

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

323 Reform St. N.
NYA, MN. 55368

PASTOR

Fr. Abraham Kochupurackal CMI
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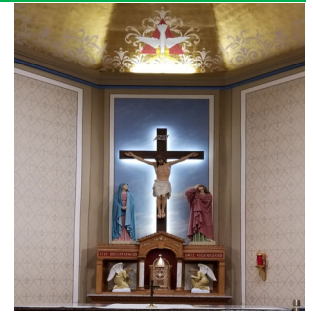
ST. BERNARD CHURCH

212 Church Street E.
Cologne, MN. 55322

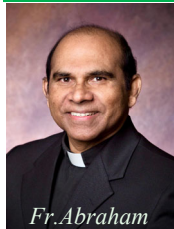


Website: AscensionNYA.org
Parish Office Hours:
Mon.—Wed & Fri. 9am—2pm
Office Phone: 952-467-3351
Business Administrator:
Sherry Witte.....952-777-0110
busadmin@ascensionnya.org
Safe Environment Coordinator:
Sarah Smith....952-777-0111
bookkeeper@ascensionnya.org

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:
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Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time - August 28, 2022



Fr. Abraham

The Humble Will be Exalted

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The prominent theme of the 22nd Sunday's scripture readings is the virtue of humility. Occasionally we hear about humility these days. The scripture readings warn us against all forms of pride and self-glorification.

They present humility, not only as a virtue, but also as a means of opening our hearts, our minds, and our hands to the poor, the needy, the disadvantaged, and the marginalized of society. The Book of Sirach chapter 3, reminds us that if we are humble, we will find favor with God, and others will love us.

In today's gospel (Luke 14:7-14), Jesus explains the benefits of humility, connecting it with the common wisdom about dining etiquette. Jesus advises the guests to go to the lowest place instead of seeking places of honor so that the host may give them the place they deserve. Jesus' words concerning the seating of guests at a wedding banquet should prompt us to honor those whom others ignore, because if we are generous and just in our dealings with those in need, we can be confident of the Lord's blessings. On the other hand, if we act out of pride and selfishness, we can be sure that our efforts will come to nothing.

Humility is grounded in awareness that everything I have is a gift from God, and, therefore, I have no reason to boast. I must not use these God-given gifts to elevate myself above others. Hence, humility means the proper understanding of our own worth. It requires us neither to overestimate nor to underestimate our worth. The humility that the gospel urges upon us has nothing to do with a self-deprecation that leaves a person without proper self-esteem. Humility and self-knowledge go hand in hand. We must simply admit the truth about ourselves: we do not know everything, we do not do everything correctly, and we are all imperfect and sinners. Therefore, without putting on an air of superiority, listen and learn from others, open our mind to others, do not be stubborn in our decisions and attitudes.

Nevertheless, we also recognize that we are made in the image and likeness of God, and that we are called to help build the kingdom of God with our God-given gifts. We are of value, not because of those gifts, but because we are loved by God as his children, redeemed by the precious blood of his son, Jesus. Thus, humility is an attempt to see ourselves as God sees us. It is also the acknowledgement that our talents come from God who has seen fit to work through us. True humility is one's own personal recognition of one's true status before God. As Christians who have personally recognized our true status, we will joyfully accept all our gifts, talents and abilities as coming from God and will use them for the enrichment of others and for the glory of God.

Our God himself showed the humility. When God revealed himself in the final and supreme way through Christ, the Son of God, he became man and chose to occupy the lowest possible seat. St. Paul describes it in this way: "Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God something to be grasped, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even death on a cross. Therefore, God has greatly exalted him...." (Philippians 2:6-9). Our Blessed Mother is the greatest model of human humility. She said "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord," Therefore, she is exalted above all other creatures, Queen of all Saints and Angels. Let us contemplate the humility of Jesus, Blessed Virgin Mary, all the saints and humble people. St. Bernard declared, "Pride sends man from the highest elevation to the lowest abyss, but humility raises him from the lowest abyss to the highest elevation." A life of humble service is ultimately rewarded with a seat at the Lord's banquet table.

Rosary Intention: *'For our youth, may they grow in their knowledge and love of God this school year.'*

Yours in Christ, Fr. Abraham Kochupurackal CMI, Pastor



CALENDAR FOR ASCENSION AND ST. BERNARDS' PARISHES

Sun. Aug 28 9am Stiftungsfest Mass at the Tent

Parish Picnic: Our combined Parish Picnic is Saturday, September 10. Mass that day is 4pm at St. Bernard, with the picnic to follow at the Cologne Lions Park. We are returning to the Potluck tradition for this event, so dig out your favorite recipes! The main dish meat and beverages are provided. We request that families with names A-M bring a salad, N-Z bring a dessert. So, mark your calendar for September 10th, and come enjoy great food, and time visiting with your parish family. One last thing, if anyone is interested in organizing a Bean Bag Tournament for the picnic, please contact Doris Mielke.

Experience The Chair See our beautiful Cathedral of Saint Paul as you have never before seen it. The 21-minute episode of The Chair, produced by DeSales Media, chronicles the history of our local Church from our humble, frontier beginnings to today. Archbishop Hebda and Father John Ubel are among those featured. Rental is just \$99. Rent or buy the episode at: <https://thechair.vhx.tv/products/episode-14>.

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 at St. Bernard 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.

Weekend retreat for Catholic healthcare workers September 23-25, Kings House, Buffalo

Catholic healthcare workers are invited to revitalize their spirits and rest their souls on weekend retreat. Enjoy daily Mass, adoration, spiritual direction and a series of five talks unpacking the theme, "The Light Shines in the Darkness." Retreat master Fr. Robert Shea serves as ethicist and moral theologian for healthcare in Bismarck, ND. Registration includes two nights of lodging, five meals, and retreat materials. Enjoy beautiful fall views of Lake Buffalo! Registration is due September 6.

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.



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 must regain the conviction that we need one another, that we have a shared responsibility for others and the world, and that being good and decent are worth it.
-Pope Francis, Laudato Si: On care for 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.

Parish Directory: The Ascension and St. Bernard's Joint Mission Team selected "Unique Church Solutions" for the creation of a new church directory. This single, new directory will include sections for each parish along with our unified ministry groups. "Unique Church Solutions" provides a dedicated consultant to work with our coordinators throughout the process. To move forward, we are in need of one coordinator and one assistant coordinator from each parish. This is a wonderful opportunity to build fellowship with our faith families while serving the church. For more information, and if you are interested in helping coordinate and/or help with check-ins on portrait days, please contact the Parish Office.



People who are concerned with their own advancement and agenda have little room for anyone else. With an almost addictive pursuit of esteem and acknowledgment from others, they become little more than entitled embodiments of the vice of pride. Public humiliation or embarrassment can hit them hard. While avoiding humiliation and embarrassment may be advantageous to obtaining worldly success, they are much less desirable motivations for entering the Kingdom of God. Avoiding embarrassment is a self-serving motivation. Pride and all of its manifestations have no place on God's agenda, neither do worldly success and fulfillment. In fact, we have been clearly told that if we love our lives, we will lose them. Therefore, if you really want to find your true station in life, learn to give yourself away.

While this may sound foolish to secular ears, it actually makes perfect sense. God, who is love, makes each of us in His image. Love, and therefore God, is in our DNA. That being the case, love is never love if it is kept to oneself or hoarded. Love needs to be shared and given away. Therefore, it is the only proper motivation for entering the Kingdom of God. The door to happiness is only opened when we realize that all we are and all we have is due only to God's grace. Without God we are nothing. Love is the remedy for pride and protects us from ourselves. God asks us to be humble. Only when we are free from the traps of pride and arrogance that we can begin to follow the path to true humility. Only one who is humble can rightly love and be of service to God. "God makes use only of the humble as his instruments (Jean-Pierre de Causade)." The humble one does not need others to give them worth and value. Their self-esteem comes from the much more secure foundation of God. Only those who are entirely free can give themselves freely to others. Love must always be our motivation for doing all things. Be content that God has invited you to the banquet of life. Concern yourself with accepting the invitation, and don't worry about where you will sit. . ©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

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/>

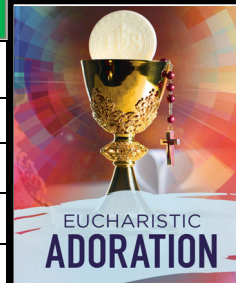
We become what we love and who we love shapes what we become. — **St. Clare of Assisi**
For it is not earthly riches which make us happy; for they must either be lost by us in our lifetime, or be possessed when we are dead, by whom we know not, or perhaps by whom we would not. But, it is God who makes us happy, who is the true riches. —**St. Augustine**

Mass Ministry Schedule - September 3—4

Mass Ministry	St. Bernard Sat. 5:00pm	Ascension Sun. 8:00am	St. Bernard Sun. 10:00am
Sacristan	Doris Mielke	Tamara Lemmer	Patricia Quinn
Servers	Luke & Lexy Allison	Jack Lano, Brianna Duenow & Nathan Duenow	Buckley Jones & Gabby Remer
Reader	Joyce Schwartz	Brian Willems	Brenda Jones
EMHC	Sarah Foley	Brenda Seifert	Julie Clemensen
Ushers	Kieran Allison & Volunteer	Jeremy Friendshuh, & Josh Gallus	Andy Kleindl & Bob Symanitz
Greeters	Eileen Fasching	Leo Pouliot	Casey Jones & Julie Kleindl
Homebound Ministers	N/A	Grp A Theresa Hartmann & Pat Johnson Grp B Steve Helget & Tim Fahey	N/A

Mass Times/Intentions

Monday	Aug 29	No Mass	
Tuesday	Aug. 30 6:15 pm	Ascension	Patricia Prchal †
Wednesday	Aug. 31 8:00 am	St. Bernard	Marcy Wickenhauser †
Thursday	Sept. 1 8:00 am	St. Bernard	Sr. Christa Rein †
Friday	Sept. 2 8:00 am	Ascension	Mass of Reparation
Saturday	Sept. 3 5:00 pm	St. Bernard	All Parishioners
Sunday	Sept. 4 8:00 am	Ascension	Mrs. Vo Kiem †
Sunday	Sept. 4 10:00 am	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 28, 2022

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 **Monday:** 1 Cor 2:1-5/Ps 119:97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102/Mk 6:17-29 **Tuesday:** 1 Cor 2:10b-16/Ps 145:8-9, 10-11, 12-13ab, 13cd-14/Lk 4:31-37 **Wednesday:** 1 Cor 3:1-9/Ps 33:12-13, 14-15, 20-21/Lk 4:38-44 **Thursday:** 1 Cor 3:18-23/Ps 24:1bc-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Lk 5:1-11 **Friday:** 1 Cor 4:1-5/Ps 37:3-4, 5-6, 27-28, 39-40/Lk 5:33-39 **Saturday:** 1 Cor 4:6b-15/Ps 145:17-18, 19-20, 21/Lk 6:1-5 **Next Sunday:** Wis 9:13-18b/Ps 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14-17/Phlm 9-10, 12-17/Lk 14:25-33

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	3,323.73
Contributions 08-10 through 08-16-2022	2,596.17
Total Actual Collection YTD	21,714.15
Total Actual Collection Over (Under) Budget	(12.06)
Forward in Faith Envelope Income	281.00
Electronic Donations	493.43
Forward in Faith Total	774.43
Forward in Faith YTD	5,539.35

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 8/14/2022

Weekly Operating Budget:	\$ 2,942.31
Weekly Envelopes/Plate:	2,375.00
Weekly E-Giving:	290.00
Collections Budget YTD:	20,596.17
Actual Collection YTD:	17,284.50
Total Collected Over (Under) YTD:	(3,311.67)
Capital Improvement Offering:	390.00
Capital Improvement-E-Giving:	25.00
Capital Improvement YTD:	4,500.00

Sign up for electronic giving at ascensionnya.org

Under Links -> E-giving. Or call the parish office for more information: 952-467-3351.