

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

323 Reform St. N.
NYA, MN. 55368

PASTOR

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

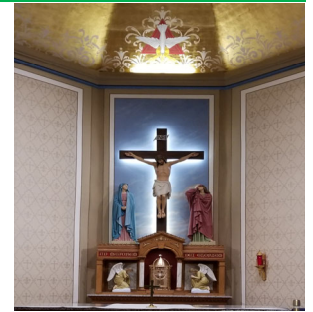
ST. BERNARD CHURCH

212 Church Street E.
Cologne, MN. 55322

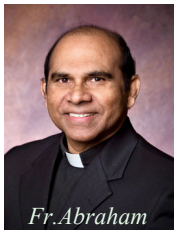


Website: AscensionNYA.org
Parish Office Hours:
Mon.—Wed & Fri. 9am—2pm
Office Phone: 952-467-3351
Business Administrator:
Sherry Witte.....952-777-0110
busadmin@ascensionnya.org
Safe Environment Coordinator:
Sarah Smith....952-777-0111
bookkeeper@ascensionnya.org

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:
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Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time - September 25, 2022



Hear the Cry of the Poor

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Jesus told the parable of the Rich man and Lazarus to reprove the Pharisees for their love of money and lack of mercy for the poor. Who is the rich man in this parable? Jesus does not give him a name, although he does name the poor, Lazarus, who lies at the door of the rich man. Jesus lets us to give a name to the rich man, and maybe it is our own. That possibility is open to each of us.

Naturally, we are tempted to ask the question, why is the rich man condemned to hell? It is not for being rich. He did not drive Lazarus out from in front of his door. He did not prevent him from eating the discarded crumbs from his table. Then what was the sin of the rich man in the parable? Sin of the rich man was not the sin of commission (doing something he should not have done), but a sin of omission (not doing something he should have done). He was being careless and indifferent to the poor man at his gate. He ignored the teaching of Sacred Scriptures. He led a life of luxury and self-indulgence, totally ignoring the cry of the poor people around him.

The parable is not meant to offend or upset those who have worked long and hard for their financial well-being. It is not wrong to be rich, but it is wrong not to share our wealth with our less fortunate brothers and sisters. The chief purpose of this parable is to arouse in us the responsibilities to bring God's mercy to others, especially, who are less fortunate than ourselves. The parable offers an invitation to each one of us to be conscious of the sufferings of those around us and to share our blessings generously.

The sin of the rich man was the same sin that is being committed over and over today. There is so much poverty in the world. The gap between the 'Rich and Lazarus' is growing gigantically. There is more than enough food produced in the world to feed everyone on the earth. Yet 811 million people, about 10% of the world's population, go to bed on an empty stomach each night. We live in the world's wealthiest nation. Still more than 13.1 million children in the United States are food insecure. Additionally, 14.5 million children live in poverty. (Source: Household Food Security in the United States, 2021)

Back in July 2021, UN World Food Program Executive Director David Beasley told us it would take an estimated \$40 billion dollars per year to feed all of the world's hungry people and end global hunger by 2030. According to data from the American Pet Products Association (APPA), the amount we spend on pets grew to \$103.6 billion in 2020. It was \$45.4 billion dollars in 2009. We have the resources to feed the world. We just need the will.

We need to follow the teaching of Christ. The Christian can never be comfortable as long as a brother or a sister cries out in vain for bread or justice or love. Church continually reaches out to the poor and suffering throughout the world. We cannot allow our wealth to isolate us. We are all rich enough to share our blessings with others. God has blessed each one of us with wealth or health or special talents or social power or political influence or a combination of many blessings. The parable of the Rich man and Lazarus invites us to share with others in various ways what we have been given, instead of using everything exclusively for selfish gains. In other words, this parable is a warning that the selfish and extravagant use of God's blessings, like wealth, without sharing them with the poor and the needy, is a serious sin deserving eternal punishment.

October is the month of devotion to Rosary. We pray the Rosary twenty-five minutes before every weekend Mass with special intentions. You are welcome to join us.

Rosary Intention: 'For our Faith Formation Students, Families and Catechists.'


Yours in Christ, Fr. Abraham Kochupurackal CMI, Pastor



CALENDAR FOR ASCENSION AND ST. BERNARDS' PARISHES

Sat. Oct. 1 3:00-6:00pm Chili Feed @ StB
 Sun. Oct. 9 8:00-noon KC Pancake Breakfast @ Asc

An 8-part Bible Study of Romans: The Gospel of Salvation will occur on Sundays, October 2nd thru November 20, after the morning Mass, at 9:00am at the Ascension Social Hall. Paul's letter to the Romans has been at the center of reflection, conversion, and controversy from the very beginning. Presented by Dr. Andrew Swafford and Jeff Cavins, this study provides an authentic Catholic way to understand this challenging epistle and will help you enter into a more meaningful relationship with Christ. All are welcome. Please make checks payable to Ascension. Contact Chris George - 763-898-9854 for more information.

Pancake Breakfast  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.

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.


Catholic Charismatic Renewal Fall Conference
 Saturday, October 22, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Shakopee Area Catholic School. This conference led by Barbara Heil will encourage you to move forward with the Holy Spirit in boldness and to step out in your gifts. Learn ways to do this. Come together in prayer and fellowship. Enjoy praise and worship and many talks on living out being "Fully Alive: Vision for a New Era." No cost! Free will offering accepted. Even if you cannot come to the conference, all are welcome to St. Mark's (350 Atwood St., Shakopee) for a Healing Service with Barbara Heil and Fr. Michael Becker. Call 763-571-5314 or visit ccro-msp.org for more information.

40 Days For Life, September 28 - November 6
 Join us in this international movement of prayer and fasting, peaceful vigil and community outreach to end abortion. Daily prayer outside the abortion facilities is from 6:00 am to 6:00 pm.

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. 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/.

The Cross of Christ forces you to make up your mind. You can be indifferent about anything else, but you cannot be indifferent about the Crucifixion. You can stand immobile before a cross as a kind of charm, but you cannot help but feel involved when you look at a Crucifix. —*Venerable Fulton J. Sheen*

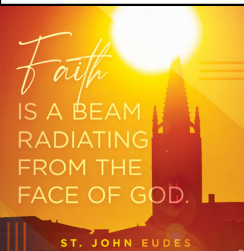
Welcome Brynlee Jo Ruff: We wish to extend a warm welcome to the newest member of St Bernard Church who was baptized on September 11, 2022. Brynlee is the daughter of Sarah (Fahrenkamp) and Michael Ruff. Many blessings to Brynlee Jo and her family.

 **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 Saturday, Oct. 1st from 3 - 7pm. Dine-in or take out available. Raffle tickets for cash prizes and quilt chances are for sale at the Chili Feed. Mass on the 1st will be at 5:00pm. Invite your relatives and friends to the Chili Feed for good food and great conversation.

Online Evening Prayer for Young Adults
 Young adults age 18+ are invited to pray online together with School Sisters of Notre Dame on Tuesday, September 27 from 7-8 p.m. CT. Learn more and register for the Zoom link at ssnd.org/events/9-27-22.



"If they will not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded if someone should rise from the dead." Regardless of how the message of faith is received, a total conversion of mind and heart is needed for it to take root and have meaning. It is easy to become complacent and comfortable with all that life can afford us. Life can become "all about me," preserving my livelihood and protecting my securities.

Often, this drive can become so strong that we eagerly strive to protect our self-interests at the expense of others. Other people are necessary only to the extent that they are "useful" to us and profitable.

Merriam-Webster defines entitlement as "the belief that one is deserving of or entitled to certain privileges." In a world that pretends to offer us so many necessities, this is perhaps the greatest contemporary sin. When we feel "entitled" to something, even if it is perceived necessary, our relationships can get skewed. Unless we adopt a global vision of entitlement wherein everyone is entitled to the same things, we risk becoming extremely self-focused and selfish. All we care about is defending our rights and protecting our turf. This impulse can be so strong that we pursue it even at the expense of another. Is this what God intends for his children?

Holding on to this myopic vision, the plight and station of others are off our radar and of no real concern to us. Relying on our own merits and becoming resilient to life's challenges, we replace the true and real God with the one we created ourselves. Jesus and the prophets before him have consistently reminded us of the dangers of wealth, ignoring the poor and the needy, and becoming too fiercely independent and arrogant. Yet, we conduct our lives as if that message has never been preached. We give our faith a nod and never consider for a moment that we may be wrong in terms of what we see as important. "The things that we love tell us what we are (attributed to St. Thomas Aquinas)." Ponder those words a bit and remember that when we leave this world and go to the next one, what we loved here is what we will look for there. What we sought here may not be there. ©LPi

Mass Ministry Schedule - October 1—2

Mass Ministry	St. Bernard Sat. 5:00pm	Ascension Sun. 8:00am	St. Bernard Sun. 10:00am
Sacristan	Doris Mielke	Brian Willems	Lori Kasel
Servers	Lexy Allison & Luke Allison	Florian Schindler, Brianna & Nathan Duenow	Dan Worm, Logan Pellegrino & Gabby Remer
Reader	Joyce Schwartz	Cheryl Coyle	Tom Kasel
EMHC	Bernie Shambour	Curt Wilson	Pam Kunkel
Ushers	Kieran Allison & Volunteer	Paul Lano & Don Whitaker	Tom Dahl & Bob Symanitz
Greeters	Eileen Fasching	Steve Coyle	Casey Jones & Andy Kleindl
Homebound Ministers	N/A	Grp A Stacy Sullivan & TBD Grp B Theresa Hartmann & Pat Johnson	N/A

Mass Times Intentions

Day	Date	Time	Location	Intention
Monday	Sept 26	No Mass		
Tuesday	Sept 27	6:15 pm	Ascension	Bernice & Dennis Wickenhauser †
Wednesday	Sept 28	8:00 am	St. Bernard	Robert G. Fritz †
Thursday	Sept 29	8:00 am	St. Bernard	Marcy Wickenhauser †
Friday	Sept 30	8:00 am	Ascension	Ben Vanderlinde †
Saturday	Oct. 1	5:00 pm	St. Bernard	All Parishioners
Sunday	Oct. 2	8:00 am	Ascension	LeRoy E. Brown † & Ben Vanderlinde †
Sunday	Oct. 2	10:00am	St. Bernard	Living and Deceased members of the Albert & Clara Wickenhauser Family

Eucharistic Adoration
Ascension
Every Tuesday
3:00 pm until 6:00 pm

St. Bernard
Every Wednesday
2:00 until 7:00 pm

READINGS
for the week of September 25, 2022

Sunday: Am 6:1a, 4-7/Ps 146:7, 8-9, 9-10 [1b]/1 Tm 6:11-16/Lk 16:19-31 **Monday:** Jb 1:6-22/Ps 17:1bcd, 2-3, 6-7/Lk 9:46-50 **Tuesday:** Jb 3:1-3, 11-17, 20-23/Ps 88:2-3, 4-5, 6, 7-8/Lk 9:51-56 **Wednesday:** Jb 9:1-12, 14-16/Ps 88:10bc-11, 12-13, 14-15/Lk 9:57-62 **Thursday:** Dan 7:9-10, 13-14 or Rv 12:7-12a/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 4-5/Jn 1:47-51 **Friday:** Jb 38:1, 12-21; 40:3-5/Ps 139:1-3, 7-8, 9-10, 13-14ab/Lk 10:13-16 **Saturday:** Jb 42:1-3, 5-6, 12-17/Ps 119:66, 71, 75, 91, 125, 130/Lk 10:17-24 **Next Sunday:** Hb 1:2-3; 2:2-4/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9/2 Tm 1:6-8, 13-14/Lk 17:5-10

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@ascensionnva.org
All inserts and weekend Mass
announcements can be emailed
or a paper copy brought to the
Parish office at St. Bernard or
Ascension.

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.

St. Bernard Stewardship of Treasure	
Budget for week	3,85033
Contributions 09-07 through 09-13-2022	3,698.00
Total Actual Collection YTD	31,885.07
Total Actual Collection Over (Under) Budget	(4,189.26)
Forward in Faith Envelope Income	205.00
Electronic Donations	0.00
Forward in Faith Total	205.00
Forward in Faith YTD	6,569.85
<p>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</p>	

Ascension Weekly Collection Report	
Totals as of 9/11/2022	
Weekly Operating Budget:	\$ 2,942.31
Weekly Envelopes/Plate:	2,555.30
Weekly E-Giving:	1,140.00
Collections Budget YTD:	32,365.41
Actual Collection YTD:	26,996.80
Total Collected Over (Under) YTD:	(5,368.61)
Capital Improvement Offering:	110.00
Capital Improvement-E-Giving:	175.00
Capital Improvement YTD:	5,795.00
<p>Sign up for electronic giving at ascensionnva.org Under Links -> E-giving. Or call the parish office for more Information: 952-467-3351.</p>	