

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

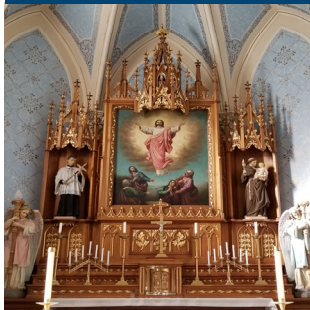
323 Reform St. N.
NYA, MN. 55368

PASTOR

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

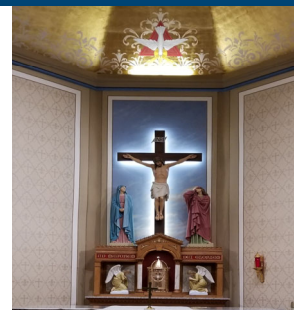
ST. BERNARD CHURCH

212 Church Street E.
Cologne, MN. 55322

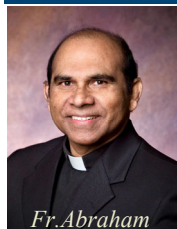


Website: AscensionNYA.org
Parish Office Hours:
Mon.—Wed & Fri. 9am—2pm
Office Phone: 952-467-3351
Business Administrator:
Sherry Witte.....952-777-0110
busadmin@ascensionnya.org
Safe Environment Coordinator:
Sarah Smith....952-777-0111
bookkeeper@ascensionnya.org

Website: St-Bernard-Cologne.org
Parish Office Hours:
Tues 9am-2pm & Fri. 9am—12pm
Office Phone: 952-466-2031
Business Administrator:
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busadmin@st-bernard-cologne.org
Safe Environment Coordinator:
Sarah Smith....952-856-1052
bookkeeper@st-bernard-cologne.org



Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord - April 8 & 9, 2023



Fr. Abraham

“Let us Rejoice and be Glad”

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Easter is the greatest and the most important feast in the Church. The Resurrection is the greatest of the miracles. It proves that Jesus is God. All the basic doctrines of Christianity are founded on the truth of the Resurrection. “Jesus is Lord, he is risen.” (Romans 10:9) was the central theme of the preaching of the apostles.

St. John’s gospel presents the account of the resurrection in two stages. The experience of Mary Magdalene and the experience of the disciples. Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early that Easter morning, but she did not find what she was looking for: the body of Jesus. The disciples also discovered that the tomb is empty. Both experiences were filled with hopelessness. Mary Magdalene followed Jesus through the way of the cross, clung to the foot of the cross, participated in his burial, and was the first to arrive at the tomb. It was then that the risen Jesus appeared first to her on Easter Sunday. She was looking for the dead body of Jesus. But she found something better than she could have imagined: the risen Jesus.

The resurrection of Jesus gives us hope and encouragement in the world of pain, sorrows and tears. The belief in the real presence of the risen Jesus gives hope and meaning to our life. It reminds us that life is worth living. Our trust and hope in the risen Lord give us strength to fight against evils, and freedom from unnecessary worries and fears. Resurrection is about seeing our world in a new way.

In spite of the trials and suffering, our faith in the resurrection of the Lord gives us the strength to walk in his footsteps and to take that same hope to so many whose hearts are afflicted. And to do that not only with our words, but above all with the testimony of our actions and gestures of love: showing through our compassion and mercy to those around us that the risen Christ lives in our hearts and is an essential part of our lives.

When the risen Lord meets anyone in the Gospels they are given a mission. That mission is to be witnesses to the world that Christ is risen. The risen Lord gives Mary Magdalene a mission to tell his disciples that he is risen. (Mt. 28:10). We are too given a mission to live the life of the Resurrection and witness to the world that Christ lives, he loves us, he forgives us, and he redeems us. The church exists to witness this great truth of Easter.

Easter is the celebration of hope. Our hope is that we will share in the fullness of the new life Jesus won for us through his suffering, death and resurrection. The resurrection of Jesus from the dead is the core of the gospel. St. Paul reminds us that if Christ is not raised from the dead, then our preaching and faith are in vain (1 Cor. 15:14). But the Lord is alive and he walks by our side through the resurrection. The reality of the cross will always be present in the world and in our own lives. But let us not forget that there is no glory without a cross, no victory without sacrifices. Death has been defeated and no tomb can hold us forever; not the tomb of despair, nor discouragement. The pain and death are not the last word for us. That is why we must rejoice, and full of joy sing with the psalmist: “This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice in it and be glad.” (Psalm 118:24). May the Risen Lord bless you, your families and our parishes.

Happy Easter

Rosary Intention: “In thanksgiving for the Miracle of Easter”

Yours in Christ,
Fr. Abraham Kochupurackal CMI
Pastor

CALENDAR FOR ASCENSION AND ST. BERNARDS' PARISHES

Every Tue 9:00am—Noon Quilting Circle meets @St. Bernard
 Apr. 15th after 5pm Mass “Linger Longer” @ St. Bernard
 Apr. 16th after 10am Mass “Linger Longer” @ St. Bernard
 Apr 18 4:pm Finance Council Meeting @ Asc
 Apr 27 7 pm Finance Council Meeting @ StB
 Apr 29 5:00pm First Communion @ Ascension
 Apr 30 2:00pm Confirmation @ Basilica, Minneapolis

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. Photo dates still available are: **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

Beyond the Yellow Ribbon's Honor Banquet Fundraiser

Saturday, April 22nd at Willkommen Memorial Park Pavilion
 Program and Dinner start at 6:00pm (Doors open at 5:30)
 Keynote speaker: Carver Co. Deputy Sheriff Matt Arnst
 Tickets - \$20 each - can be purchased until 4/17/23 at
 Citizens State Bank and Old National Bank in NYA;
 Security Bank & Trust in Cologne and Hamburg
 and on-line at: <https://tinyurl.com/2023HonorBanquet>

Your Prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of Alice Enright, mother of Sherry Witte, who passed away on Friday, March 24th . Her funeral was on Tuesday, March 28th. May she rest in peace and may her soul and all the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Please also pray for Alice's family.

**Episcopal Ordination of
 The Most Reverend Michael John Izen
 Tuesday, April 11, 1 p.m., Cathedral of Saint Paul**

All are invited to the Episcopal Ordination of the Most Reverend Michael Izen as Auxiliary Bishop of Saint Paul and Minneapolis. Find ordination event details and ways to participate, as well as livestream options, on the www.archspm.org
 Keep updated on ordination coverage at thecatholicspirit.com.

"Love one another as I have loved you." *John 13:34* - Attend a **Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend** and experience the love of your spouse like you never have before. The next available Weekends are May 5-7, 2023 in Buffalo, MN and Oct 6-8, 2023 in Buffalo, MN. Early registration is highly recommended. For more information visit our website at: twincitieswwme.org or contact Brent & Tracy at applications@twincitieswwme.org or 612-234-7440.

Encounter: the Shroud of Turin

April 20-23, Saint Patrick, Oak Grove
 Visit this self-guided exhibit of the Shroud of Turin. The exhibit will have a place to pray and venerate the Shroud replica and a life-size crucified corpus showing the wounds of Christ. This event is open to anyone and no RSVP is required. Visit st-patricks.org/events/encounter for exhibit times. Questions? Contact Linda Abel-Thomas at lmabel-thomas@st-patricks.org

The Lord is truly risen, alleluia.
 To him be glory and power
 for all the ages of eternity, alleluia, alleluia.
 (Luke 24:34; cf. Revelation 1:6)



May you have a very blessed and happy Easter!!

THANK YOU TO ALL who worked at the Fish Fry at St. Joseph in Waconia on March 23rd. Great group of volunteers and a wonderful Fish Fry. Thanks also to all who attended the fish fry.

Eucharistic Adoration at St. Bernard Wednesday 2-7pm

Each hour you spend with Jesus will deepen His Divine Peace in your heart. To commit to a regular Adoration hour, contact Doris @ 612-910-2365. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Catholic United Scholarships

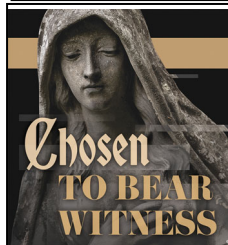
Catholic United Financial Scholarship application period is open from March 1 — April 30 of each year. Any member (any age) studying for their first degree after high school can apply. Applicants must have been a member for at least 2 years by the application deadline and when the scholarship is awarded. **Awards of \$500 for attending a Catholic college or \$300 for an accredited non-Catholic school.** Applications are available at: www.catholicunitedfinancial.org

THANK YOU ST. BERNARD! The Southwest Carver County Food Shelf gratefully acknowledges the gift of 20 lbs. of food and other essentials. This contribution is appreciated on behalf of those the food shelf serves.

AGAIN THANK YOU TO ALL WHO DONATED.

Please remember to donate to the food shelf all year round as there is an ever increasing need for food.

Word of Life—“Like us, Christ entered the world through the womb of a woman. He willingly experienced the fullness of human suffering. He breathed his last on the Cross at Calvary in order that He might save us. Therefore, ‘God is the foundation of hope: not any god, but the God who has a human face and who has loved us to the end’ (*Spe salvi* 31).”
 USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities
 “Respect Life Reflection: Christ Our Hope in Every Season of Life” (Citing Pope Benedict XVI, *Spe salvi* © 2007, Libreria Editrice Vaticana. Used with permission. All rights reserved.)



Easter Sunday

“When Jesus had risen, early on the first day of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom he had driven seven demons.” (Mark 16:9)

Popular Catholic piety sometimes posits that the newly risen Jesus appears first to the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is a happy thought, but it's simply not what the scriptures report. We are told quite directly that he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, “out of whom he had driven seven demons.”

Why would the gospel writer remind us of this unsavory detail of Mary's past? Historians tell us women were not qualified to give legal testimony. On top of that, to be possessed by not just one, but seven demons, is unsavory and terrifying. What damage had they done to her? What did she do to allow herself to be home to such evil? It doesn't seem to matter. Jesus chose Mary Magdalene to be the first one who saw him risen from the dead. He decided she was qualified.

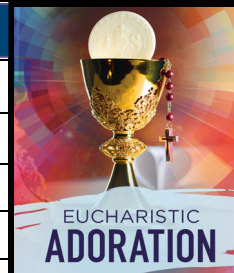
Do you think that you are disqualified from seeing and announcing the risen Jesus because of your past demons? Maybe they are the demons of despair, confusion, self-hatred, pride, addiction, failure, boredom, laziness, or other sins. Well, don't. In the light of the Risen Jesus, all these past demons make our witness that much more believable — only if we allow ourselves to be touched by the liberating hand of Christ, just as Mary Magdalene did.
 — Father John Muir ©LPi

Mass Ministry Schedule—April 15 - 16

Mass Ministry	St. Bernard Sat. 5:00pm	Ascension Sun. 8:00am	St. Bernard Sun. 10:00am
Sacristan	Doris Mielke	Brian Willems	Patricia Quinn
Servers	Lexy Allison & Luke Allison	Callie Buckentin & Lacey Buckentin	Buckley Jones & Logan Pellegrino
Reader	Judy Glander	Brian Willems	Brenda Jones
EMHC	Bernie Shambour	Brenda Seifert	Victoria Arnst
Ushers	Ralph Laumann & Volunteer	Josh Gallus & Gary Widmer	Tom Dahl & Brian Vos
Greeters	Monica Kooiman	Justin & Amy Buckentin	Casey Jones & Andy Kleindl
Homebound Ministers	N/A	Grp A – Steve Helget & Tim George Grp B – Theresa Hartmann & Pat Johnson	N/A

Mass Times Intentions

Day	Date	Mass	Intention
Monday	Apr 10	No Mass	
Tuesday	Apr 11 6:15 pm	Ascension	NO MASS
Wednesday	Apr 12 8:00 am	St. Bernard	Harriet Meuleners †
Thursday	Apr 13 8:00 am	St. Bernard	Hilbert & Euella Knauer ††
Friday	Apr 14 8:00 am	Ascension	Joseph Sr. & Blanche Fahey ††
Saturday	Apr 15 8:00 pm	St. Bernard	Gerald & Delora Meuleners ††
Sunday	Apr 16 8:00 am	Ascension	All Parishioners
Sunday	Apr 16 10:00am	St. Bernard	Roy & Verna Arnst ††



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.

Readings for the week of April 9 2023

Sunday: Acts 10:34a, 37-43/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23 (24)/Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8/Jn 20:1-9 or Mt 28:1-10 **Monday:** Acts 2:14, 22-33/Ps 16:1-2a and 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11/Mt 28:8-15 **Tuesday:** Acts 2:36-41/Ps 33:4-5, 18-19, 20 and 22/Jn 20:11-18 **Wednesday:** Acts 3:1-10/Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9/Lk 24:13-35 **Thursday:** Acts 3:11-26/Ps 8:2ab and 5, 6-7, 8-9/Lk 24:35-48 **Friday:** Acts 4:1-12/Ps 118:1-2 and 4, 22-24, 25-27a/Jn 21:1-14 **Saturday:** Acts 4:13-21/Ps 118:1 and 14-15ab, 16-18, 19-21/Mk 16:9-15 **Next Sunday:** Acts 2:42-47/Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24 (1)/1 Pt 1:3-9/Jn 20:19-31

**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	3,267.18
Contributions 03-22– through 3-28-2023	2,170.00
Total Actual Collection YTD	137,064.95
Total Actual Collection Over (Under) Budget	(1,420.66)
Forward in Faith	
Envelope Income	250.00
Electronic Donations	0.00
Forward in Faith Total	250.00
Forward in Faith YTD	41,370.79

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 3/26/2023

Weekly Operating Budget:	\$ 2,942.31
Weekly Envelopes/Plate:	2,033.70
Weekly E-Giving:	1,565.00
Collections Budget YTD:	114,750.09
Actual Collection YTD:	125,078.14
Total Collected Over (Under) YTD:	10,328.05
Capital Improvement Offering:	160.00
Capital Improvement-E-Giving:	110.00
Capital Improvement YTD:	15,625.00

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