

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

323 Reform St. N.
NYA, MN. 55368

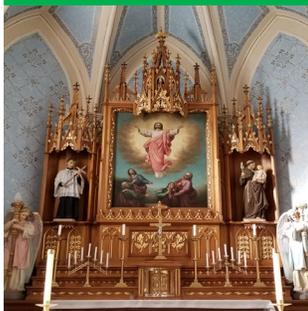
PASTOR

Fr. Abraham Kochupurackal CMI

OFFICE952-856-1050
frabraham@st-bernard-cologne.org

ST. BERNARD CHURCH

212 Church Street E.
Cologne, MN. 55322

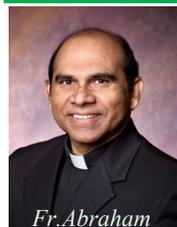


Website: AscensionNYA.org
Parish Office Hours:
Mon.—Wed & Fri. 9am—2pm
Office Phone: 952-467-3351
Business Administrator:
Sherry Witte.....952-777-0110
busadmin@ascensionnya.org
Safe Environment Coordinator:
Sarah Smith....952-777-0111
bookkeeper@ascensionnya.org

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



Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time - July 31, 2022



Fr. Abraham

“Rich in What Matters to God.”

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Do I possess things, or do things possess me? Those are questions we all have to ask ourselves. When our happiness depends on our possessions, then we are letting our possessions control us. The Book of Ecclesiastes (1:2; 2:21-23) gives the great saying of Biblical wisdom, “Vanity of vanities! All things are vanity!” The passage reminds us that both the greedy accumulation of goods and the selfish hoarding of them are useless because when the hoarder dies he goes to eternity empty-handed.

By saying the parable of the rich man (Lk 12:13-21), Jesus warns us against all types of greed, because greed diverts our life away from God and away from serving and loving him in other people. Instead, greed directs all our energy and attention to fulfilling the self, making our wealth the basis of our security. The rich man reasoned that one day he would finally have everything stored up and under control, and at that point he would be able to relax and enjoy himself. He described this future time as his chance to “rest, eat, drink, and be merry.” But God asked to this rich man a powerful and a surprising question, “You fool, this night your life will be demanded of you; and the things you have prepared, to whom they will belong?” Jesus warns us against the temptation to place our dependence upon material things, for “one's life does not consist of possessions.”

Why is the rich man in the parable called a fool? He failed to become “rich in what matters to God.” He forgot about God and never thought to thank God for having blessed him with a rich harvest, he considered them as solely the fruit of his own labor. He also failed to realize that he was a steward not the owner. He did not recognize his possessions as a gift from God, given to him to share with others.

The rich man never saw beyond himself. He forgot about other people. He focused on himself. He thinks only of himself - eating, drinking and having a good time. Instead of thanking God and sharing with the hungry, he keeps everything for himself. The meaning of life cannot be found in hoarding wealth and possessions, but in sharing these with the needy and the poor. He never saw beyond this world. He never thought of the reality that we do not have a permanent home in this world. Thus, while planning to build new barns and warehouses to store his wealth, he heard the words all human beings will hear one day from their creator: “This night your life will be demanded of you.”

Jesus reminds us to avoid greed in all its forms. “Take care to guard against all greed, for though one may be rich, one's life does not consist of possessions.” A person may be wealthy, but his possessions do not guarantee him life and happiness. Greed leads us towards uncontrolled desires and sinful thoughts and actions. The parable is a warning for all who store up treasure for themselves, but are not rich in what matters to God. Through this parable, Jesus tells us that what counts when we die is not the wealth we acquired during life but the person we become in the process of living. In other words, how do we make use of the material wealth in order to achieve eternal life? We are stewards, our possessions are merely gifts from God and that we are accountable for their use. We must be generous in sharing our time, our treasure, and our talents.

Mission Appeal for the Diocese of Nyundo.

Our parishes are hosting the Mission Appeal for the Diocese of Nyundo in Rwanda during this weekend. Father Dusabe Tel-esphore will celebrate Mass with us and speak on behalf of the Diocese. Let us give him a cordial welcome and generously support the ministry of the Diocese. We offer our prayers and support for the Diocese of Nyundo. Father Dusabe, thank you for visiting our parishes and celebrating Mass with us.

Rosary Intention: *‘For all college bound students; may they remain strong in their Faith.’*

Yours in Christ, Fr. Abraham Kochupurackal CMI, Pastor



CALENDAR FOR ASCENSION AND ST. BERNARDS' PARISHES

NOTE: There will not be a JMT meeting or a Finance Council meeting at either parish in July.

Volunteers Needed!! Fr. Telesphore, a missionary priest from the Diocese of Nyundo, Rwanda, will be here July 30-31 representing the Missionary Cooperation Appeal program this year. We are seeking volunteers to assist with transportation to and from the airport on July 29th and August 1st, to get Father to and from Cologne for Sunday's 10:00am Mass. We are also looking for someone to coordinate activities for Father Telesphore on Friday, Saturday morning and Sunday afternoon. Please contact the parish office (952-467-3351 or 952-466-2031) if you would like to help with any of these activities.

2022 Missionary Cooperation Plan

Fr. Telesphore, a missionary priest from the Diocese of Nyundo, Rwanda, will be here July 30-31 representing the Missionary Cooperation Appeal program.

In 2022 the diocese of Nyundo is focusing on rehabilitating an old house in which she would like use for educational of 600 poor single mothers of Rubavu district by empowering and equipping them so that they may grow and be able to bear fruit n their family and society.

Second, Rubavu district presents a good future in tourism because we have a lot of beautiful hotels along the Lake Kivu. We are planning to teach single mothers skills which will involve cooking, housekeeping, and tour guiding to be applied in the hospitality industry.

Third, there will be workshops with different stakeholders in the Rubavu community: Parents, school teachers, health workers, church leaders, youth club (girls and boys) where we will use preparatory approach to map the root causes of single mother, the challenge as seen within their community, and ways to support and accept them as members of the community.

Please prayerfully consider how you can help support our sisters and brothers who live in this diocese. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Helping Priests Who've Helped Us

Did you know there's a home for retired priests of the Archdiocese? There is and you have an opportunity to share your gratitude by supporting the men who've ministered to you and your family for many decades. The **Leo C. Byrne Residence** offers 29 individual apartments for priests who have reached retirement age, most of whom continue to actively serve parishes and organizations around the Archdiocese.

The **GRATITUDE Capital Campaign Renovation Project** (coordinated by the Catholic Community Foundation) will fund work required to bring the entire Byrne Residence to a level of security and efficiency suitable for the safety and well-being of each resident priest.

We ask for your support of this much needed renovation.

Make your check payable to: CCF / Byrne Residence
 Mail to: CCF / Byrne Residence Renovation Fund Court West Suite 500 2610 University Ave W St. Paul, MN 55114 (Donation envelopes can be found in the entry at Ascension and the narthex at St. Bernard.) To donate online, visit the CCF website: www.CCF-MN.org/ByrneResidence

Word of Life "A woman with an unexpected pregnancy may have any number of fears and challenges: facing judgment from her friends and family, losing her job or housing, or being abandoned by the father of her child. Following Mary's example, we can ask ourselves how to better know these mothers, listen to them, seek understanding, and help them obtain the necessities of life for themselves and their children."

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities
 "Called to Serve Moms in Need"



Maintenance /"handy-person" needed.

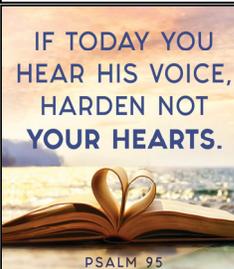
St. Bernard is looking to hire a part-time maintenance/handy-person to perform routine maintenance in all buildings, as well as cleaning in the school building and to be backup to our lawn mowing volunteers. We anticipate approximately 40 hrs per month with starting wage of \$15.00/hr. Please contact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

Volunteer Needed: Do you have a boiler's license or know of anyone who does? If so, we are seeking a volunteer to monitor the school boiler during the months it is in operation. Please contact the parish office (952-466-2031) if you, or someone you know, would be interested in helping with this ministry.

"How wonderful is the certainty that each human life is not adrift in the midst of hopeless chaos, in a world ruled by pure chance or endlessly recurring cycles! The Creator can say to each of us: "Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you" (Jer 1:5) We were conceived in the heart of God, and for this reason "each of us is the result of a thought of God. Each of us is willed, each of us is loved, each of us is necessary"

-Pope Francis, Encyclical Letter Laudato Si'; On the Care of Our Common Home

Come to our "Care of our Common Home" Retreat, to be held at St. Bernard on September 17th 10:00am—6:00 pm., 5:00 pm. Mass included in the retreat.



What makes us feel secure?

Many people look to tangible forms of security that will safeguard their livelihood and prepare for their future. We tend to associate security with things: the accumulation of goods and possessions, retirement funds, savings accounts, and substantial incomes. While acquiring these promises a life with less anxiety and worry, we actually find ourselves more preoccupied and consumed with their growth and preservation. We worry more!

We can easily become quasi-hoarders, consumed with obtaining more tangible crutches. Our minds and hearts are always restless, and we never seem to be at peace.

Why do we so easily give our self-worth, value, and sense of security over to things? God certainly does not deny us the pursuit of a productive and enjoyable life but where do we draw the line? A sense of well-being and happiness can easily get deferred to sometime "in the future" while we continue to wrestle with the toils of today. There is no guarantee that there will be an earthly tomorrow and all of the frenzy we bring to securing our state in life will be for naught. When we are called from this world, will we even know where to begin to look for the tranquility and repose our souls so desperately need?

We cannot be hoarders, pursuers of vanity, or greedy. They just don't work as they are too dependent on things that can fall apart. Rather than always feeling the need for more, we need to learn how to be grateful for what we have. By learning to look inward we can learn how to live lives of faithful service to others. "Happiness can only be achieved by looking inward and learning to enjoy whatever life has, and this requires transforming greed into gratitude (St. John Chrysostom)." We all need to be good stewards of what has been entrusted to our care. Grateful hearts recognize the true source of what we have and realize that our true treasure lies not in what matters to us but to God. ©LPi

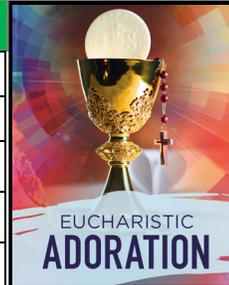
Jesus understood well that true power must always serve the needs of others in love and humility, and that we are only entrusted with talents, gifts, authority, knowledge, and wealth so that we can become servant leaders who bring others to the fullness of their human potential by our own witness to holiness, love, humility, and service. —Bishop Donald Hying

Mass Ministry Schedule - August 6—7

Mass Ministry	St. Bernard Sat. 5:00pm	Ascension Sun. 8:00am	St. Bernard Sun. 10:00am
Sacristan	Doris Mielke	Tamara Lemmer	Patricia Quinn
Servers	Kieran Allison & Luke Allison	Don Whitaker, Jayden & Gabriel Michels	Buckley Jones & Gabby Remer
Reader	Sarah Foley	Cheryl Coyle	Brenda Jones
EMHC	Mary Meuwissen	Jean Schmitz	Andy Kleindl
Ushers	Volunteers	Eugene Dvorak & Gary Widmer	Bob Symanitz & Leo Willems
Greeters	Roger Storms	Steve Coyle	Casey Jones
Homebound Ministers	N/A	Grp A Tim & Rita Fahey Grp B Rich & Sue Tellers	N/A

Mass Times/Intentions

Day	Date	Mass	Intention
Monday	Aug 1	No Mass	
Tuesday	Aug. 2 6:15 pm	Ascension	Phero Nguyen †
Wednesday	Aug. 3 8:00 am	St. Bernard	Marcy Wickenhauser †
Thursday	Aug. 4 8:00 am	St. Bernard	Dennis & Bernice Wickenhauser ††
Friday	Aug. 5 8:00 am	Ascension	Mass of Reparation
Saturday	Aug. 6 5:00 pm	St. Bernard	All Parishioners
Sunday	Aug. 7 8:00 am	Ascension	Patricia Prchal †
Sunday	Aug. 7 10:00 am	St. Bernard	Hilbert & Euella Knauer ††



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 31, 2022

Sunday: Eccl 1:2; 2:21-23/Ps 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14, 17 [1]/Col 3:1-5, 9-11/Lk 12:13-21
Monday: Jer 28:1-17/Ps 119:29, 43, 79, 80, 95, 102/Mt 14:13-21 **Tuesday:** Jer 30:1-2, 12-15, 18-22/Ps 102:16-18, 19-21, 29 and 22-23/Mt 14:22-36 or Mt 15:1-2, 10-14 **Wednesday:** Jer 31:1-7/Jer 31:10, 11-12ab, 13/Mt 15:21-28 **Thursday:** Jer 31:31-34/Ps 51:12-13, 14-15, 18-19/Mt 16:13-23 **Friday:** Na 2:1, 3; 3:1-3, 6-7/Dt 32:35cd-36ab, 39abcd, 41/Mt 16:24-28 **Saturday:** Dn 7:9-10, 13-14/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 9/2 Pt 1:16-19/Lk 9:28b-36 **Next Sunday:** Wis 18:6-9/Ps 33:1, 12, 18-19, 20-22 [12b]/Heb 11:1-2, 8-19 or 11:1-2, 8-12/ Lk 12:32-48 or 12:35-40

**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@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	3,015.75
Contributions 07-13 through 7-19--2022	5,811.14
Total Actual Collection YTD	9,812.06
Total Actual Collection Over (Under) Budget	764.81
Forward in Faith	
Envelope Income	245.00
Electronic Donations	493.42
Forward in Faith Total	738.42
Forward in Faith YTD	1,419.42

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 7/17/2022

Weekly Operating Budget:	\$ 2,942.31
Weekly Envelopes/Plate:	1,020.00
Weekly E-Giving:	270.00
Collections Budget YTD:	8,826.93
Actual Collection YTD:	6,683.50
Total Collected Over (Under) YTD:	(2,143.43)
Capital Improvement Offering:	95.00
Capital Improvement-E-Giving:	25.00
Capital Improvement YTD:	2,715.00

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