Thursday	June 2 8:00 am	St. Bernard	Sister Brenda Kelzer †
Friday	June 3 8:00 am	Ascension	Mass of Reparation
Saturday	June 4 5:00 pm	St. Bernard	Mary Ellen Guettler †
Sunday	June 5 8:00 am	Ascension	Patricia Prchal †
Sunday	June 5 10:00 am	St. Bernard	High School Graduates & All Parishioners

SCRIPTURE READINGS
May 30-June 5, 2022

Monday: Acts 19:1-8; Ps 68:2-3ab, 4-5acd, 6-7ab; Jn 16:29-33 **Tuesday:** Zep 3:14-18a or Rom 12:9-16; Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6; Lk 1:39-56 **Wednesday:** Acts 20:28-38; Ps 68:29-30, 33-36ab; Jn 17:11b-19 **Thursday:** Acts 22:30; 23:6-11; Ps 16:1-2a, 5, 7-11; Jn 17:20-26 **Friday:** Acts 25:13b-21; Ps 103:1-28:16-20; 30-31; Ps 11:4, 5, 7; Jn 21:20-25 **Sunday:** Vigil: Gn 11:1-9 or Ex 19:3-8a, 16-20b or Ez 37:1-14 or Jl 3:1-5; Ps 104:1-2, 24, 35, 27-30; Rom 8:22-27; Jn 7:37-39 Day: Acts 2:1-11; Ps 104:1, 24, 29-31, 34; 1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13 or Rom 8:8-17; Jn 20:19-23 or Jn 14:15-16, 23b-26

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 pqquinn5322@hotmail.com Ascension copy must be emailed to: busadamin@ascensionmva.org All inserts and weekend Mass announcements can be emailed or a paper copy brought to the Parish office at St. Bernard or Ascension.

Eucharistic Adoration
Ascension
Every Tuesday
3:00 pm until 6:00 pm
St. Bernard
Every Wednesday
2:00 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.

Ascension Weekly Collection Report

Totals as of 5/15/2022

Weekly Operating Budget: \$ 2,788.47
Weekly Envelopes/Plate: 290.00
Weekly E-Giving: 1,120.00
Collections Budget YTD: 128,269.62
Actual Collection YTD: 137,535.16
Total Collected Over (Under) YTD: 9,265.54

Capital Improvement Offering: 250.00
Capital Improvement-E-Giving: 35.00
Capital Improvement YTD: 11,995.00

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

St. Bernard Stewardship of Treasure

Budget for week 3,027.27
Contributions 05-11 through 5-17-2022 3,315.42
Total Actual Collection YTD 166,160.28
Total Actual Collection Over (Under) Budget 7,546.58
Forward in Faith 0.00
Envelope Income 593.42
Electronic Donations 593.42
Forward in Faith Total 593.42
Forward in Faith YTD 63,100.40

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