

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

323 Reform St. N.
NYA, MN. 55368

PASTOR

Fr. Abraham Kochupurackal CMI
OFFICE952-856-1050
frabraham@st-bernard-cologne.org

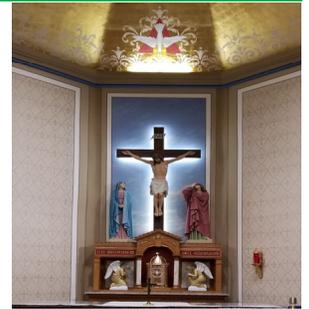
ST. BERNARD CHURCH

212 Church Street E.
Cologne, MN. 55322

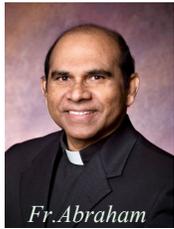


Website: AscensionNYA.org
Parish Office Hours:
Mon.—Wed & Fri. 9am—2pm
Office Phone: 952-467-3351
Business Administrator:
Sherry Witte.....952-777-0110
busadmin@ascensionnya.org
Safe Environment Coordinator:
Sarah Smith....952-777-0111
bookkeeper@ascensionnya.org

Website: St-Bernard-Cologne.org
Parish Office Hours:
Tues 9am-2pm & Fri. 9am—12pm
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



Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time - June 26, 2022



Fr. Abraham

Total Commitment to the Lord

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

The Scripture readings of this Sunday remind us of God's call to make a total commitment to him and to his mission. The first reading (1King 19: 19-21) describes how Elisha committed himself whole-heartedly to answer God's call to be a prophet, in spite of his initial hesitation when God called him through the prophet Elijah.

In the Gospel (Luke 9: 51-62), we see three people who expressed their willingness to become disciples of Jesus. Jesus reminds the first one plainly what the commitment required, and the cost involved. The second and the third potential disciples offered some excuses from following Jesus. Jesus knew the weakness of the men who wished to follow him. He knew their struggles, as well as their distractions. They wanted to follow Jesus, yet they were not ready to make the necessary sacrifice.

Following Jesus involves three important things. First, it demands that we transfer our sense of security from earthly things to the Lord. This is what he meant when he said: "Foxes have dens, birds of the sky have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to rest his head." Following Jesus means that we have to trust him instead of putting our trust in our money and in human powers and worldly resources. This is an invitation to shift our focus from the material to the spiritual, from the visible to the invisible, and from man to God.

Second, following Jesus means persevering through difficulties. Jesus used the image in farming: "No one who sets a hand to the plow and looks to what was left behind is fit for the kingdom of God." Jesus never said that following him is a walk in the park. Rather, he said, "Strive to enter through the narrow door." It is never easy. It always entails hard work, sacrifices and trials. But he said, "He who perseveres till the end will reap the reward of everlasting life."

Third, following Jesus needs a firm and resolute decision on our part without conditions and excuses. When Jesus said, "Let the dead bury their dead", he was not being disrespectful of the dead, but was only teaching the lesson on how to adequately respond to his call. We are not in a position to set conditions in following Jesus. He is the Lord, and he is the one who sets the conditions. Our task is just to follow him without conditions and excuses.

We too, are asked to follow Jesus, totally and immediately, without any reservations, both by giving priority to him and to his cause, and by surrendering our lives to God in humble service to others. God's call comes to us in little ways daily. It could be in giving first priority to God in participating Sunday worship or some special moments of prayer or sharing the good news with others. It could be in the form of giving urgent attention and care to someone in need. How often have we made up excuses, to avoid giving priority to our Lord or giving attention to some worthy cause of action?

As the potential disciples said, we too may say to Jesus 'yes Lord, I will follow you, but give me a little time to put things in order.' Jesus always accepts us as we are, but invites us to follow him now, in the present moment, and not when we think that we are ready. Let us ask our Lord Jesus for this gift of following him now, in the present moment. Let us ask that he will continue to free us from our sins and form us in his own image and likeness.

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

Rosary Intention: 'For Favorable Weather for Fields, Lawns and Gardens.'

Yours in Christ, Fr. Abraham Kochupurackal CMI, Pastor



CALENDAR FOR ASCENSION AND ST. BERNARDS' PARISHES

Thurs. June 30th Noon-Early bulletin deadline for the July 10th Bulletin.
 Mon, July 4th No Mass

Peter's Pence Collection - This weekend-June 25-26
 You have an opportunity to be in solidarity with the Holy Father as your contributions to Peter's Pence aid the Holy Father with two universal mission activities: spiritual and material. Your financial contributions help the Pope continue the work of formation of the clergy, communications, promotion of integral human development, education and justice. Materially, you will enable assistance for the most needy who are victims of war, oppression and natural disasters. Please offer what you can for this collection.

Into the Deep: Theology of the Body Retreats June-August, various locations
 Dive into the big questions of life ("who are we & why are we here?") through the bite-size pieces of short talks, outdoor adventures, and camaraderie balanced with quiet! Retreats are available for youth, teens and adults. Upcoming dates include:

- June 20-24: Theology of the Body Retreat – Hiking & Caves for Middle School Girls
 - July 3-9: This 7-day retreat in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area is geared to take adults (18+) to the next level with camping, canoeing, and integrating the Theology of the Body into daily activities.
 - July 18-23: Badlands & Black Hills Hiking and Theology of the Body Retreat for Teens
 - August 1-5: Voyageurs National Park Canoeing and Theology of the Body Retreat for Teens
- Into the Deep is a Catholic organization run by Jen Messing offering camping retreats in state and national parks. To learn more and register, visit <https://idretreats.org/2022-idretreats/>

Online Evening Prayer for Young Adults
 Young adults 18+ are invited to pray online together with School Sisters of Notre Dame on Tuesday, June 28 from 7-8 p.m. CT. Learn more and register for the Zoom link at ssnd.org/events/6-28-22.

Word of Life "O God our Creator... we ask you to bless us in our vigilance for the gift of religious liberty. Give us the strength of mind and heart to readily defend our freedoms when they are threatened; give us courage in making our voices heard on behalf of the rights of your Church and the freedom of conscience of all people of faith."

USCCB
 "Prayer for the Protection of Religious Liberty"

"The holy Rosary is a powerful weapon. Use it with confidence and you will be amazed at the results."
 —*St. Josemaria Escriva*



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.

Prayers are requested—for the repose of the soul of Ramona Haasken who passed away on February 5th. Ramona's funeral was on Thursday June 23rd at St. Bernard.
 For the repose of the soul off Michael Brazil who passed away on June 11th. Michael's funeral was on Friday, June 17th. At Ascension. May they rest in peace. May their souls and all the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Peace and comfort for their families.

June is devoted to the Sacred Heart of Jesus
 The Devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus was started and made popular by St. Margaret Mary Alacoque. She was inspired by visions of Jesus to spread this devotion. This was a favorite prayer of St. Padre Pio and he prayed it every day.
 Read more at: <https://www.praymorenovenas.com/novena-to-the-sacred-heart-of-jesus>



"For you were called for freedom..."
 Freedom properly defined is freedom properly understood. The Cambridge Dictionary tells us that it is, "the condition or right of being able or allowed to do, say, think, etc., whatever you want to, without being controlled or limited." That same dictionary defines liberty as, "the freedom to live, work,

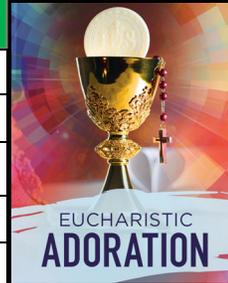
and travel as you want to." Both definitions sound very similar. Is there a difference between freedom and liberty? Many are accustomed to believing that freedom and liberty are interchangeable and simply involve possessing rights and privileges. For the Christian, however, there is a big difference between the two. St. John Chrysostom directs that "the only person who is free is the one who lives for Christ." There are many other inspirational people throughout history who see freedom as something far greater than liberty. True and properly understood freedom has little to do with entitlement or self-promotion. For the believer, it is a matter of the heart and soul. Freedom (and liberty, for that matter), seen only in terms of the world, can quickly be taken away. The freedom spoken of by St. John Chrysostom can only be lost by personal choice. When one lives for Christ, they live in pursuit of virtues that enlighten one's soul (faith, hope, and love) and strengthen one's character (justice, fortitude, temperance, and prudence). Rather than having the ability to acquire or do more things, true freedom asks us to be detached. Privileges, rights, and responsibilities are important, but they do not define us. The world is not always open to listening to the truth. "I am sending you like lambs among wolves," Jesus tells his disciples. The secular definitions of freedom and liberty are very attractive. They promise us a great deal. It is no wonder Jesus asks his disciples to travel with very little. The Gospel is not dependent upon things or anything those with worldly power or investment can say or do. When one chooses to live for Christ, they choose to live with peace. That's what true freedom will give us. If we do not want what Christ offers, we can close the door, and the messenger will walk away. Distracted by the lure of personal liberties, we risk losing our freedom. We will not have anything truly life-giving to share with others. ©LPi

Mass Ministry Schedule - July 2—3

Mass Ministry	St. Bernard Sat. 5:00pm	Ascension Sun. 8:00am	St. Bernard Sun. 10:00am
Sacristan	Doris Mielke	Rita Fahey	Patricia Quinn
Servers	Volunteers	Jack Lano	Dan Worm
Reader	Joyce Schwartz	Cheryl Coyle	Greg Wickenhauser
EMHC	Mary Meuwissen	Irene Yaeck	Sarah Foley
Ushers	Volunteers	John Gallus & Gary Widmer	Tom Dahl & Andy Kleindl
Greeters	Eileen Fasching	Steve Coyle	Volunteers
Homebound Ministers	N/A	Grp A Steve & Cheryl Coyle Grp B Theresa Hartmann & Pat Johnson	N/A

Mass Times/Intentions

Day	Date	Time	Location	Intention
Monday	June 27	No Mass		
Tuesday	June 28	6:15 pm	Ascension	For Elected Officials
Wednesday	June 29	8:00 am	St. Bernard	Martin J. Quinn †
Thursday	June 30	8:00 am	St. Bernard	Rebecca Shamla †
Friday	July 1	8:00 am	Ascension	Mass of Reparation
Saturday	July 2	5:00 pm	St. Bernard	Clarence & Muriel Wickrenhauser ††
Sunday	July 3	8:00 am	Ascension	Dick & Del Lano ††
Sunday	July 3	10:00 am	St. Bernard	Dennis & Bernice Wickenhauser †† & All Parishioners



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.....952-484-9628

Anointing of the Sick

Call the parish office at any time.

SCRIPTURE READINGS for the week of July 3, 2022

Sunday: Is 66:10-14c/Ps 66:1-3, 4-5, 6-7, 16, 20 [1]/Gal 6:14-18/ Lk 10:1-12, 17-20 or 10:1-9
Monday: Hos 2:16, 17c-18, 21-22/Ps 145:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Mt 9:18-26
Tuesday: Hos 8:4-7, 11-13/Ps 115:3-4, 5-6, 7ab-8, 9-10/Mt 9:32-38
Wednesday: Hos 10:1-3, 7-8, 12/Ps 105:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Mt 10:1-7
Thursday: Hos 11:1-4, 8e-9/Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16/Mt 10:7-15
Friday: Hos 14:2-10/Ps 51:3-4, 8-9, 12-13, 14 and 17/Mt 10:16-23
Saturday: Is 6:1-8/Ps 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5/Mt 10:24-33
Next Sunday: Dt 30:10-14/Ps 69:14, 17, 30-31, 33-34, 36, 37 or Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 [9]/ Col 1:15-20/Lk 10:25-37

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 pqinn55322@hotmail.com
Ascension copy must be emailed to:

busadmin@ascensionny.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

Budget for week	3,207.96
Contributions 06-8 through 6-14-2022	3,540.00
Total Actual Collection YTD	179,804.75
Total Actual Collection Over (Under) Budget	8,720.59
Forward in Faith	
Envelope Income	2,715.18
Electronic Donations	100.00
Forward in Faith Total	2,815.18
Forward in Faith YTD	66,566.08

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 6/12/2022

Weekly Operating Budget:	\$ 2,788.47
Weekly Envelopes/Plate:	3,850.00
Weekly E-Giving:	1,240.00
Collections Budget YTD:	139,423.50
Actual Collection YTD:	148,447.16
Total Collected Over (Under) YTD:	9,023.66

Capital Improvement Offering:	700.00
Capital Improvement-E-Giving:	175.00
Capital Improvement YTD:	13,905.00

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