

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

323 Reform St. N.
NYA, MN. 55368

PASTOR

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

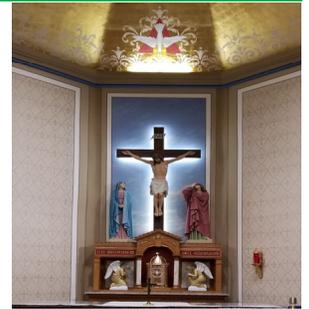
ST. BERNARD CHURCH

212 Church Street E.
Cologne, MN. 55322

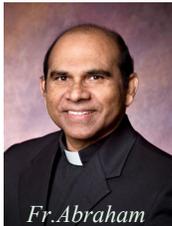


Website: AscensionNYA.org
Parish Office Hours:
Mon.—Wed & Fri. 9am—2pm
Office Phone: 952-467-3351
Business Administrator:
Sherry Witte.....952-777-0110
busadmin@ascensionnya.org
Safe Environment Coordinator:
Sarah Smith....952-777-0111
bookkeeper@ascensionnya.org

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-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time - September 18, 2022



Fr. Abraham

Use Wealth Wisely

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Our Lord expects faithful and prudent stewardship from us. He challenges us to use our talents and blessings wisely to attain heavenly kingdom. Jesus tells a paradoxical story about the steward of a rich absentee landlord. (Lk 16:1-13) The steward in the parable was dishonest. He misused the profit of the estate. Facing the return of his master and an audit of his accounts, the steward cleverly converted the debtors of his master into his own debtors. He bought friends with his master's money. His dishonest plan would serve the purpose: the debtors would be grateful to him and would support him financially when he was out of his job. The parable of the dishonest steward is hard to understand.

Obviously, Jesus was not commending the steward's dishonesty. He was commending only his shrewd resourcefulness in coping with an emergency with such speed. The parable points out that Christians should be as prudent and resourceful in acquiring goodness as the steward was in acquiring money and making his future safe. Christians must give as much attention to things that concern their souls as they do to the things that concern worldly matters. In saving our souls and spreading the Good News, our Lord wants us to apply the same resourcefulness and effort that other people put into their worldly affairs or into their attempts to attain some human ideal.

Jesus is teaching two lessons for us from the parable of the dishonest steward. Firstly, the shrewdness which the dishonest steward showed in providing for his earthly happiness was greater than that shown by most of us in providing for our eternal happiness. If we take an honest look at last week as a sample of our lives, how many hours did we spend on earning merit for any future life? How many of them did we devote to spiritual things? Did we give one hour a day to God and the things of God, helping the needy, learning more about our religion, praying for our own and our neighbor's needs? God gives us lots of time for providing for our health and temporal needs each week, and a lot of free time besides. We should not express surprise if he is disappointed at how little of that wonderful gift of time we are willing to give back to him. The unjust steward was far more enterprising with regard to earthly provisions for himself.

The second lesson our Lord wishes to teach us is that we should use our earthly possessions in helping those who need our help. The right use of wealth, according to Jesus in the Gospel of Luke, is to help the poor, the hungry, and the starving. That is the way that we make friends with God and please God according to this text. There are many people in our parish who live a life of generosity. There are many people in the Church who understand that God has given us money so that we can be generous to the needy, the poor and the starving. Thus, many of us are making wise investments for the future. Jesus reminds us that earthly resources will eventually run out. Hence, our material possessions should be used for the good of others and we will be received into eternal dwellings. The parable advises us to use our blessings: time, talents, opportunities, health, wealth, intelligence, education, and other advantages. It also challenges us to be honest stewards and to use our resources wisely so that they will count for our good in eternity.

Rosary Intention: *'For a Fruitful care of Creation Retreat'*

Yours in Christ, Fr. Abraham Kochupurackal CMI, Pastor



CALENDAR FOR ASCENSION AND ST. BERNARDS' PARISHES

Sat. & Sun Sept 17 & 18 "Linger Longer After Mass @ StB
 Sat. Oct. 1 3:00-6:00pm Chili Feed @ StB
 Sun. Oct. 9 8:00-noon KC Pancake Breakfast @ Asc



Mark your calendars: Blest Art will be visiting in our parishes the **THIS** week-end with hand carved religious olive wood art. Blest Art Inc. helps support Christian families from Bethlehem by marketing their artwork in the US. Please visit their display before or after Mass and consider purchasing a piece of art from the Holy Land. They make wonderful gifts!

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.

Candlelight Rosary Procession Friday, October 7, 6:30 p.m. at the Minnesota State Capitol, Saint Paul
 Join in praying the rosary as we process from the State Capitol to the Cathedral of Saint Paul. Gather at the Minnesota State Capitol approach at 6:30 p.m. Bishop Williams will lead the procession which will begin at 7 p.m. We will conclude with Marian prayers, Eucharistic Adoration, and Benediction at the Cathedral. See more information at minnesotarosaryprocessions.org.



The **Ascension KC's** will be hosting a **pancake breakfast** on October 9th in the newly remodeled Ascension social hall. Serving will be from 8am-noon. Free will donation will be accepted with all proceeds going to the church basement improvement project.

DOES YOUR FAITH NEED A JUMP START? Join us and say a resounding "YES!" to a weekend of renewal and time dedicated just to you. You won't regret this opportunity to grow closer to your family, your parish, and Christ. We are now accepting registrations for our fall Welcome retreats. Men's Retreat: September 24-25 & Women's Retreat: October 8-9. (Formerly called Christ Renews His Parish Retreats.) Learn more and register online by going to stjosephwaconia.org/crhp-registration/.

Fall Festival -Sept 24th, Guardian Angels
 Guardian Angels, Chaska, invites you to its annual Fall Festival on Saturday, September 24th from 12:00-8:00 p.m. Activities include a Car/Tractor Show, DJ/Karaoke, Food Booths, Silent Auction, Kid's Games, 4:30 p.m. Mass and lots more! For more details, visit our website: www.gachaska.org

A really frightening test of how much value we attach to [Christ] lies in how we feel about friends who never seem to give him a thought. Do we feel it as unbearable that they should not have the gifts of light and nourishment that he has given us? If not, we should ask ourselves how much those same gifts do actually mean to ourselves. —*Frank Sheed*

Your Prayers are requested: For the repose of the soul of Paul Bovy who passed away on Monday, September 5th. Paul's funeral was on Friday, September 9th. May he rest in peace and may his soul and all the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Pray also for peace and comfort for Paul's family.



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 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.

St. Bernard's Chili Feed and Cash Raffle is scheduled for Sat., Oct. 1st from 3 - 7pm. Dine-in or take out available. Raffle tickets for cash prizes and quilt chances are for sale and can be picked up after the weekend Masses or from committee members. Mass on the 1st will be at 5:00pm.



"You cannot serve both God and mammon." Merriam-Webster defines mammon as material wealth or possessions, especially having a debasing influence. While God does not take issue with our need to use money for the business of our lives, there can be a problem with the attitudes we bring to it. We can easily become so preoccupied and obsessed with money that it becomes the real "god" we worship. Do we serve mammon instead of God? In their book, *Wealth, Riches and Money*, Craig Hill and Earl Pitts outline symptoms of mammon's influence in our lives. Some of these are worry and anxiety over money, money mismanagement, fear over "never having enough," an "I can't afford it" mentality, impulse buying, stinginess, greed, debt, and discontent.

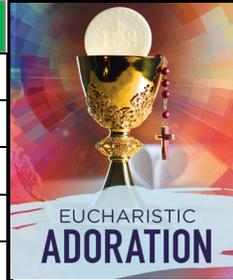
Many of the things on that list can consume us to the point that we are distracted from what we really need to be doing. Many of the world's problems, especially those involving inequity and injustice, result from conflicts about money. Many equate money with happiness. Those successful in accumulating large amounts of it quickly realize just how wrong they are. "Your ultimate allegiance is not to the government, not to the state, not to nation, not to any man-made institution. The Christian owes his ultimate allegiance to God, and if any earthly institution conflicts with God's will it is your Christian duty to take a stand against it. You must never allow the transitory evanescent demands of man-made institutions to take precedence over the eternal demands of the Almighty God (Martin Luther King, Jr.)." This is the point Jesus is trying to make. Unfortunately, when we look around our man-made kingdoms are far more prevalent than God's kingdom. When we start seeing greater evidence of justice, equity, dignity, respect, opportunity, gentleness, holiness, solidarity, honesty, simplicity, care for creation, and a decrease in ambition, then we will know that God's kingdom is being served. We will be doing what we are supposed to do. ©LPi

Mass Ministry Schedule - September 24—25

Mass Ministry	Ascension Sat. 5:00pm	Ascension Sun. 8:00am	St. Bernard Sun. 10:00am
Sacristan	Ann Dettmann	Tamara Lemmer	Doris Mielke
Servers	Steve Lemmer, Alex & Bryce Urness	Florian Schindler, Brianna & Nathan Duenow	Dan Worm, Marshall Panning & Lily Starkey
Reader	Jean Schmitz	Brian Willems	Patricia Quinn
EMHC	Cathleen Williams	Kathy Kloempken	Victoria Arnst
Ushers	Jim Mulville & Tom Lano	Don Whitaker & Gary Widmer	Tom Dahl & Vern Elke
Greeters	Jeremy & Julie Gesinger	Sue Schultz	Sarah Foley & Brian Vos
Homebound Ministers	N/A	Grp A Tim & Rita Fahey Grp B Paul & Corrine Proski	N/A

Mass Times Intentions

Day	Date	Time	Mass	Intention
Monday	Sept 19		No Mass	
Tuesday	Sept 20	6:15 pm	Ascension	Robert Reinitz †
Wednesday	Sept 21	8:00 am	St. Bernard	Marcy Wickenhauser †
Thursday	Sept 22	8:00 am	St. Bernard	St. Christa Rein †
Friday	Sept 23	8:00 am	Ascension	John Worm †
Saturday	Sept 24	5:00 pm	Ascension	Mr. Cung Hong †
Sunday	Sept 25	9:00 am	Ascension	All Parishioners
Sunday	Sept 25	10:00am	St. Bernard	Gilbert Rademacher †



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 September 18, 2022

Sunday: Am 8:4-7/Ps 113:1-2, 4-6, 7-8/1 Tm 2:1-8/Lk 16:1-13 or 16:10-13 **Monday:** Prv 3:27-34/Ps 15:2-3a, 3bc-4ab, 5/Lk 8:16-18 **Tuesday:** Prv 21:1-6, 10-13/Ps 119:1, 27, 30, 34, 35, 44/Lk 8:19-21 **Wednesday:** Eph 4:1-7, 11-13/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5/Mt 9:9-13 **Thursday:** Eccl 1:2-11/Ps 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14 and 17bc/Lk 9:7-9 **Friday:** Eccl 3:1-11/Ps 144:1b and 2abc, 3-4/Lk 9:18-22 **Saturday:** Eccl 11:9—12:8/Ps 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14 and 17/Lk 9:43b-45 **Next Sunday:** Am 6:1a, 4-7/Ps 146:7, 8-9, 9-10 [1b]/1 Tm 6:11-16/Lk 16:19-31

**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	3,85033
Contributions 08-31 through 09-06-2022	2,606.92
Total Actual Collection YTD	28,187.07
Total Actual Collection Over (Under) Budget	(4,036.93)
Forward in Faith Envelope Income	110.00
Electronic Donations	265.50
Forward in Faith Total	375.50
Forward in Faith YTD	6,364.55

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 9/4/2022

Weekly Operating Budget:	\$ 2,942.31
Weekly Envelopes/Plate:	831.00
Weekly E-Giving:	270.00
Collections Budget YTD:	29,423.10
Actual Collection YTD:	23,301.50
Total Collected Over (Under) YTD:	(6,121.60)
Capital Improvement Offering:	630.00
Capital Improvement-E-Giving:	45.00
Capital Improvement YTD:	5,510.00

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