

# CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

323 Reform St. N.  
NYA, MN. 55368

## PASTOR

Fr. Abraham Kochupurackal CMI  
OFFICE .....952-856-1050  
frabraham@st-bernard-cologne.org

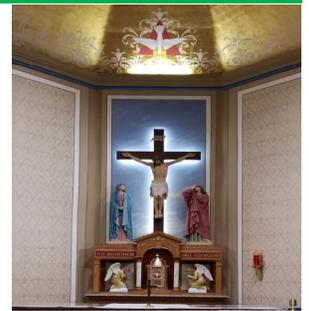
# ST. BERNARD CHURCH

212 Church Street E.  
Cologne, MN. 55322



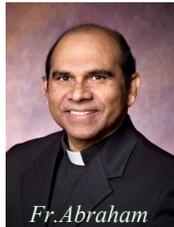
**Website:** AscensionNYA.org  
**Parish Office Hours:**  
Mon.—Wed & Fri. 9am—2pm  
**Office Phone:** 952-467-3351  
**Business Administrator:**  
Sherry Witte.....952-777-0110  
busadmin@ascensionnya.org  
**Safe Environment Coordinator:**  
Sarah Smith....952-777-0111  
bookkeeper@ascensionnya.org

**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



## Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time - August 14, 2022

### The Fire of God's Word



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

We might be shocked when Jesus declares that he has come to set the earth on fire.... and not to bring peace on the earth but division. (Lk12:49-53). What does it mean? In the Bible, fire is associated with God's action in the world and in the lives of his people. God sometimes manifested his presence by use of fire, such as the burning bush when God spoke to Moses (Exodus 3:2). The image of fire is also used of the Holy Spirit (Mt. 3:11 & Acts 2:3). Fire is sometimes symbolic of purification (Numbers 31:23, Ezekiel 22:19-22). Fire in Jewish understanding is the symbol of judgement.

Fire has the power to transform, to refine and to purify. As a purifying force, fire burns up what is worthless and it refines what is impure, besides giving warmth and energy. It can melt wax or purify metals. It can protect, for example, by cooking bacteria out of food. But it can also destroy, especially when it is not treated with care. And it can disrupt.

But fire can also be peaceful. Think of being mesmerized by a campfire blazing in front of you. It provides warmth and light. In this case, a blazing fire is comforting. This is the call of the Christian. We must get caught up in beauty of the fire of our Lord. This will transform us, possibly in ways which we do not expect. It will disrupt our current ways of thinking and doing things. But some disruption can be good, and can help us see what needs to change in our lives.

These meanings suggest that the fire which Jesus brings will consume or purify the world. The fire Jesus brings is the fire of love. We should have this fire in our hearts. There is an old saying, "He who is on fire cannot sit on a chair." So, as Christians on fire, we have to inflame people to care, to serve, to love, and to bless one another with all the gifts of faith.

The gospel emphasizes peace as the gift that Jesus brings (Luke 1:79; 2:14; 19:38). Surely, Jesus has come to unite the human race under the Fatherhood of God. When Jesus spoke about division he likely had in mind the prophecy of Micah: "A man's enemies are the men of his own household" (Micah7:6). Jesus' teaching caused division in families, in communities and in the Church. Jesus brings division because some follow him and others oppose him. We must decide to follow him or not. This choice can result in division, even within the families.

The essence of Christianity is the loyalty to Christ. It has to take precedence over the dearest loyalties of this earth. A Christian must be prepared to count all things but loss for the excellence of Jesus Christ.

**Rosary Intention:** *'For Christian Families to embody unconditional love.'*

Yours in Christ,  
Fr. Abraham Kochupurackal CMI  
Pastor



**CALENDAR FOR ASCENSION AND ST. BERNARDS' PARISHES**

Sat. Aug. 20 5pm "Linger Longer after Mass @ St. Bernard  
 Sun. Aug. 21 10am "Linger Longer after Mass @ St. Bernard  
 Thurs. Aug 25 7pm Finance Council @ St. Bernard

**Help Needed: The Faith Formation program is looking for a volunteer or two who would be willing to repair shelving, chairs and tables in the atriums. The use over the last 8 years and the moving back and forth from parish to parish has taken a toll on some of the materials. If you are interested in sharing your talents, please contact the parish office or Kara Wickenhauser. Thanks for your consideration!**

Our **GLAD DAYS** ice cream booth & bake sale was a great success! Many thanks to all who baked treats, stopped in to support us, and also the many volunteers that helped in the booth. We sold out of ice cream on Saturday—with profits of \$1224 and the bake sale made \$752. The St Bernard Catholic United group will use this event as the matching grant program. We will receive the additional matching grant funds (\$1000) for a grand total of \$2976. Funds are for the support of our faith formation program.

**HELPING THE 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 To donate online, visit the CCF website: [www.CCF-MN.org/ByrneResidence](http://www.CCF-MN.org/ByrneResidence)

**Word of Life**—Although we may feel unsure how best to comfort those who mourn, we must stand with them in their time of suffering. Miscarriage touches the lives of many people, yet all too often this tragedy remains unaddressed. This lack of response not only often leads to unresolved grief, but also fails to clearly manifest our belief that each person, from conception onward, is precious and unique."

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities  
 "Solace and Strength in the Sorrow of Miscarriage"

**Immaculée Ilibagiza - Rwandan American author & speaker**  
**September 22, 6:30-8 p.m., Shakopee Area Catholic School, Shakopee** Please join us to hear Immaculée Ilibagiza, Rwandan genocide survivor, tell her story of faith, hope, and forgiveness. Immaculée has shared her message around the world, and is also a best-selling author. She is coming to Minnesota to encourage and inspire all of us to great faith and hope as well. Cost is \$10 for adults and \$5 for students. Visit [ssjacs.org](http://ssjacs.org) to learn more.

Compared to eternity, time can seem inferior, degenerate. But this is an abstract speculation. If we look at man's purpose and destiny, which is to be introduced into the life of the Trinity, then it is clear that time is a gift. Time gives us a chance to grow. Thanks to time, what God has placed within us can germinate and become a tree. Because of time, we have the possibility of participating in God's creation ourselves. —Fr. Wilfrid Stinissen, *OCD*

**Your Prayers are Requested:** for the repose of the Soul of *Rosemary Elke, mother of Vern Elke, Ann Dettmann, Vince Elke, and their siblings*, who passed away July 26th. Her funeral was on Friday, August 5th. Please also pray for peace and comfort for her family. May her soul and all the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.



**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.

"Living our vocation to be protectors of God's handiwork is essential to al life of virtue; it is not an optional or a secondary aspect of our Christian experience."

**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.

**EWTN TV Program— Mother Theresa—Part one**

A two-part comprehensive drama of the little woman who served "the poorest of the poor", and called herself "a pencil in God's hands." August 27, 8:00 PM. (90 Mins.)



The serious disciple knows the necessity and value of discipline. Thinking of discipline as something punitive in nature, we underscore its place in our spiritual lives. Discipline is really about a radical trust in God and his guidance. "When you are conducted by a guide who takes you through an unknown country at night across fields where there are no tracks, by his own skill, asking no advice

from anyone, giving no inkling of his plans, what choice do you have but to give yourself completely to his guidance? If you are convinced that he is a good guide, you must have faith in him and abandon yourself to his care (Jean-Pierre de Caussade)."

If someone wants to be physically fit, they readily find a competent trainer who sets them on a rigorous schedule. Determined to reach their goals, they sacrifice personal pleasure and trust in his guidance. Why should it be any different with God? In order to remain true to the way Jesus places before us, we have to listen, learn, and be willing to change. Falling in love with God and maintaining that relationship requires an investment of time, energy, and hard work. Putting personal preferences aside in pursuit of the Gospel and giving proper attention to our spiritual lives is challenging work. At first, "all discipline seems a cause not for joy but for pain, yet later it brings the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who are trained by it (Hebrews)."

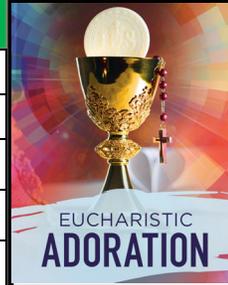
"What God does is essentially good. It does not need to be reformed or controlled...If you would live according to the Gospels, give yourself completely and simply to the action of God (Jean-Pierre de Caussade)." Submission to the holy will of God is not a submission to a set of pre-ordained set of circumstances. Rather, it is an abandonment and trust in God's creative, life-giving, and salvific power. God brings light out of darkness and life out of death. Nurturing this bond of trust and seeking God in all things creates an intimate and particular relationship and bond between our Creator and us. When He comes, there will be no issue with us recognizing Him or Him recognizing us. We will have met before. ©LPI

## Mass Ministry Schedule - August 20—21

Mass Ministry	St. Bernard Sat. 5:00pm	Ascension Sun. 8:00am	St. Bernard Sun. 10:00am
Sacristan	Doris Mielke	Brian Willems	Patricia Quinn
Servers	Volunteers	Florian Schindler, Lucas & Jacob Johnson	Luca Hoen & Kieran Allison
Reader	Joyce Schwartz	Darlene Mondor	Greg Wickenhauser
EMHC	Bernie Shambour	Steve Helget	Julie Clemensen
Ushers	Volunteers	Curt Wilson & Paul Lano	Bob Symanitz & Leo Willems
Greeters	Eileen Fasching	Sue Schultz	Casey Jones & Andy Kleindl
Homebound Ministers	N/A	Grp A Tim George & Steve Helget Grp B Theresa Hartmann & Pat Johnson	N/A

### Mass Times/Intentions

Day	Time	Location	Intention
Monday	Aug 15	No Mass	
Tuesday	Aug. 16 <b>6:15 pm</b>	Ascension	Debby Rose Levander †
Wednesday	Aug. 17 <b>8:00 am</b>	St. Bernard	Dernnis & Bernice Wickenhauser ††
Thursday	Aug. 18 <b>8:00 am</b>	St. Bernard	Harriet Meuleners †
Friday	Aug. 19 <b>8:00 am</b>	Ascension	Living & deceased members of the Clara & Albert Wickenhauser family
Saturday	Aug. 20 <b>5:00 pm</b>	St. Bernard	All Parishioners
Sunday	Aug. 21 <b>8:00 am</b>	Ascension	Mr. Le Cu †
Sunday	Aug. 21 <b>10:00 am</b>	St. Bernard	Marcy Wickenhauser †



### 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.

### READINGS for the week of August 14, 2022

**Sunday:** Jer 38:4-6, 8-10/Ps 40:2, 3, 4, 18 [14b]/Heb 12:1-4/Lk 12:49-53 **Monday:** Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Ps 45:10, 11, 12, 16/1 Cor 15:20-27/Lk 1:39-56 **Tuesday:** Ez 28:1-10/Dt 32:26-27ab, 27cd-28, 30, 35cd-36ab/Mt 19:23-30 **Wednesday:** Ez 34:1-11/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/Mt 20:1-16 **Thursday:** Ez 36:23-28/Ps 51:12-13, 14-15, 18-19/Mt 22:1-14 **Friday:** Ez 37:1-14/Ps 107:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Mt 22:34-40 **Saturday:** Ez 43:1-7ab/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14/Mt 23:1-12 **Next Sunday:** Is 66:18-21/Ps 117:1, 2/Heb 12:5-7, 11-13/Lk 13:22-30

#### 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

Budget for week	3,015.75
<b>Contributions 07-27 through 7-31--2022</b>	<b>3,739.00</b>
Total Actual Collection YTD	15,663.06
<b>Total Actual Collection Over (Under) Budget</b>	<b>584.31</b>
<b>Forward in Faith</b> Envelope Income	450.00
Electronic Donations	00.00
<b>Forward in Faith Total</b>	<b>450.00</b>
<b>Forward in Faith YTD</b>	<b>4,119.42</b>
<b>Missionary Cooperative Plan Collection</b>	<b>652.00</b>

**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](http://www.st-bernard-cologne.org)

### Ascension Weekly Collection Report

Totals as of 7/31/2022

<b>Weekly Operating Budget:</b>	\$ 2,942.31
<b>Weekly Envelopes/Plate:</b>	2,677.00
<b>Weekly E-Giving:</b>	270.00
<b>Collections Budget YTD:</b>	14,711.55
<b>Actual Collection YTD:</b>	12,129.50
<b>Total Collected Over (Under) YTD:</b>	<b>(2,582.05)</b>
<b>Capital Improvement Offering:</b>	790.00
<b>Capital Improvement-E-Giving:</b>	45.00
<b>Capital Improvement YTD:</b>	3,860.00

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