

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

323 Reform St. N.
NYA, MN. 55368

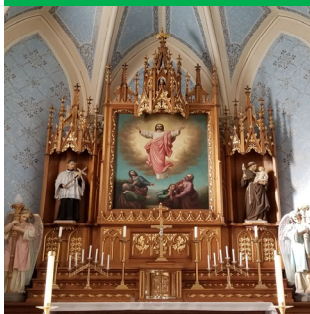
PASTOR

Fr. Abraham Kochupurackal CMI

OFFICE952-856-1050
frabraham@st-bernard-cologne.org

ST. BERNARD CHURCH

212 Church Street E.
Cologne, MN. 55322

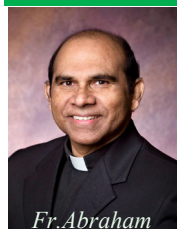


Website: AscensionNYA.org
Parish Office Hours:
Mon.—Wed & Fri. 9am—2pm
Office Phone: 952-467-3351
Business Administrator:
Sherry Witte.....952-777-0110
busadmin@ascensionnya.org
Safe Environment Coordinator:
Sarah Smith....952-777-0111
bookkeeper@ascensionnya.org

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



Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time - October 30, 2022



Fr. Abraham

Stewardship: A Conversion Journey

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

During these weeks, we have been pondering on the stewardship of time, talent and treasure. In the last week, we learned that stewardship requires humility. This weekend, we reflect on another aspect of stewardship as a conversion journey.

One of the most popular stories of the gospel is the story of the conversion of Zacchaeus. (Luke 19:1-10). Zacchaeus, was a chief tax collector in Jericho. He was a man of much wealth and few friends. He was considered by Jews as a sinner, a traitor, and an outcast. Zacchaeus heard that Jesus was passing through the town and he wanted very much to see him. He also heard that Jesus welcomed tax collectors and sinners as his friends. Therefore, despite any ridicule he might receive from the crowd, he resolved to see Jesus. He climbed a sycamore tree to escape the crowd and get a clear vision of Jesus.

Jesus looked up and said, “Zacchaeus, come down quickly, for today I must stay at your house.” The two of them went into Zacchaeus’ home. We don’t know what Jesus said to him. But what a climax it was and what a conversation must have brought it about. Whatever happened that day during that home visit, Zacchaeus experienced a deep conversion and thus made a profound commitment: half of his possessions to the poor and to pay back four times the amount to anyone he has cheated. He was transformed from greedy to generous, from selfish to selfless, from a dishonest heart to a thanksgiving heart. The story of the conversion of Zacchaeus completes with Jesus’ benediction: “Today salvation has come to this house...” Jesus didn’t simply come into Zacchaeus’ house that day. Rather, Jesus entered into Zacchaeus’ heart that day. Jesus loved Zacchaeus and, in that love, Zacchaeus was transformed. By making no demands on Zacchaeus, Jesus gave him a feeling of acceptance and a new direction for his life.

How shall we apply the story of Zacchaeus to our own stewardship journey? When Jesus got into the heart of Zacchaeus he was transformed. He was transformed from the ownership to the stewardship of possessions. The more deeply one experiences love of God, the more one grows in heart to see stewardship as a way of life. Stewards see everything as gifts received from God and they respond in gratitude with the gift of self. Stewardship is a conversion journey of receiving God’s love and returning love to him. When a steward loves God above earthly possessions, God provides the grace for the steward to love God and others to an even greater depth. This depth of love is a growth in holiness. This is one of the joyful rewards of a stewardship way of life.

In the deepening conversion of love, the steward learns to give of self through time, talent and treasure, not out of obligation and duty, but out of sincere desire and gratitude. The conversion to stewardship as a way of life is a journey of the individual, the family, the parish, the diocese and the Universal Church. What makes such conversion possible? It is God’s love for us that lies at the heart of such conversion. “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life.” (John 3:16). Recognizing that this conversion is primarily a call from God made possible through grace he bestows upon us. The task of conversion to stewardship is part of our response to discipleship. Jesus is inviting each one of us to total conversion today by means of this gospel lesson. Jesus wants to stay at our house, in our heart, today. If we allow Jesus to enter our lives, our lives will change. Our life is worth living, meaningful and has purpose. Like Zacchaeus, let us welcome Jesus in to our heart with great joy. Together in our journey of faith, journey of conversion, may God bless us and may we respond as faithful stewards.

I am grateful to all of you, for your tremendous faith in our Lord and commitment to our parish; and for all the ways that you generously share your gifts and talents for the glory of God and the service of others.

Rosary Intention: *‘For all who are lonely, depressed and forgotten; may they feel the closeness of God through us.’*

Yours in Christ, Fr. Abraham Kochupurackal CMI, Pastor



CALENDAR FOR ASCENSION AND ST. BERNARDS' PARISHES

Tues Nov 1	8:00am	All Saints Day Mass (HDO) @ St B
Tues Nov 1	6:15pm	All Saints Day Mass (HDO) @ Asc
Wed Nov 2	6:15pm	All Souls Memorial Mass @ Asc

All Saints Day (Nov. 1st - a Holy Day of Obligation) Masses will be at 8:00am at St. Bernard and 6:15pm at Ascension. The **All Souls Day** memorial service will be held Nov. 2 at 6:15pm at Ascension. No morning Mass at St. Bernard.

Preparing for Elections

Check out the Minnesota Catholic Conference's election resources (www.MNCatholic.org/electionresources) to help you form your conscience and inform your vote ahead of heading to the polls. Download free copies of a candidate questionnaire (www.MNCatholic.org/candidate_questionnaire) to send to your candidates to learn where they stand on a variety of issues that impact life, dignity, and the common good. There is also a do-it-yourself tool kit for hosting a candidate town hall at your parish. Learn more by visiting www.MNCatholic.org/townhall.



Serving those who Serve—National Collection for AMS

The triennial national collection for the USA Archdiocese for the Military Services (AMS) will be held the weekend of November 5-6.

The ministries (Evangelization and Catechesis, Sacramental Records, Tribunal, Vocations and the pastoral care of Veterans) offered by the AMS benefit those who serve in all six branches (Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard and Space Force) of the US Armed Forces, are enrolled in US Military Academies, undergoing treatment in any of the 153 Veterans Medical Centers, working in civilian jobs for the federal government beyond US borders—and their families. Please prayerfully consider a donation to help with the ministry to the 1.8 million faithful throughout the US and around the globe who serve to protect. For more information about AMS, visit milarch.org.

Thank You!! To the Ascension Knights of Columbus.

They contributed \$1000 of the proceeds from the pancake breakfast held on October 9th to the social hall renovation project. Only a couple small things left to complete and it will be all done!!

The Ascension Finance Council is looking for **volunteers to help with snow removal** during the winter months. Must be 18 years or older to operate motorized snow removal equipment but younger muscles can help with shoveling. If you are interested in being part of this team, please contact Jack Lano - 952-237-3265.



The Annual Stewardship Renewal

information was mailed to you this past week. Please prayerfully consider your gifts of time and talent and how they can

help the needs of our parishes. We would like to say Thank You to all of you already supporting our parishes. The committee is asking that you fill out and return the Stewardship Commitment Card and the Treasure Commitment Form by Sunday, November 20th. Forms can be returned by mail, at Mass or at the parish office.

"As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace," 1 Peter 4:10

Entertainment and consumption have practically become the point of life in our modern culture. Without time for serious thought processes, we are losing the ability to think deeply. We don't even have time to wonder, What is the meaning of it all? Do we possess our possessions, or do they possess us? Do we consume pleasures and entertainment, or do they consume us?—**Jeanette Flood** from her book *Eight Ways of Loving God*

Aluminum Can Recycling: THANK YOU—to Bob Symanitz for taking care of the can recycling project. Picking up the can trailer, crushing the cans and loading them up on the truck to take to the recycling center. **THANK YOU**—to Wickenhauser Construction (Don & Anna Wickenhauser) who provided the truck and hauled the cans to the recycling center. We received \$1,525.20 from the recycled cans. **The recycling trailer** is parked on the northeast side of the school. We thank everyone who uses this trailer to recycle their cans.



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.



Here's to wishing all you little (or not so little) trick-or-treaters a happy and safe Halloween.



Cor Jesu in partnership with the National Eucharistic Revival

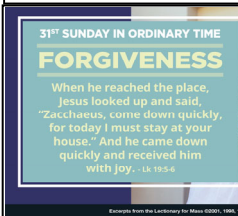
November 4, 7:30-9:30 p.m., Cathedral of

Saint Paul, Saint Paul

Join Catholics from around the Twin Cities and Christ Himself for an evening of adoration, worship, music and confession. Venerate first-class relics of Blessed Carlo Acutis, best known for documenting global Eucharistic miracles online before his death from leukemia, and St. Manuel González García, known as "The Bishop of the Tabernacle" due to his Eucharistic devotion. Take part in one of the first events of the National Eucharistic Revival led by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. Come together with young Catholics in the Twin Cities and leaders from the local Church.

Word of Life—"The mystery of the redemption of the human person is rooted in the loving involvement of God with human suffering. Hope is always possible. To those who care for the sick, the scene of the Cross provides a way of understanding that even when it seems that there is nothing more to do there remains much to do, because 'remaining' by the side of the sick is a sign of love and of the hope that it contains. Healed by Jesus, we become men and women called to proclaim his healing power and provide care for our neighbors, until the very end."

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities
"The Witness of the Good Samaritan: Palliative Care and Hospice"



Do We Watch Jesus from a Distance?

It seems to me that Zacchaeus may have gotten more than he bargained for when he scaled that sycamore tree. We can only speculate as to what the original intentions of the wealthy tax collector were. We know he wanted to see Jesus, of

course — but what does that mean? Was he simply curious about this famous and controversial man? Was he moved by what he heard of Jesus' teachings? Was he trying to catch a glimpse, or to get close?

Whatever his initial motivations, we can safely assume he did not expect Jesus to look up and say: "Get down. I am coming to your house today." I often find myself taking the same posture as Zacchaeus in the tree. Perhaps I have a problem I'm wrestling with or a personal fault I need to overcome. At times I know I need to give of myself in ways that scare me. Whatever it is, I am watching Jesus from a distance. I am removed. Because I worry that when he gets close, he will get in my space. He will see whatever it is I don't want to deal with or tackle. I need to remember that Jesus does not come to condemn, but to assist. It is God's desire to make us "worthy of His calling." To do that, He knows we need help. He knows we need Him in our space.

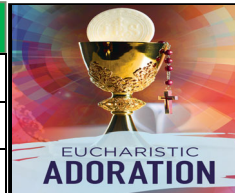
I'll say this for Zacchaeus — he was ready. He jumped right down, acknowledged what he had to be ashamed of, and vowed to do better. He brought Jesus home. May we all have that same courage. — *Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi*

Mass Ministry Schedule—Nov. 1-6

Mass Ministry	All Saints Day 11/1-8:00am-StB	All Saints Day 11/1-6:15pm-Asc	All Souls Day 11/2-6:15pm-Asc	St. Bernard 11/5-Sat. 5:00pm	Ascension 11/6-Sun. 8:00am	St. Bernard 11/6-Sun. 10:00am
Sacristan	Doris Mielke	Sherry Witte	Brian Willems	Doris Mielke	Rita Fahey	Lori Kasel
Servers	Dan Worm	Jack Lano; Jacob & Lucas Johnson	Callie Buckentin, Lacy Buckentin	Kieran Allison	F. Schindler; Nathan & Brianna Duenow	Dan Worm, Marshall Panning & Logan Pellegrino
Reader	Judy Glander	Darlene Mondor	Volunteer	Jake Kooiman	Darlene Mondor	Helen Nicklaus
EMHC	Mary Meuwissen	Irene Yaeck	Jean Schmitz	Carol Hoen	Kathy Kloempken	Tom Kasel
Ushers	Brian Vos & Leo Willems	Rich Ulrich & Tim George	Richard Tellers & Jeremy Friendshuh	Volunteers	Richard Tellers & Paul Lano	Tom Dahl & Leo Willems
Greeters	Roger Storms	J. & J. Gesinger	Sue Schultz	Roger Storms	Grace Cook	Sarah Foley & Brian Vos
Home-bound Ministers	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Grp A-Rich-Sue Tellers Grp B-Pat Johnson & Theresa Hartmann	N/A

Mass Times Intentions

Day	Date	Time	Intention
Monday	Oct 31	No Mass	
Tuesday	Nov 1	8:00 am	St. Bernard Nancy Sinnen †
Tuesday	Nov 1	6:15 pm	Ascension Don Bohlinger †
Wednesday	Nov 2	6:15 pm	Ascension Debby Rose Levander †
Thursday	Nov 3	8:00 am	St. Bernard Robert G. Fritz †
Friday	Nov 4	8:00 am	Ascension Patricia Prchal †
Saturday	Nov 5	5:00 pm	St. Bernard All Parishioners
Sunday	Nov 6	8:00 am	Ascension John Worm †
Sunday	Nov 6	10:00am	St. Bernard Living & deceased members of the Mathias & Gertrude Fick Family



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 October 30, 2022

Sunday: Wis 11:22—12:2/Ps 145:1-2, 8-9, 10-11, 13, 14/2 Thes 1:11—2:2/Lk 19:1-10 **Monday:** Phil 2:1-4/Ps 131:1bcde, 2, 3/Lk 14:12-14 **Tuesday:** Rv 7:2-4, 9-14/Ps 24:1bc-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/1 Jn 3:1-3/Mt 5:1-12a **Wednesday:** Wis 4:7-14/Ps 25:6, and 7b, 17-18, 20-21/Rom 5:17-21/Mt 11:25-30 **Thursday:** Phil 3:3-8a/Ps 105:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Lk 15:1-10 **Friday:** Phil 3:17—4:1/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5/Lk 16:1-8 **Saturday:** Phil 4:10-19/Ps 112:1b-2, 5-6, 8a and 9/Lk 16:9-15 **Next Sunday:** 2 Mc 7:1-2, 9-14/Ps 17:1, 5-6, 8, 15 [15b]/2 Thes 2:16—3:5/Lk 20:27-38 or 20:27, 34-38

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@ascensionnyny.org
All inserts and weekend Mass announce-
ments 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	2,981.07
Contributions 10-12 through 10-18-2022	4,680.17
Total Actual Collection YTD	47,223.33
Total Actual Collection Over (Under) Budget	(5,494.88)
Forward in Faith Envelope Income	275.00
Electronic Donations	593.42
Forward in Faith Total	868.42
Forward in Faith YTD	9,196.91
Collection—Hurricane Ian	624.00

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 10/16/2022

Weekly Operating Budget:	\$ 2,942.31
Weekly Envelopes/Plate:	2,266.00
Weekly E-Giving:	270.00
Collections Budget YTD:	47,076.96
Actual Collection YTD:	42,599.47
Total Collected Over (Under) YTD:	(4,477.49)
Capital Improvement Offering:	100.00
Capital Improvement-E-Giving:	25.00
Capital Improvement YTD:	7,180.00

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