

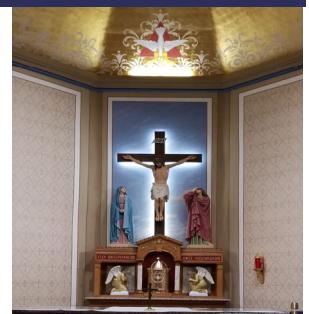
**CHURCH OF
THE ASCENSION**
323 Reform St. N.
NYA, MN. 55368

PASTOR

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



**ST. BERNARD
CHURCH**
212 Church Street E.
Cologne, MN. 55322

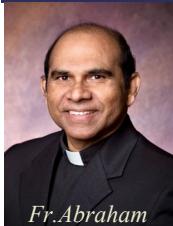


Website: AscensionNYA.org
Parish Office Hours:
Mon.—Wed & Fri. 9am—2pm
Office Phone: 952-467-3351
Business Administrator:
Sherry Witte.....952-777-0110
busadmin@ascensionnya.org
Safe Environment Coordinator:
Sarah Smith....952-777-0111
bookkeeper@ascensionnya.org

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

Fifth Sunday of Lent - March 25 & 26, 2023

Be Unbound and Go Free



Dear Sisters and Brothers,

The raising of Lazarus is one of the moving scenes in the gospel (Jn 11:1-45). We see Jesus, the Son of God, cry at the tomb of Lazarus. Jesus is not only weeping for Lazarus but he raised him from dead. Through these actions he revealed his humanity and divinity. He calls, “Lazarus, come out!” Come back to life. Come back to his sisters, Martha and Mary and to his friends. Jesus is first and foremost the one who gives life. In fact, the whole purpose of the gospel is “to believe in Jesus Christ that you may have life in his name” (Jn 20:31).

The gospel account of the raising of Lazarus prepares us for the Easter celebration by reminding us that we have been summoned to join the Lord of Life in his conquest of death. Jesus told Martha, “I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this? She said to him, “Yes Lord.” (John 11:25-27).

Jesus asks the same question to us also, “Do you believe this? Do you believe that Jesus can mend all the brokenness and wounds of your life? Do you believe that Jesus calls you to enjoy the fullness of his life now? Jesus wants to liberate us from sin and death. There can be many dark areas in our life which need the touch of Jesus. We often bind ourselves with chains of sins: gossiping, envy, prejudices, hatred and anger. Sometimes we are in the tomb of selfishness, filled with negative feelings such as worry, fear, and hopelessness. Jesus invites us to seek his help and that of the community around us to untie those chains and come out of tombs of our own creation. When Lazarus came out of the tomb, Jesus said, “Untie him and let him go.”

Jesus says to us today be free from wounds and hurts and from the dark moments of life. In the dark moments of life, Martha and Mary sent a message to Jesus. We too have to send a message to Jesus. And we can do this by spending time with Jesus in prayer and sharing with him our wounds, hurts and anxieties. Jesus is the God of life and not of death. He knows us, loves us. He calls us by our names as he called, “Lazarus, Come out!” from all that causes death, and to unite ourselves with the trust in the living Lord.

Rosary Intention: “For all who are homeless, hopeless and despondent”

Yours in Christ,
Fr. Abraham Kochupurackal CMI
Pastor

Church of Ascension Norwood Young America, MN

CALENDAR FOR ASCENSION AND ST. BERNARDS' PARISHES

Every Tue 9:00am—Noon Quilting Circle meets @St. Bernard
 Sun, Mar 26th 9:00am Bible Study @ Asc
 Sun, April 2nd after 8am Mass KC Donut Sunday @ Asc

Lenten Services

Stations of the Cross will be held:

March 31st at 6:00pm @ Ascension

Anointing of the Sick will be held:

March 25th after 5:00pm Mass @ Ascension

March 26th after 10:00am Mass @ St. Bernard

Easter Triduum Services

April 6	Holy Thursday, Mass of the Lord's Supper @ StB	7 pm
April 7	Good Friday, Living Stations of the Cross @ Asc	3pm
April 7	Good Friday Liturgy @ St. Bernard, 7 pm	
April 8	Easter Vigil Mass @ Ascension, 8pm	
April 9	Easter Sunday Mass @ Ascension, 8 am	
April 9	Easter Sunday Mass @ St. Bernard, 10 am	

Parish Pictorial Directory - Change in Dates

Exciting News! The Joint Leadership team of St. Bernard and Ascension, have made the decision it is time for a new **pictorial church directory**. The dates for photos will be March 30th, 31st and April 1st at St. Bernard and **April 11th and 13th - 15th** at Ascension. You may have your photo taken at either parish if the dates at your specific parish don't work for you. Just for participating you will receive a complimentary 8 x10 portrait and a church directory. You will be able to view your images right away and purchase family portraits for yourself and to give as gifts to others. For online scheduling go to www.ucdir.com Church Code: mn346 Password: photos For questions call: St. Bernard: Karen @ 952-466-5928 * Ascension: Lonnie @ 952-292-6013



A new prayer group will be starting up at Ascension Church. The purpose of this group will be to pray for the spiritual, emotional, mental, and physical well-being of our children (including grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, Godchildren, etc). We will be praying together for an hour, and prayers will be provided to whomever attends. We will be meeting in the body of the church on Thursdays from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. If you have questions, please call or text Tamara at 612-790-5720.

March Food Drive for the West Carver County Food Shelf—Food is needed all year round. March is designated as one of the two months of the year that are especially highlighted to remind people of the special need for food donation. Meal in one, Tuna, Canned meat, Juice, peanut butter, canned soup canned vegetables, Toilet Paper, Paper Towels, Crackers, etc. Bring your donations to the box in the narthex at St. Bernard and the shelf in the entrance at Ascension. Thank you in advance for your support.

Widows of Joy - Full Day Retreat "Hope & Healing" - Free Event – April 1, 2023 St. John Paul II Area Faith Community invites all recent and long-time widows to attend a full day retreat on Saturday, April 1, 2023 from 8:30-4:30pm, at The Church of the Holy Trinity in Winsted, MN. Our retreat begins with Mass at 8:30am, followed by praise and worship, two reflection talks on "Hope & Healing After the Loss of a Loved One" presented by Deacon Mike McKeown of the New Ulm Diocesan, group discussion, prayer ministry, and fellowship! Registration is requested for meal planning. To register: Call HT Parish @ 320-485-5651 or by Scan QR Code. Register by Thursday, March 30, 2023. Questions? Contact Roxanne Felder @ 612-396-0727.

Mary's only relief in the midst of her great sorrow in the Passion of her Son, was to see the lost world redeemed by His death, and men who were His enemies reconciled with God. . . So great a love on the part of Mary deserves our gratitude, and that gratitude should be shown by at least meditating upon and pitying her in her sorrow. —*St. Alphonsus Liguori*

Church of St. Bernard

Cologne, MN

Your Prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of **Daniel Elke**, brother of Vern Elke and Ann Dettmann, who passed away on March 7th. His funeral will be Tuesday, April 11, 2023 at 11:00 am at St. John The Baptist Catholic Church, 313 Second Street East, Jordan, Mn. . 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. Please also pray for Daniel's family.

Ladies~ REVIVE Women's Night~ Mon. April 17th at 6:30pm

Guest Speaker~ Deb Hadley - "Finding Hope through Adversity"

Deb shares with you her journey of losing two children, and how she is able to handle these tragedies with grace and humility and bring good from her hardships. She will make you cry, laugh, and give you hope for an amazing future. Deb is from Alexandria, MN, an inspirational speaker, author of the Morning God Boost, Founder of the KT Humble Hearts Foundation, the Bereavement Manager for Knute Nelson Hospice, and Servant of the Lord.

Revive's Women's evening schedule: 6:30pm: Wine, refreshments & sweets. 7:00pm: Guest Speaker 8:00pm-9:00pm: Eucharistic Adoration, confessions, prayer ministry teams, personal prayer time and live praise & worship music.

This is a fantastic opportunity for women to get inspired and renewed in spirit! Free will offering, ages 16+ welcome to attend. Holy Trinity Catholic Church, 110 Winsted Ave W, Winsted

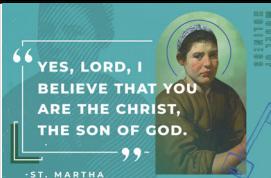
Catholic United Scholarships

Catholic United Financial Scholarship application period is open from March 1 — April 30 of each year. Any member (any age) studying for their first degree after high school can apply. Applicants must have been a member for at least 2 years by the application deadline and when the scholarship is awarded.

Awards of \$500 for attending a Catholic college or \$300 for an accredited non-Catholic school. Applications are available at: www.catholicunitedfinancial.org

Eucharistic Adoration at St. Bernard Wednesday 2-7pm

Two opportunities left during lent for you to spend extra time in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament during Eucharistic Adoration. Adorers are needed as we have a few open hours. Please consider signing up for an hour or half hour of adoration. It will be a time well spent. Thank you in advance for your consideration.



"YES, LORD, I BELIEVE THAT YOU ARE THE CHRIST, THE SON OF GOD."
—ST. MARTHA

Of all Jesus' miracles, the most unsettling might be when he made a dead person alive. We know of three times when he did so: a girl, a young man, and Lazarus. The miracle teaches us he has the power of life and death. He anticipates his resurrection. Sin hurts us. Some sin kills us, spiritually. The three miracles reveal to us that no matter our circumstances, Jesus can give life to us.

The three miracles are instructive of the three ways we feel dead. The little dead girl symbolizes sin before it has time to mature. She's in bed and, once alive, gets right back to her life. The young man is lying in his casket in a funeral procession. This is sin allowed to fester, to grow and become somewhat normalized. Once raised, he has a short walk back home. Lazarus, a full-grown dead man, lies wrapped in burial bands in the tomb. Once he is raised, much needs to be done. He'll need to remove those bands, find new clothes, and travel all the way back home. That is sin allowed to go all the way, unchecked for months or years. It's the most spectacular of the three and reveals Jesus' glory more than the others.

What hope that should give us, for us and those whom we love! Jesus knows our sin hurts us and can even kill us spiritually. No matter the extent of the damage, he is always ready for the miracle of making the dead fully alive. — *Father John Muir* ©LPi

Mass Ministry Schedule—April 1 & 2

Mass Ministry	St. Bernard Sat. 5:00pm	Ascension Sun. 8:00am	St. Bernard Sun. 10:00am
Sacristan	Doris Mielke	Tamara Lemmer	Patricia Quinn
Servers	Lexy Allison & Luke Allison	Nathan Duenow & Brianna Duenow	Dan Worm, Buckley Jones & Gabby Remer
Reader	Sarah Foley & Joyce Schwartz	Darlene Mondor & Jean Schmitz	Brenda Jones & Julie Kleindl
EMHC	Bernie Shambour	Kathy Kloempken	Meghan Stusynski
Ushers	Ralph Laumann & Volunteer	Don Whitaker & Volunteer	Andy Kleindl & Leo Willems
Greeters	Roger Storms	Dave & Colleen Donnay	Casey Jones
Homebound Ministers	N/A	Grp A – Tim & Rita Fahey Grp B – Sue & Rich Tellers	N/A

Mass Times Intentions

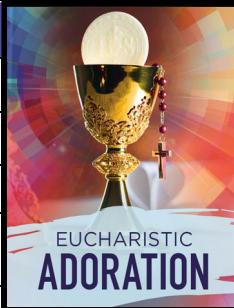
Monday	Mar 27	No Mass	
Tuesday	Mar 28 6:15 pm	Ascension	Angeline Abbott †
Wednesday	Mar 29 8:00 am	St. Bernard	Dennis Wickenhauser †
Thursday	Mar 30 8:00 am	St. Bernard	Living & Deceased members of the Mathias & Gertrude Fick Family
Friday	Mar 31 8:00 am	Ascension	Eugene Blau †
Saturday	Apr 1 5:00 pm	St. Bernard	All Parishioners
Sunday	Apr 2 8:00 am	Ascension	Hartmann Family
Sunday	Apr 2 10:00am	St. Bernard	Living & Deceased of the Eugene & Margaret Willems Family

Readings for the week of March, 26 2023

Sunday: Ez 37:12-14/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 (7)/Rom 8:8-11/Jn 11:1-45 or 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45 **Monday:** Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13:41c-62/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/Jn 8:1-11 **Tuesday:** Nm 21:4-9/Ps 102:2-3, 16-18, 19-21/Jn 8:21-30 **Wednesday:** Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95/Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56/Jn 8:31-42 **Thursday:** Gn 17:3-9/Ps 105:4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Jn 8:51-59 **Friday:** Jer 20:10-13/Ps 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 5-6, 7/Jn 10:31-42 **Saturday:** Ez 37:21-28/Jer 31:10, 11-12abcd, 13/Jn 11:45-56 **Next Sunday:** Is 42:1-7/Ps 27:1, 2, 3, 13-14/Jn 12:1-1

Feast Days this week none
Remember your Baptismal Saint
or your Confirmation Saint

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.



Eucharistic Adoration

Ascension

Every Tuesday
2:00 pm until 7:00 pm

St. Bernard

Every Wednesday until
Further notice
3:00 until 6:00 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.

St. Bernard Stewardship of Treasure

Budget for week	3,267.18
Contributions 03-08– through 3-14-2023	1,827.00
Total Actual Collection YTD	130,797.95
Total Actual Collection Over (Under) Budget	(1,153.30)
Forward in Faith	
Envelope Income	190.00
Electronic Donations	0.00
Forward in Faith Total	190.00
Forward in Faith YTD	40,224.87

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,

Ascension Weekly Collection Report

Totals as of 3/12/2023

Weekly Operating Budget:	\$ 2,942.31
Weekly Envelopes/Plate:	1,327.00
Weekly E-Giving:	710.00
Collections Budget YTD:	108,865.47
Actual Collection YTD:	118,675.84
Total Collected Over (Under) YTD:	9,810.37

Capital Improvement Offering:	230.00
Capital Improvement-E-Giving:	175.00
Capital Improvement YTD:	15,200.00
Sign up for electronic giving at ascensionnya.org Under Links -> E-giving. Or call the parish office for more Information: 952-467-3351.	