

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

323 Reform St. N.
NYA, MN. 55368

PASTOR

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

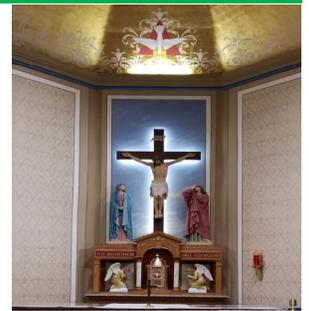
ST. BERNARD CHURCH

212 Church Street E.
Cologne, MN. 55322

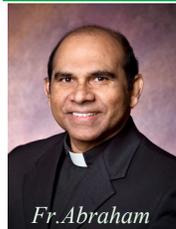


Website: AscensionNYA.org
Parish Office Hours:
Mon.—Wed & Fri. 9am—2pm
Office Phone: 952-467-3351
Business Administrator:
Sherry Witte.....952-777-0110
busadmin@ascensionnya.org
Safe Environment Coordinator:
Sarah Smith....952-777-0111
bookkeeper@ascensionnya.org

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



Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time - August 21, 2022



Fr. Abraham

What will we Do to be Saved?

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Every believer has the desire to have eternal life or to get into heaven. As Jesus was making his way to Jerusalem some one from the crowd asked a question: “Lord, will only a few people be saved?” Or, more directly, ‘Lord, am I among those who will be saved?’ Jesus did not give a direct answer to this question, but he said who will enter God’s kingdom, and what will we do to be saved? Jesus says, “Strive to enter through the narrow gate.” (Lk. 13: 22-30). Jesus’ response was simple one: ‘Try your best to enter by the narrow door...’ Rather than engage oneself with arguments about the number of those to be saved, it is better to work hard in order to be saved. Through this, Jesus reminds us that the invitation to his kingdom is open to all. However, each person must struggle to be there. We must do what we have to do by playing our roles well. God keeps calling us day by day to enter through the narrow gate.

The gate that Jesus had in mind was he himself. “I am the gate. Whoever enters through me will be saved” (John 10:9). The narrow gate is the way of Christ. One enters the way of life in Christ, beginning with baptism. But one’s membership in the Church does not automatically mean entry into the kingdom of God. Jesus asserts that many from the Gentile nations would enter God’s kingdom. God’s invitation is open to all. Jesus affirms that God wants all persons to enjoy eternal life with him, but he emphasizes the need for constant fidelity and vigilance throughout our lives. Thus, Jesus reminds us that, even though God wants all of us to be saved, we all need to work at it. Entry into God’s kingdom can never be automatic but is the result and the reward of a struggle. Jesus warns that we can be excluded if we do not strive to enter through the narrow gate. Through the cross Jesus opens the way, the gate for us to enter into his kingdom. But we must follow Jesus in the way of the cross.

The justification of the people was, “We ate and drank in your company and you taught in our streets.” There are those who think that just because they are members of a Christian country or civilization all is well. They had been witnesses to his teaching, but they did not live accordingly. They thought it was their right to receive his beneficence, but they were shut out. This was their choice. They no longer had a relationship with the Lord. Jesus clearly says, “I do not know where you are from.” (Lk.13: 25). Only the one who does the will of my Father will enter the kingdom of Heaven. (Mt. 7: 21)

People often attempt to justify their faith life by speaking about their past relations with God, how they went to Catholic school, or attended religious education class. They hope that the past would get them by. It doesn’t occur to them that their present relationship with God is what really matters. The relationship with God is the source of spiritual life. If that relationship is no longer present, then the source of life is gone. We need to be with Jesus always and do the will of the Father, as he did. So, to be saved means to live and to die in a close and loving relationship with God and with others.

This weekend (Aug. 20) is the Feast of St. Bernard, the Patron Saint of St. Bernard Parish family. The prayer of intercession of St. Bernard:

O God, who made of Saint Bernard a man consumed with zeal for Your House and a light shining and burning in Your Church, grant, through his intercession, that we may be on fire with the same spirit and walk always as children of light. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives in reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever. Amen

Rosary Intention: *‘For Catholic Schools to prosper and promote a rich Catholic culture’*

Yours in Christ, Fr. Abraham Kochupurackal CMI , Pastor

Church of Ascension Norwood Young America, MN



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
 Sun. Aug 28 9am Stiftungsfest Mass at the Tent

Parish Picnic: Our combined parish picnic will be held at St. Bernard this year on Saturday Sept. 10th at the Lions Park in Cologne. Mass will be moved to St. Bernard for this Saturday and will be at 4:00pm with the picnic to follow. (No Mass at Ascension on this day.) More information next week on the details for the picnic.

Archbishop Flynn Catechetical Institute Register by August 22 (extended deadline)

This fall, the Archbishop Flynn Catechetical Institute will offer the two-year foundational course "Pillars: A Journey through the Catechism" in person at Epiphany in Coon Rapids, and at CI Satellite Sites with live streamed lectures and in person small groups. The CI Satellite Sites are Good Shepherd (Golden Valley), St. Agnes (St. Paul), St. Bartholomew (Wayzata), St. Henry's (Monticello), St. Joseph's (Rosemount), and St. Wenceslaus (New Prague). Applications are now being accepted through August 22, for the class beginning in September. For more information and an application to become part of the Class of St. Michael at any location call 651.962.5072 or visit semssp.org/ci.

Do No Harm

Seven new federal regulations threaten Catholic institutions and harm religious freedom. You can speak up when new regulations are proposed. Sign up today for alerts from the USCCB. Alerts will notify you when the public can comment. Executive agencies must then take those comments into account before issuing final rules. Visit www.USCCB.org/No-Harm to get alerts and learn more about these regulations.

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.)

Word of Life—"God's love—individual, real, unchanging—is the true source of our worth, identity, and dignity. It really is not a question of who we are, but rather *whose* we are. Because his love will never change, nothing can reduce our God-given dignity, and nothing can diminish the immeasurable worth of our lives." - USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities: "[How to Build a Culture of Life](#)"

Church of St. Bernard Cologne, MN

"Linger Longer" after this weekend's Masses. The St. Bernard Branch of Catholic United Financial is serving refreshments in the narthex. Please join fellow parishioners and visitors for fellowship.



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.

Your Prayers are Requested: for the repose of the Soul of *Mary Farrell, sister of Carol Wickenhauser*, who passed away August 6th. Her funeral was on Saturday, August 13th. 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.

"The Lord, in the culmination of the mystery of the incarnation, chose to reach our intimate depths through a fragment of matter. He comes not from above, but from within, he comes that we might find him in this world of ours. In the Eucharist, fullness is already achieved; it is the living center of the universe, the overflowing core of love and of inexhaustible life."

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.

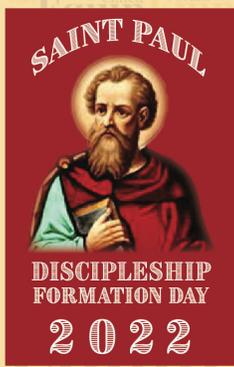


The serious disciple knows the necessity and value of discipline. Thinking of discipline as something punitive in nature, we underscore its place in our spiritual lives. Discipline is really about a radical trust in God and his guidance. "When you are conducted by a guide who takes you through an unknown 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 Causade)."

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 Causade)." 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



Join fellow volunteer catechists, core team, small group leaders and parents for a day filled with valuable inspiration, encouragement, prayer, training, breakout sessions and more.

This is an exciting opportunity to come together to learn and share how to best serve the faithful in our parishes. For more information contact Madeline Olson at olsonm2@archspm.org or 651.291.4506.

Saturday, September 17 • 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
 NET Center
 110 Crusader Ave. W., West St. Paul
 Cost: \$45 - includes lunch

Scholarships available. Please contact Sonya Flomo at flooms@archspm.org.

Register here

Equipping and Inspiring those Called to Proclaim Jesus

Co-sponsored by Net Ministries, the Archdiocesan Office of Marriage, Family and Life, Office of Latino Ministry, and the Office for the Mission of Catholic Education.

Here is the website to register: <https://www.archspm.org/saint-paul-discipleship-formation-day/>

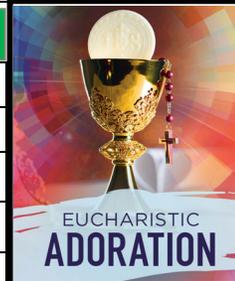
Every second is given to us in order to grow into the love we have already received. Time is the environment, the divine environment that is appropriate for all who have not yet reached perfection but are in the process of becoming perfect. —Fr. Wilfrid Stinissen, OCD

Mass Ministry Schedule - August 27—28

Mass Ministry	Ascension Sat. 5:00pm	Ascension Sun. 9:00am-Stiftujngsfest Mass at Tent	St. Bernard Sun. 10:00am
Sacristan	Ann Dettmann	Kathy Kloempken	Lori Kasel
Servers	Florian Schindler, Payton & Hailey Stender	Steve Lemmer, Gabriel & Caleb Michels	Marshall Panning & Lily Starkey
Reader	Cathleen Williams	Cheryl Coyle	Rob Wickenhauser
EMHC	Jim Mulville	Steve Helget, Jean Schmitz, & Brenda Seifert	Meghan Stusynski
Ushers	Tom Lano & Steve Schrupp	Steve Coyle, Gary Widme4r, Eugene Dvorak, Jeremy Friendshuh, Don Whitaker, Josh Gallus	Tom Dahl & Brian Vos
Greeters	Dave & Colleen Donnay	Pat Johnson	Casey Jones & Julie Kleindl
Homebound Ministers	N/A	Grp A Tim George & Steve Helget Grp B Tim & Rita Fahey	N/A

Mass Times/Intentions

Day	Time	Mass	Intention
Monday	Aug 22	No Mass	
Tuesday	Aug. 23 6:15 pm	Ascension	Pope Francis
Wednesday	Aug. 24 8:00 am	St. Bernard	Elvira Winkler †
Thursday	Aug. 25 8:00 am	St. Bernard	Rebecca Shamla †
Friday	Aug. 26 8:00 am	Ascension	All Souls in Purgatory
Saturday	Aug. 27 5:00 pm	Ascension	All Parishioners
Sunday	Aug. 28 9:00 am	Ascension	Bernice & Dennis Wickenhauser ††
Sunday	Aug. 28 10:00 am	St. Bernard	John & Jeff Slimmer ††



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 21, 2022

Sunday: Is 66:18-21/Ps 117:1, 2/Heb 12:5-7, 11-13/Lk 13:22-30 **Monday:** 2 Thes 1:1-5, 11-12/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 4-5/Mt 23:13-22 **Tuesday:** 2 Thes 2:1-3a, 14-17/Ps 96:10, 11-12, 13/Mt 23:23-26 **Wednesday:** Rv 21:9b-14/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13, 17-18/Jn 1:45-51 **Thursday:** 1 Cor 1:1-9/Ps 145:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Mt 24:42-51 **Friday:** 1 Cor 1:17-25/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 10-11/Mt 25:1-13 **Saturday:** 1 Cor 1:26-31/Ps 33:12-13, 18-19, 20-21/Mt 25:14-30 **Next Sunday:** Sir 3:17-18, 20, 28-29/Ps 68:4-5, 6-7, 10-11/Heb 12:18-19, 22-24a/Lk 14:1, 7-14

**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	3,232.73
Contributions 08-01 through 08-09-2022	3,454.92
Total Actual Collection YTD	19,117.98
Total Actual Collection Over (Under) Budget	715.50
Forward in Faith Envelope Income	380.00
Electronic Donations	265.50
Forward in Faith Total	645.50
Forward in Faith YTD	4,764.92

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 8/07/2022

Weekly Operating Budget:	\$ 2,942.31
Weekly Envelopes/Plate:	1,370.00
Weekly E-Giving:	1,120.00
Collections Budget YTD:	17,653.86
Actual Collection YTD:	14,619.50
Total Collected Over (Under) YTD:	(3,034.36)
Capital Improvement Offering:	50.00
Capital Improvement-E-Giving:	175.00
Capital Improvement YTD:	4,085.00

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